King Henry VIII

Remembered as one of the most famous monarchs in history, Henry VIII is probably most known for his many wives and his incredibly bad temper. In fact, Henry is responsible for significant changes in England and across Europe.

Childhood

Henry was born on 28th June 1491 in London. He was the second son born to King Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. His older brother, Arthur, was born five years earlier and Henry was second in line to the English throne. As well as a brother, Henry had two sisters; Margaret, who was two years older, and Mary, who was born five years after Henry.



In 1502, Arthur died at only 15 years old. This meant that Henry, at only ten years old, was heir to the throne. His father kept him well supervised and he had very little training as to what a king's role involved.

Henry VII died on 21st April 1509, and 17-year-old Henry was crowned. Soon after, Henry married his brother's widow, Catherine of Aragon.

Church of England

Henry wanted a son to carry on his legacy. As Catherine had only given him a daughter, Henry decided to divorce her and find another wife. In 1525, he fell in love with Anne Boleyn, one of the Queen's ladies-in-waiting and chose her to be his next queen. However, the head of the Catholic Church, the Pope, would not allow him to divorce. This made Henry furious, so much so that he decided to break England away from the Catholic Church and create the Church of England, of which he would be the head. This was known as the English Reformation and sent shockwaves throughout Europe.

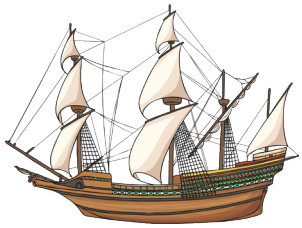
Did You Know...?

Henry VIII was also an author and composer. He also enjoyed jousting and playing tennis.



Did You Know...?

Henry VIII is thought of as the 'father of the British Navy'. During his reign, he ordered hundreds of new warships to be built and increased the strength of England's armies on the seas.



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Henry's Six Wives

Henry is most famous for having six wives. They are:

 Catherine of Aragon	Married 11th June 1509. Had one daughter, Mary. Died 7th January 1536 aged 50.	Divorced
 Anne Boleyn	Married 25th January 1533. Had one daughter, Elizabeth. Executed 19th May 1536 aged 35.	Beheaded
 Jane Seymour	Married 30th May 1536. Had one son, Edward. Died 24th October 1537 aged 28.	Died after childbirth
 Anne of Cleves	Married 6th January 1540. Had no children. Died 16th July 1557 aged 42.	Divorced
 Catherine Howard	Married 28th July 1540. Had no children. Executed 13th February 1542 aged 19.	Beheaded
 Catherine Parr	Married 12th July 1543. Had no children with Henry. Died 5th September 1548 aged 36.	Outlived King Henry VIII

Death

Henry began to grow frailer due to his weight and many leg ulcers and, in 1547, Henry died at the age of 55. His son, Edward, succeeded him as King. Henry requested to be buried next to his third wife, Jane Seymour, who had given him the son he had so long desired.

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King Henry VIII Questions

1. Who was Henry VIII's mother?

2. Number Henry and his siblings in the order in which they were born.

Henry	☐	Arthur	☐
Mary	☐	Margaret	☐

3. How old was Henry when he became king?

4. Name two hobbies that Henry enjoyed.

5. Match the wife to their fate.

Catherine of Aragon	Executed
Catherine Howard	Outlived Henry
Catherine Parr	Divorced

6. What was the English Reformation?

7. Why is Henry thought of as the 'Father of the British Navy'?

8. At the start of the text, it says that Henry is remembered for his 'incredibly bad temper'. What evidence in the text is there to support this fact?

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King Henry VIII **Answers**

1. Who was Henry VIII's mother?
   Elizabeth of York

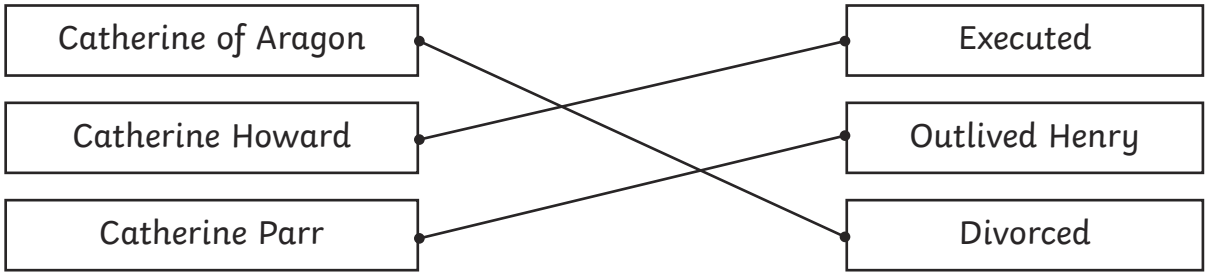
2. Number Henry and his siblings in the order in which they were born.

