

YEAR 3: HENRY VIII (5 lessons)



Contents Include:

The Young King Henry

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The Wives of Henry VIII

Suggested Teacher Resources:

- *The Young Oxford History of Britain & Ireland*, pages 162-192.
- *Great Tales from English History* by Robert Lacey, pages 193-214.
- The [BBC](#) website has some useful articles on the period, and primary resources for [Henry VIII](#).
- [Hampton Court Palace](#) has some good resources for pupils.

Lesson 1. The young King Henry VIII

Having brought the Wars of the Roses to an end at the Battle of Bosworth, Henry Tudor became Henry VII and ruled England for 23 peaceful years. After decades of war, he re-established stable government in England. His son Henry VIII took power aged only 18, and England was a prosperous and growing European power. At first, Henry was a popular King, renowned for his good looks and love of sport. However, he married the Spanish Catharine of Aragon, who was six years older than him and could not give him a son. Henry would spend the rest of his reign worrying about producing a male heir.

See pages 173-174 of What Your Year 3 Child Needs to Know.

Learning Objective	Core Knowledge	Activities for Learning	Related Vocabulary	Assessment Questions
<p>To gain an impression of what King Henry VIII as a young King.</p>	<p>Henry VIII was the second Tudor King after his father Henry VII.</p> <p>Henry's first wife was a Spanish princess named Catharine of Aragon. She did give him a daughter called Mary, but did not have a son.</p> <p>Henry is famous for his large weight and six wives, but as a young King he was a keen sportsman and talented soldier.</p>	<p>Read an account of Henry VIII as a young man (resource 1), and look at an image. Pupils could draw an image of the young king, containing references to all of the things he enjoyed: jousting, tennis, speaking French and Latin, dancing, singing, playing the lute etc.</p> <p>Study the painting of the Field of the Cloth of Gold, one of the defining events of Henry's early reign (resource 2).</p> <p>This page on the BBC primary website has lots of information, pictures, videos and activities to do with Henry VIII. Hampton Court have some good games and activities, and this is an amusing animation that shows Henry VIII morph from a good-looking young prince, into an overweight tyrant.</p>	<p>heir jousting tyrant Catharine of Aragon</p>	<p><i>Why did Henry marry Catharine of Aragon?</i></p> <p><i>What was Henry like as a young man?</i></p> <p><i>What was the problem with Henry's marriage to Catharine of Aragon?</i></p>

1. Henry as a young prince

The account of Pasqualigo, a diplomat from Italy, who met the young King in 1515. It is one of the most famous descriptions of Henry VIII as a young man.

His Majesty is the handsomest potentate I ever set eyes on; above the usual height, with an extremely fine calf to his leg, his complexion very fair and bright, with auburn hair combed straight and short, in the French fashion, and a round face so very beautiful, that it would become a pretty woman, his throat being rather long and thick. He was born on the 28th of June, 1491, so he will enter his twenty-fifth year the month after next. He speaks French, English, and Latin, and a little Italian, he plays well on the lute and harpsichord, sings from book at sight, draws the bow with greater strength than any man in England, and jousts marvellously. Believe me, he is in every respect a most accomplished Prince; and I, who have now seen all the sovereigns in Christendom, and last of all these two of France and England in such great state, might well rest content.

1. According to this source, what did Henry VIII look like as a young man?

2. What were Henry's talents as a young man?

3. Why was Pasqualigo impressed by the young King?

2. Field of the Cloth of Gold

The Field of the Cloth of Gold was one of the most spectacular events of Henry VIII's reign. When he was at the height of his power in 1520, he visited France to make peace with King Francis I. Known as the Field of the Cloth of Gold due to the golden embroidered tents provided by Henry, no expense was spared on two weeks of feasts, parties and entertainment.

Look at the image [here](#) and [here](#), and see which of the following features you can locate.

The two kings meet in the 'rich tent' to discuss their peace treaty. It was a great occasion, as France and England had been at war for nine years. Henry, a keen sportsman, challenged Francis I to a wrestling match, which he then lost. Can you see them wrestling?

Both kings wanted to show off their wealth and power. For this reason, Henry brought with him tents made out of cloth woven with silk and gold thread. It was for this reason that the event was named 'The Field of the Cloth of Gold'. Also, can you spot the eating tent, the bread kitchen, and the tournament field?

Henry built fountains outside his palace which poured a constant supply of wine and beer. Some individuals who have drunk too much can be seen fighting and being sick!

The meeting took place in France, so Henry built a temporary palace for himself by the town of Guisnes. It had a timber frame, and the walls and roof were made of canvas, painted to look like stone and slate. Real glass windows and stone sculptures were put in place.

