



## Y5 – The Tudors

### Key vocabulary

<b>Monarch</b>	A sovereign head of state, especially a King, Queen or Emperor
<b>Heir</b>	The person next in line for the throne who will take over when the current King or Queen dies
<b>Reign</b>	The period of time a monarch rules over a country
<b>Divorce</b>	The legal end of a marriage
<b>Church of England</b>	Henry VIII created the Church of England so that he could divorce his first wife. The Catholic Church did not permit divorce.
<b>Execution</b>	Being put to death
<b>Beheading</b>	A punishment which resulted in your head being chopped off with an axe
<b>Reformation</b>	The act of changing (reforming) something. In this case the reformation of the Church to remove the Pope's control.

### The Tudor Monarchs

There were 6 Tudor monarchs altogether, although only 5 of them were actually crowned; Lady Jane Grey was queen for just 9 days.



### Who were the Tudors? How did they come to power?

The Tudors were a royal family who came to power in England in 1485. Two of Britain's most famous monarchs (King Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I) were both members of the Tudor family.

The Tudors seized power in England at the Battle of Bosworth, which was the last significant battle in the War of the Roses. The Wars of the Roses was a series of battles that lasted 30 years between the House of Lancaster and the House of York. Henry Tudor was part of the Lancastrian faction; both sides believed they had a claim to the throne.

However, at the battle of Bosworth on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1485, Henry Tudor defeated Richard III, the last Yorkist king, to begin the Tudor reign. He was crowned King Henry VII. He married Elizabeth of York, finally bringing the two houses together.

The Tudor rose became the symbol of the Tudor dynasty – it combined the red Lancaster rose with the white York rose.



### Henry VIII and his 6 wives

Henry VIII was King for 38 years; he was the second son of Henry VII. He was a fierce ruler and often referred to as a tyrant. He had six wives as he desperately sought to have a son to be heir to the throne. Henry broke away from the Catholic Church in Rome because they refused to grant him a divorce.

 Catherine of Aragon m. 1509 - 1533 Divorced	 Anne Boleyn m. 1533 - 1536 Executed	 Jane Seymour m. 1536 - 1537 Died
 Anne of Cleves m. 1540 Jan - July Divorced	 Kathryn Howard m. 1540 - 1542 Executed	 Katherine Parr m. 1543 - 1547 Widowed

## What was life like?

Life in the Tudor period depended on whether you were rich or poor and whether you were a man or a woman.

The Tudors lived in a feudal system. This meant the monarch had absolute power and owned all the land in the country. Nobles would swear loyalty to the monarch who would then grant them lands. The nobles would then allow peasants to work the lands in exchange for food and shelter.

In Tudor times, you couldn't rise above the rank you were born into. This meant that if you were poor, you would always be poor.

### The role of women and men

They had very different roles during the Tudor period. It was a man's job to provide for his family while women were responsible for raising children and taking care of the household. Women had very few rights and were under the control of their fathers and husbands.

## Tudor Religion

At the beginning of the Tudor period England was a Catholic country. However, there were lots of new ideas about religion spreading through Europe at this time. This was known as the Protestant Reformation. Protestants criticised the Catholic Church, and the Pope in particular, believing that many of the Catholic practices were not biblical, and that faith in Jesus was the only way to pardon sin.

When Henry the VIII was excommunicated from the Catholic Church following his divorce from Catherine of Aragon, he made himself Supreme Head of the Church of England. A new Protestant England was formed. Catholicism was now forbidden and all of England's subjects had to convert to Protestantism.

When Mary I became Queen, all the Catholic practices that had been forbidden were reinstated and Protestantism became illegal. Mary was so severe in her treatment of Protestants she became known as 'Bloody Mary' She burned more than 280 Protestants at the stake.

It was all change again when the Protestant Elizabeth came in to power following Mary's death.

## The Elizabethan Era

Queen Elizabeth I came to throne in 1558 after the death of her half-sister, Queen Mary. Elizabeth was the daughter of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, his second wife. Elizabeth I ruled for 44 years, this period is known as the Elizabethan era.

The Elizabethan era often referred to as the golden age of English history because of all its artistic, cultural, social and political achievements. It was also an age of exploration in which there were many voyages of discovery across the seas to discover new lands.



In Tudor times, if you didn't believe the same thing as the King or Queen, you were burned at the stake.

1485

The Battle of Bosworth is won by the Lancastrians. Henry Tudor becomes King.

1534

Henry VIII forms the Church of England

1547

Edward VI is crowned King at 9 years old, following his father Henry VII death.

1558

Elizabeth I becomes Queen

## The Tudors

1509

Henry VIII crowned king after his father, Henry VII dies.

1535

Henry VIII approves an English version of the Bible. It is printed in English for the first time

1553

Mary I becomes Queen