Henry	**3**	Arthur	**1**
Mary	**4**	Margaret	**2**

3. How old was Henry when he became king?
   17 years old

4. Name two hobbies that Henry enjoyed.
   Accept any two of the following; writing, composing, jousting and playing tennis.

5. Match the wife to their fate.



6. What was the English Reformation?
   Pupil's own response, such as: The English Reformation was when Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England with himself as the head. He did this because the Catholic Church would not allow him to divorce his wife, Catherine of Aragon.

7. Why is Henry thought of as the 'Father of the British Navy'?
   Pupil's own response, such as: Henry is thought of as the 'Father of the British Navy' as he ordered lots of new warships to be built during his reign, strengthening England's power on the seas.

8. At the start of the text, it says that Henry is remembered for his 'incredibly bad temper'. What evidence in the text is there to support this fact?
   Pupil's own response, such as: In the text, it says that Henry was furious when the Catholic Church would not allow him to divorce Catherine of Aragon. Henry also had two of his wives executed, showing he had a bad enough temper to order their deaths.

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King Henry VIII

Remembered as one of the most famous monarchs in history, Henry VIII is probably most known for his many wives and his incredibly bad temper. In fact, Henry is responsible for significant changes in England and across Europe, many of which have influenced the world around us today.

Childhood



Henry was born on 28th June 1491 in London. He was the second son born to King Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. His older brother, Arthur, was born five years earlier and Henry was second in line to the English throne. As well as a brother, Henry had two sisters; Margaret, who was two years older, and Mary, who was born five years after Henry.

In 1502, Arthur died aged only 15. This meant that Henry, at only ten years old, was heir to the throne. His father kept him well supervised and he had very little training as to what a king's role involved.

Henry VII died on 21st April 1509, and 17-year-old Henry was crowned. Soon after, Henry married his brother's widow, Catherine of Aragon.

Did You Know...?

Henry VIII was also an author and composer. He also enjoyed jousting and playing tennis.



Church of England

Henry wanted a son to carry on his legacy. As Catherine had only given him a daughter, Henry decided to divorce her and find another wife. In 1525, he fell in love with Anne Boleyn and chose her to be his next queen. However, the head of the Catholic Church, the Pope, would not allow him to divorce. This made Henry furious, so much so that he decided to break England away from the Catholic Church and create the Church of England, of which he would be the head. This was known as the English Reformation and shocked much of Europe.

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Henry's Six Wives

 Catherine of Aragon	**Born:** 16th December 1485 **Married:** 11th June 1509 **Divorced:** 23rd May 1533 **Died:** 7th January 1536	• Born in Castile, Spain. • Married to Henry's brother Arthur for six months before his death. • Gave birth to a daughter, Mary. • Henry divorced Catherine after she did not give birth to a son.
 Anne Boleyn	**Born:** 1501 **Married:** 25th January 1533 **Died:** 19th May 1536	• Lady-in-waiting to Queen Catherine. • Gave birth to a daughter, Elizabeth. • Executed after being accused of being unfaithful to Henry.
 Jane Seymour	**Born:** 1508 **Married:** 30th May 1536 **Died:** 24th October 1537	• Lady-in-waiting to Queen Anne. • Gave birth to a son, Edward. • Died a few days after Edward was born due to complications from childbirth, leaving Henry devastated.
 Anne of Cleves	**Born:** 1515 **Married:** 6th January 1540 **Divorced:** 9th July 1540 **Died:** 16th July 1557	• German princess born in Dusseldorf. • Henry agreed to marry Anne after seeing her portrait but did not like her when he met her in person. • After six months of marriage, Anne agreed to Henry's request for a divorce. Henry was grateful and referred to her as his 'beloved sister'.
 Catherine Howard	**Born:** 1523 **Married:** 28th July 1540 **Died:** 13th February 1542	• Born in Lambeth, London. • Catherine was only 17 years old when she married the King. • Executed in 1542 after being unfaithful to Henry.