Henry and his men ride out for their meeting with Francis I from the French town of Guisnes on 5 June. He is not with his wife Catharine of Aragon—perhaps they have already fallen out due to her not having a son?

This dragon, or salamander, represents a great firework which was released on 23 June, the last day of the event, and was shaped as a dragon.

Lesson 2. The Reformation

The Reformation is one of the key events in European history, as it caused Christianity to split into the Catholic and Protestant churches. It all began in Germany, where a priest called Martin Luther nailed a list of complaints to his church door in Wittenberg. He was angered by the corruption and greed of the Catholic church, and the power of the pope. From Martin Luther's 'protest', a new form of Christianity emerged called 'Protestantism'. The emergence of Protestantism is key to understanding the reign of Henry VIII, as he made England leave the Catholic church and become a Protestant country in 1534.

See pages 172-173 of What Your Year 3 Child Needs to Know.

Learning Objective	Core Knowledge	Activities for Learning	Related Vocabulary	Assessment Questions
<p>To understand the difference between Catholicism and Protestantism, and that Martin Luther started the Reformation.</p>	<p>In Catholicism, the bible is in Latin, the Pope is head of the church, and churches are beautifully decorated with lots of gold and paintings.</p> <p>Protestantism has simpler churches without much decoration, and the pope is not in charge.</p> <p>Margin Luther protested against Catholicism because he thought it was too wealthy and corrupt, and started the Protestant church. This was called the 'Reformation'.</p>	<p>Explain to pupils the difference between the Catholic and Protestant church. Images to show the difference between Catholic and Protestant priests and churches will help. Then, ask pupils to sort the different statements into Catholic and Protestant, then they complete a chart in their book (resource 3).</p> <p>Pupils write their own version of Martin Luther's 95 Theses, the list of complaints that he nailed to the church door in Wittenberg. The best one could be nailed onto the door of the classroom.</p> <p>This is a good video about pre-Reformation England. Horrible Histories have a good video about Martin Luther, and about buying pardons.</p>	<p>Protestant Catholic Pope Latin Reformation nun monk</p>	<p><i>Why did people dislike the Catholic church?</i></p> <p><i>Who was Martin Luther and what did he do?</i></p> <p><i>Why did Martin nail his 95 Theses onto the door of his church?</i></p> <p><i>What new type of Christianity was formed as a protest against Catholicism.</i></p>

3. Catholic or Protestant?

The head of their church is the Pope, who lives in the Vatican in Rome.

There is no head of their church aside from Jesus Christ.

Their churches are colourful and decorated, with lots of gold and painting.

Their churches are more plain, as they don't want people to be distracted from thinking about God.

They only allowed church services in Latin, and did not want the bible to be translated into English.

The bible can be translated into English, so that people can read it on their own.

Priests wear simple black clothing without much decoration.

Their priests wore expensive, highly decorated clothing.

The church encourages nuns and monks to live extremely religious lives in monasteries and abbeys.

There were no nuns or monks. Everyone is expected to be as religious as each other.

Priests are allowed to marry, and are encouraged to live a normal life.

Priests are not allowed to marry or have a family.

It is the original Christian religion which goes all the way back to Jesus Christ.

It was formed out of a protest against the Catholic Church in the 1500s, hence 'Protestant'.

3. Catholic or Protestant? (complete)

Catholic

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They only allowed church services in Latin, and did not want the bible to be translated into English.

Their priests wore expensive, highly decorated clothing.

The church encourages nuns and monks to live extremely religious lives in monasteries and abbeys.

Priests are not allowed to marry or have a family.

