

KING HENRY VIII

Activities + Knowledge Organiser



King Henry VIII - 1509 to 1547















King Henry VIII was infamous for his six wives and religious upheaval, desperately craved a male heir. This obsession shattered England's Catholic identity. Breaking from the Pope, Henry established the Church of England, making himself Supreme Head.

A paradox of a king, he was both ruthless and impatient, ordering executions yet promoting arts and learning. His dramatic reign left an indelible mark, forever shaping England's future and its religious landscape.

[Circle or underline any unfamiliar words ...](#)



Key Events - Can you link any of the events by matching letter A - F?	
<p>A His Break from Rome - 1534 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Henry VIII clashes with the Pope over his first wife, Catherine of Aragon. He declares himself Supreme Head of the Church of England, sparking the English Reformation.</p>	<p>B His Six Wives - 1509 to 1547 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>In search of a male heir, Henry marries six times. Two are executed, two are divorced and one dies in childbirth. Only Catherine Parr survives him.</p>
<p>C Dissolution of Monasteries - 1536 to 1541 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Henry seizes control of Catholic monasteries, gaining vast wealth and land. This weakens the Church's power and fuels religious tensions.</p>	<p>D Rebellions - 1536 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The Pilgrimage of Grace and the Northern Rebellion erupt in protest against religious reforms and land seizures. Henry brutally suppresses them, solidifying his control.</p>
<p>E Wars - France and Scotland - 1512 to 1546 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Henry seeks military glory and alliances. He fights France with limited success and invades Scotland to force them to marry his son Edward to Mary, Queen of Scots.</p>	<p>F Henry's Death + Will - 1547 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Henry outlines the succession, placing his children Edward (Protestant), Mary (Catholic), and Elizabeth (moderate Protestant) in line for the throne. This sets the stage for future religious turmoil.</p>

Who is Who?		Vocab Builder
Pope Clement VII		Pope Clement VII from Italy, clashed with Henry over his divorce, sparking the English Reformation. A shrewd but indecisive leader. 
Catherine of Aragon		Spanish Catherine of Aragon, Henry VIII's first wife, was pious and strong-willed. Renowned for her beauty, she failed to deliver a male heir. 
Anne Boleyn		Anne was an ambitious + intelligent woman known for her striking dark beauty. Henry initially loved her, leading to his break with the Catholic Church. 
Jane Seymour		Jane Seymour, a gentle and modest Englishwoman known for her fair complexion, was Henry VIII's third wife and bore him his only male heir, Edward. 
Anne of Cleves		Anne of Cleves, a politically astute and practical German princess, known for her plain appearance, was briefly Henry VIII's fourth, annulled wife. 
Catherine Howard		Catherine Howard, a youthful and flirtatious woman known for her beauty. Confessed to and was executed for adultery. 
Catherine Parr		English scholar Catherine Parr, educated his children, wrote a book, & outlived him. A strong & learned stepmother. 
		Add a similar or simpler word below...
		Reformation
		Pious
		Schism
		Ascension
		Shrewd
		Turmoil
		Pilgrimage
		Annulled
		Confess
		Learned
		Dissolution

Comment on Henry's Significance > Impact Using the Significance Chart to Help Prompt Ideas	
<p>Henry's Significance > Impact - Reason 1</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Henry's Significance > Impact - Reason 2</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

"His rule was humane, his executions sporadic ... he never killed anyone with his own hand. The number of victim was not large." John Edward Bowle, English historian, 1964.

Timeline

"Aggressive, bitter, revengeful, bloodthirsty...obstinate, violent, and at the end, thoroughly bad." Philip Hughes, 1950, Catholic priest and historian.

1491 - Birth of Henry Greenwich Palace	1509 - King Henry Ascension to the throne after Henry VII died	1509 - Married Spanish Princess Catherine of Aragon	1513 - Battle of Spurs Henry's army defeat the French in France	1533 - Baby Elizabeth Anne Boleyn has a girl ... a future queen!	1534 - Act of Supremacy Henry becomes Supreme Head of Church.	1536 - Dissolution Henry breaks up the monasteries.	1536 - Uprisings The Pilgrimage of Grace. + other northern revolts.	1540 - Cromwell Killed Thomas Cromwell, chief Minister executed.	1547 - Henry VIII Dies His son, becomes King Edward VI.
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SIGNIFICANCE IMPACT ANALYSIS

Area of Impact - focused or broad?
Household - local - state - urban - rural?
regional - national - global : international

Response
From the media - newspapers.
Increased publicity - awareness
BIG reaction or counter - reaction
backlash? Apathy?
Pendulum swing?

Group Impact - narrow or wide?
Women - men - young - old - rivals - grass
roots - neutrals - supporters - rich - middle
classes - workers - farmers - poor - minorities
- other?

Time - Longer Term
Sowed seeds - symbolic - historic -
iconic - irreversible - ground
breaking - stepping stone -
domino effect - left a legacy.

Time - Short Term
Spark - trigger - immediate -
catalyst - spontaneous - short
lived - turning point or
false dawn?

Power Dynamic - Balance
Changed or added / removed - laws,
institutions, religion (secular v church) ,
political systems, a move towards or
away from democracy / dictatorship?

People, Attitudes, Behaviour
Deep personal impact - inspired other
people + events - changed zeitgeist,
culture, norms, trends, behavior - reac-
tion - counter reaction - backlash?

Useful Terms
Significant - change that is important, widespread + long term
Impact - effect on a person / situation - creates change. Can be short term
Analysis - study of information and form a judgement about it
Domino Effect - one event leading to another
Legacy - remembered through the ages
Secular - separate / away from religion
Zeitgeist - general belief system of a time period
Institution - established system (e.g. government)
Catalyst - something that speeds up a process

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Anne Boleyn		
Jane Seymour		
Anne of Cleves		
Catherine Howard		
Catherine Parr		

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