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Catherine Parr

Born: 1512

Married:
12th July 1543

Died:
5th September 1548

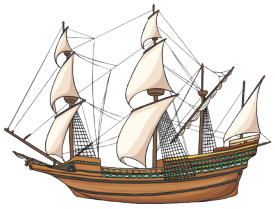
- Had been married and widowed twice before marrying Henry.
- Helped to restore Mary and Elizabeth to the line of succession.

Death

Henry began to grow frailer due to his weight and many leg ulcers and, in 1547, Henry died at the age of 55. His son, Edward, succeeded him as King. He requested to be buried next to his third wife, Jane Seymour, who he referred to as his 'true wife'.

Did You Know...?

Henry VIII is thought of as the 'father of the British Navy'. During his reign, he ordered several new warships to be built and increased the strength of England's armies on the seas.



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King Henry VIII Questions

1. What was the name of Henry's brother?

   _____

2. Fill in the missing words.

   Henry VIII was also an _____ and _____.

   He also enjoyed _____ and playing _____.

3. Give two reasons Henry decided to divorce Catherine of Aragon.

   • _____

   • _____

4. What was the name of Henry and Anne Boleyn's daughter?

Anne	☐	Mary	☐
Elizabeth	☐	Margaret	☐

5. Number these wives in the order they married Henry.

Catherine Howard	☐	Anne of Cleves	☐
Anne Boleyn	☐	Catherine Parr	☐
Catherine of Aragon	☐	Jane Seymour	☐

6. In your own words, explain what the English Reformation was.

   _____

   _____

   _____

7. Why do you think Henry was grateful to Anne of Cleves after their divorce, referring to her as his 'beloved sister'?

   _____

   _____

   _____

8. Why do you think Henry chose to be buried next to Jane Seymour?

9. At the start of the text, it says that Henry is remembered for his bad temper.
What evidence is in the text to support this?

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King Henry VIII **Answers**

1. What was the name of Henry's brother?
   Arthur

2. Fill in the missing words.

   Henry VIII was also an **author** and **composer**. He also enjoyed **jousting** and playing **tennis**.

3. Give two reasons Henry decided to divorce Catherine of Aragon.
   - **Henry wanted a son and Catherine had only given him a daughter.**
   - **He had fallen in love with Anne Boleyn and wanted to marry her.**

4. What was the name of Henry and Anne Boleyn's daughter?

Anne	☐	Mary	☐
Elizabeth	☑	Margaret	☐

5. Number these wives in the order they married Henry.

Catherine Howard	**5**	Anne of Cleves	**4**
Anne Boleyn	**2**	Catherine Parr	**6**
Catherine of Aragon	**1**	Jane Seymour	**3**

6. In your own words, explain what the English Reformation was.
   Pupil's own response, such as: The English Reformation was when Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England with himself as the head. He did this because the Catholic Church would not allow him to divorce his wife, Catherine of Aragon.

7. Why do you think Henry was grateful to Anne of Cleves after their divorce, referring to her as his 'beloved sister'?
   Pupil's own response, such as: I think Henry was grateful to Anne of Cleves for agreeing to his request for his divorce as he had a lot of trouble divorcing his first wife, Catherine of Aragon and so it was quick and easy for him to move on to his next wife.

8. Why do you think Henry chose to be buried next to Jane Seymour?
   Pupil's own response, such as: I think Henry chose to be buried next to Jane Seymour as she had given him the son he had always wanted - the only one of his wives to do this. The text also says that Henry was 'devastated' when she died, showing that he loved her very much.

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9. At the start of the text, it says that Henry is remembered for his bad temper. What evidence is in the text to support this?

   Pupil's own response, such as: In the text, it says that Henry was furious when the Catholic Church would not allow him to divorce Catherine of Aragon. Henry also had two of his wives executed, showing he had a bad enough temper to order their deaths.

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King Henry VIII

Remembered as one of the most famous monarchs in history, Henry VIII is probably most known for his many wives and his incredibly bad temper. In fact, Henry's legacy consists of much more than this, including significant changes in England and across Europe: many of which have influenced the world around us today.