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Protestant

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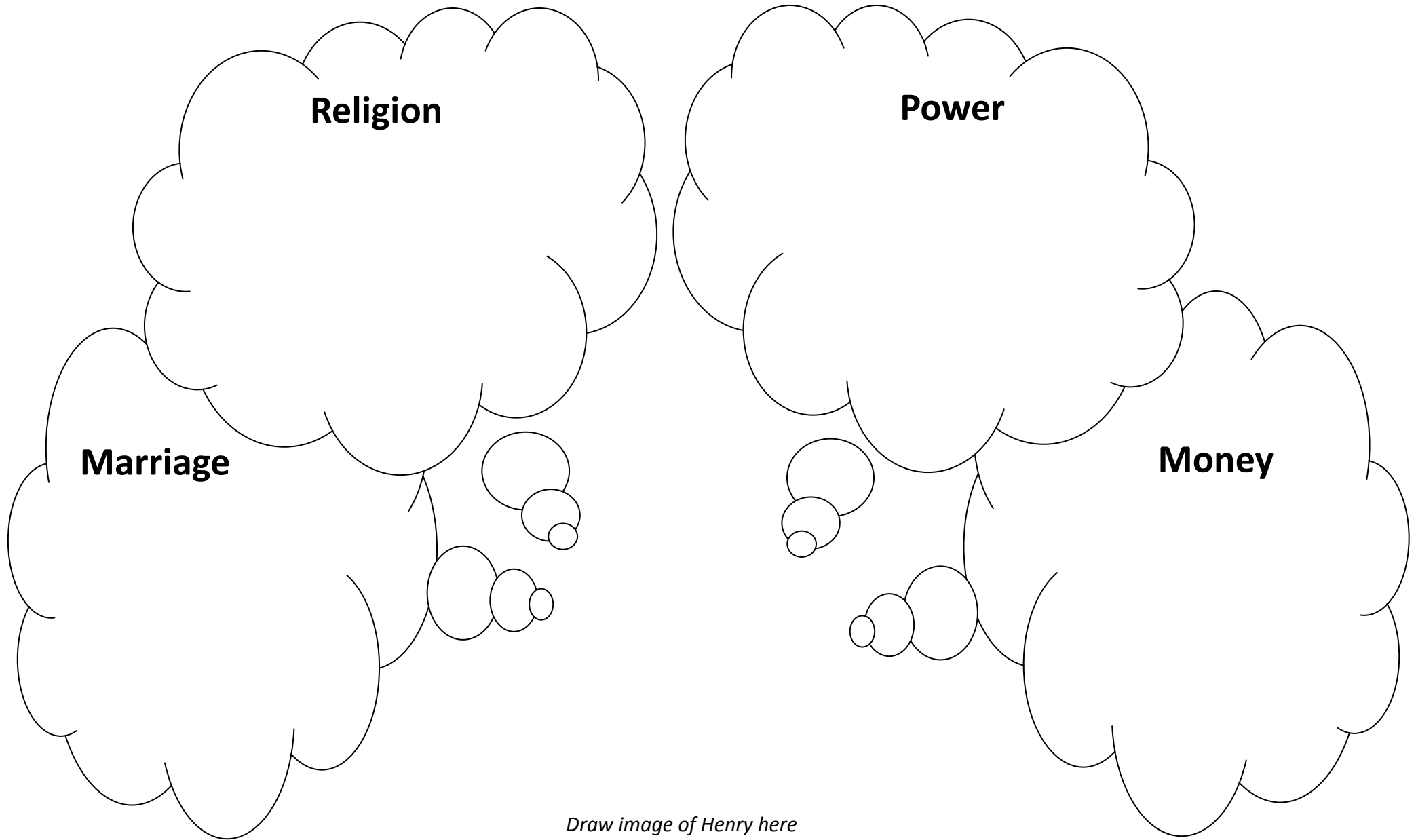
Lesson 3. The English Reformation

The essential question concerning the English Reformation is whether England would have turned Protestant and broken with Rome had Henry not needed a divorce from his first wife, Catharine of Aragon. Henry desperately wanted to divorce Catherine, and marry Anne Boleyn, but the Pope would not allow it. In 1534 Henry VIII broke England away from the Catholic Church and established the Church of England, with him as its head. Parliament declared this law with the Act of Supremacy. Many wonder whether Henry's break with Rome was ultimately motivated by religious belief or his desire for a divorce.

See pages 173-174 of What Your Year 3 Child Needs to Know.

Learning Objective	Core Knowledge	Activities for Learning	Related Vocabulary	Assessment Questions
<p>To consider why Henry VIII made England a Protestant country. Marriage, religion, power or money?</p>	<p>Henry VIII wanted to divorce Catharine of Aragon and marry Anne Boleyn so that he could have a son.</p> <p>Henry was a Catholic, and the Pope would not allow him to have a divorce.</p> <p>In 1534, Henry was declared head of the Church of England and England became a protestant nation. He was now able to have his divorce. This was known as the 'break with Rome'.</p>	<p>Write an account of why Henry VIII broke with Rome. The four areas are marriage (to marry Anne Boleyn and have a son), religion (to see Britain become a Protestant country), power (to be head of the Church of England) and money (gained through the dissolution of the monasteries). This could be done with a worksheet, asking 'what was Henry VIII thinking?' (resource 4).</p> <p>There are good videos on Henry VIII's motives for breaking with Rome here.</p>	<p>dissolution 'break with Rome' divorce religion</p>	<p><i>Why did Henry VIII want to break with Rome?</i></p> <p><i>Was religion, power, money or marriage the most important reason for Henry's break with Rome?</i></p> <p><i>Who was the head of the new Church of England?</i></p>