Childhood



Henry was born on 28th June 1491 in Greenwich, London. He was the second son born to King Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. He was said to be very handsome and athletic in his youth. His older brother, Arthur, was born five years earlier and therefore Henry was second in line to the English throne. In total, Henry had six siblings, though sadly only three survived past infancy. As well as a brother, Henry had two sisters; Margaret, who was two years older, and Mary, who was born five years after Henry.

In 1502, Arthur fell ill and died aged only 15, possibly from sweating sickness. This meant that Henry, at only ten years old, was now in line as the next King of England. His father kept him under strict supervision and he had very little training as to what a king's role involved.

Early reign

Henry VII died on 21st April 1509, leaving 17-year-old Henry as his successor. Henry decided soon after that he would marry his brother's widow, Catherine of Aragon. Henry and Catherine were married on 11th June 1509. They had a number of children who were sadly stillborn before their daughter Mary was born in 1516.

Reformation of the Church

Henry was desperate for a son to carry on his legacy. As Catherine had not given birth to a son, Henry decided to divorce her and find another wife. In 1525, he fell in love with Anne Boleyn - one of the Queen's ladies-in-waiting and chose her to be his next queen. However, Henry's argument that he should be allowed to divorce Catherine because she had been his brother's wife was not supported by the head of the Catholic Church, the Pope, and his divorce was not given. This made Henry furious and he decided to break England away from the Catholic Church, creating the Church of England, of which he would be the head. This was known as the English Reformation and sent shockwaves throughout Europe.

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Henry's Many Wives

In 1532, Henry finally married Anne and together they had a daughter, Elizabeth. However, Anne also did not give birth to a son. Henry lost his patience with her and, having been accused of being unfaithful to Henry, Anne was executed in 1536.

The day after Anne's execution, Henry became engaged to Jane Seymour and they were married ten days later. On 12th October 1537, Jane gave birth to a son, Edward. Henry was overjoyed at his dream finally being realised, however his joy was short-lived as Jane died less than two weeks later due to complications from the birth, leaving Henry devastated.

Three years after Jane's death, Henry's advisors suggested that he should marry Anne of Cleves, a German princess. Having seen her portrait, Henry agreed to the marriage. Unfortunately, Henry did not like her when they met in person and they were divorced six months after their marriage in 1540. Anne and Henry remained friends, however, and she was affectionately referred to as the King's 'beloved sister'.

Henry then married his fifth wife, Catherine Howard, who was 17 years old and a cousin of Anne Boleyn. By this time, Henry was now 49, overweight and had painful leg ulcers which often caused him to be bedridden or in a foul mood. Catherine, being much younger and energetic, was often bored and started a relationship with Thomas Culpeper, the King's groom. They were eventually discovered and Catherine was executed on 13th February 1542.

Henry's final wife was Catherine Parr. Catherine had been married and widowed twice previously. She worked hard to reunite Henry with his daughters Mary and Elizabeth and succeeded in getting them reinstated to the succession, meaning they were now back in line to the throne after their half-brother Edward and therefore was responsible for the next, and final, three monarchs inheriting the crown.

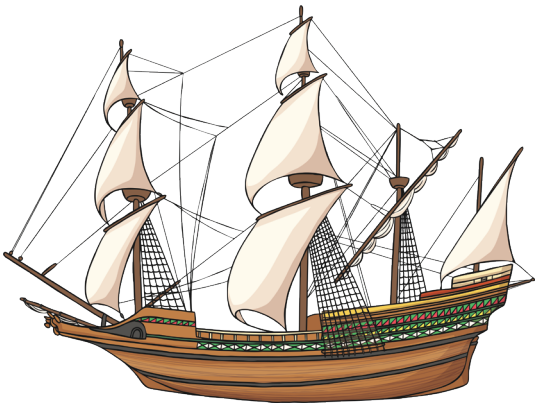


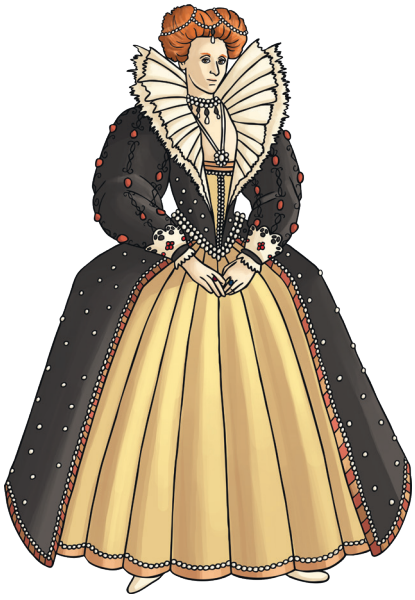
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Death and Legacy

Henry began to grow frailer due to his weight and many leg ulcers and, in 1547, Henry died at the age of 55. His son, Edward, succeeded him as King. He requested to be buried next to his 'true wife', Jane Seymour.

Along with his many wives, the reformation and his bad temper, Henry is also remembered as the 'father of the British Navy' after strengthening England's naval forces with many new warships. He was also an author and composer, a keen jouster and a fan of playing tennis.





His legacy as one of England's most infamous monarchs remains today and all three of his children succeeded him, including Elizabeth, who is remembered as one of the greatest monarchs in history and whose reign became known as 'The Golden Age'.

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King Henry VIII Questions

1. What illness is it believed Henry's brother Arthur died from?

2. Find and copy the word that shows Catherine of Aragon had been married before her marriage to Henry.

3. What name is given to the break from the Catholic Church and the creation of the Church of England?

4. Which wives were executed by Henry? **Tick two**.

Anne Boleyn	☐	Anne of Cleves	☐
Jane Seymour	☐	Catherine Howard	☐

5. How old was Catherine Howard when she married Henry? **Tick one.**

15	☐	55	☐	17	☐	49	☐

6. Why do you think Henry referred to Jane Seymour as his 'true wife'?
Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

7. Catherine Parr was responsible for a large change in the future of the Tudor line.
What was this change and why was it so important?

8. Why is Henry sometimes referred to as the 'Father of the British Navy'?

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9. At the start of the text, it says that Henry is remembered for his bad temper. What evidence is in the text to support this?

10. Do you think Henry VIII is worthy of being one of England's most famous monarchs? Explain your answer fully.

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King Henry VIII **Answers**

1. What illness is it believed Henry's brother Arthur died from?
   sweating sickness

2. Find and copy the word that shows Catherine of Aragon had been married before her marriage to Henry.
   widow

3. What name is given to the break from the Catholic Church and the creation of the Church of England?
   The English Reformation

4. Which wives were executed by Henry? **Tick two**.

Anne Boleyn	☑	Anne of Cleves	☐
Jane Seymour	☐	**Catherine Howard**	☑

5. How old was Catherine Howard when she married Henry? **Tick one.**

15	☐	55	☐	**17**	☑	49	☐

6. Why do you think Henry referred to Jane Seymour as his 'true wife'?
   Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
   Pupil's own response, such as: I think Henry referred to Jane Seymour as his 'true wife' as she had given him the son he had always wanted, the only one of his wives to do this. The text also says that Henry was 'devastated' when she died, showing that he loved her very much.

7. Catherine Parr was responsible for a large change in the future of the Tudor line.
   What was this change and why was it so important?
   Pupil's own response, such as: Catherine Parr was responsible for getting Mary and Elizabeth restored to the line of succession, meaning that they were second and third in line to the throne again after their half-brother Edward. This had a big impact because both daughters went on to become queen and Elizabeth is remembered as one of the greatest monarchs in history.

8. Why is Henry sometimes referred to as the 'Father of the British Navy'?
   Pupil's own response, such as: Henry is thought of as the 'Father of the British Navy' as he ordered lots of new warships to be built during his reign, strengthening England's power on the seas.

9. At the start of the text, it says that Henry is remembered for his bad temper. What evidence is in the text to support this?
   Pupil's own response, such as: In the text, it says that Henry was furious when the Catholic Church would not allow him to divorce Catherine of Aragon. Henry also had two of his wives executed; Anne Boleyn after he had 'lost patience with her' and Catherine Howard after she was found having a relationship with someone else. This shows he was angry enough with them to order their deaths.

10. Do you think Henry VIII is worthy of being one of England's most famous monarchs? Explain your answer fully.
    Pupil's own response, such as: Yes, I think Henry VIII is worthy of being a famous monarch as he started the Reformation, creating the Church of England and marking a major change in religion in Europe. He also added strength to the English navy with new warships and, alongside marrying six times, he was the father of three more English monarchs, including Elizabeth I, one of the most famous and important monarchs in history.

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