4. Break with Rome: what was Henry VIII thinking?



Lesson 4. The Dissolution of the Monasteries

Having become head of the church of England, Henry married Anne Boleyn. He also made an enormous amount of money. Monasteries and Abbeys, which were home to monks and nuns, were not required for a Protestant country, as they were part of the Catholic church. These buildings had huge amounts of land, and expensive goods such as gold and paintings, all of which Henry seized and sold off. This was called the 'Dissolution of the Monasteries'. Many people protested against what was happening, seen for example in 'The Pilgrimage of Grace'. However, protesters risked being arrested and executed.

See pages 174-175 of What Your Year 3 Child Needs to Know.

Learning Objective	Core Knowledge	Activities for Learning	Related Vocabulary	Assessment Questions
<p>To consider how Henry benefited from the Dissolution of the Monasteries.</p>	<p>Before the Reformation, England had many monasteries and abbeys full of monks and nuns, which owned an enormous amount of land and were very rich.</p> <p>Once England became Protestant, these institutions were all closed down, and their wealth was seized by the king.</p> <p>This was called the 'Dissolution of the Monasteries', and it made a lot of money for Henry VIII.</p>	<p>There are some primary and secondary sources about the Dissolution of the Monasteries here. Pupils read them, work out what Henry VIII's motives were for dissolving the monasteries. Write a letter, from a monk, who has been forced out of his monastery by Henry VIII, explaining what had happened.</p> <p>By seizing land from the Catholic church, the crown increased its income by around £150,000 (£81,829,100 as of 2014) a year. Discuss what Henry VIII could spend that money on.</p> <p>Images of ruined Abbeys and Pories are very evocative, see here, here and here, and there videos on the dissolution of the monasteries here and here.</p>	<p>dissolution monastery abbey monk nun</p>	<p><i>What were monasteries and abbeys?</i></p> <p><i>Why did Henry VIII want to close them and seize their property?</i></p> <p><i>What was this process called?</i></p>

Lesson 5. Then end of Henry VIII's reign

Henry VIII's 38 year reign was highly eventful. He invaded France twice, founded the Royal Navy, married six times, executed two Lord Chancellors, and established the Church of England. However, he had one ongoing frustration. He was desperate to have a son, but despite marrying six times, he only had one son called Edward who suffered from ill health. Part of Henry's concern was that he knew if he did not have a male heir, England could again fall into civil war, just like the brutal War of the Roses the previous century, which his father ended. Towards the end of his life, Henry grew overweight, angry and sad.

See pages 175 of What Your Year 3 Child Needs to Know.

Learning Objective	Core Knowledge	Activities for Learning	Related Vocabulary	Assessment Questions
<p>To understand why Henry VIII tried so hard to have a son.</p>	<p>Since Henry VIII was so worried about having a male heir, he married six times! As the rhyme goes: divorced, beheaded, died. Divorced, beheaded, survived!</p> <p>After Henry VIII's death his only son was crowned Edward VI, but he died six years later.</p> <p>By the end of his life, Henry VIII was sad that he had never produced a healthy male heir to be king. He died overweight and depressed.</p>	<p>Complete a worksheet detailing Henry VIII and his six wives. This should help pupils understand the reign of Henry VIII through his various marriages (resource 5).</p> <p>Henry VIII is famous for his size, and his enormous appetite. Pupils study the Tudor kitchens of Henry VIII's palace at Hampton Court. There is a video here, and some factsheets and trial recipes on the Hampton Court website. Pupils then create a menu and invitation to a Tudor feasts at Hampton Court to celebrate All Souls Day.</p> <p>The Horrible Histories video on the wives of Henry VIII is good.</p>	<p>succession beheaded feast</p>	<p><i>Why did Henry VIII marry so many different wives?</i></p> <p><i>What would be eaten at a Tudor feast?</i></p> <p><i>Who succeeded Henry VIII after his death?</i></p>

5. Henry VIII and his six wives

Here are Henry VIII's six wives. Try to name each of them, and explain what happened to them. Did they have any children? What were their names? How and when did the marriage end?

Name: _____

What happened? _____

Any children? _____

Name: _____

What happened? _____

Any children? _____

Name: _____

What happened? _____

Any children? _____

Name: _____

What happened? _____

Any children? _____

Name: _____

What happened? _____

Any children? _____

Name: _____

What happened? _____

Any children? _____
