

The Elizabethan Era

- ◆ Things you will learn about:
 - Henry VIII and his wives
 - Henry's Heirs
 - Class system and clothing of the era
 - The Plague
 - Notable Playwrights



Henry VIII

1491-1547



Henry VIII

The Ladies' Man



- ◆ Henry had a total of 6 wives.
- ◆ He kept marrying in order to produce a legitimate heir to the throne.
- ◆ What was most important to Henry was to have a son.

A collection of historical artifacts is arranged on a light-colored surface. On the left, a portion of a chessboard with a blue and brown checkered pattern is visible, featuring several chess pieces. Below the chessboard are two ornate medals: one with a red ribbon and a white star, and another with a blue ribbon and a white star. A small red circular object with a white pattern is also present. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular compass with a white face and black markings. A pair of spectacles with thin metal frames and oval lenses is positioned in the center, with its legs extending towards the bottom right.

The Six Wives of

Henry VIII

Catherine of Aragon

1486-1536

- ◆ Daughter of Spanish Royalty.
- ◆ First married Henry's brother Arthur.
- ◆ She and Henry were forced to marry to keep the delicate relationship of England and Spain intact.
- ◆ Knew Henry was cheating on her.
- ◆ Had one child, Mary.
- ◆ Henry was frustrated that she could not produce a male child.
- ◆ Henry believed she was cursed since she was his brother's widow.
- ◆ Henry divorces her in 1533.



Anne Boleyn

1501/07-1536



- ◆ She was the mother of Elizabeth.
- ◆ She was the first of Henry's wives to lose their head.
- ◆ She was accused of adultery and treason.
- ◆ Married Henry while he was still married to Catherine because she became pregnant.

Jane Seymour

1508-1537

- ◆ Considered by Henry to be his first true wife.
- ◆ Mother of Edward.
- ◆ Died 2 weeks after the birth of Edward.
- ◆ Henry stayed single for 2 years after her death.
- ◆ The only one of Henry's 6 wives to be buried with Henry in his tomb.



Anne of Cleves

1515-1557



- ◆ Married to Henry to form an alliance with France.
- ◆ Henry thought she was ugly.
- ◆ Married and single again in the same year.
- ◆ Marriage to Henry was annulled.
- ◆ Given the title of “King’s Sister” after the marriage was dissolved.

Catherine Howard

1520/25-1542



- ◆ The second of Henry's wives to be executed.
- ◆ She was the first cousin of Anne Boleyn.
- ◆ Married Henry 16 days after his marriage to Anne was dissolved.
- ◆ She was roughly 19 when she married Henry.
- ◆ Accused of adultery.

Catherine Parr

1512-1548



- ◆ Named after Catherine of Aragon by her mother.
- ◆ She was outspoken and a source of scandal.
- ◆ After Henry's death, she secretly married Thomas Seymour, brother of Jane, Henry's 3rd wife.



Henry and the Catholic Church

- ◆ Henry wanted to divorce Catherine of Aragon.
- ◆ The Pope refused to grant him a divorce.
- ◆ Henry forms his own Church, The Church of England and the Protestant religion.
- ◆ He gives himself the role of Supreme Ruler in the church.
- ◆ This move deeply divides England between Catholics and Protestants.

The Heirs of Henry VIII- Not the way he planned it...



Edward VI

1537-1553

- ◆ He was the son of Jane Seymour
- ◆ He inherited the English throne at the age of 10.
- ◆ He ruled from 1547-1553.
- ◆ He died most likely of tuberculosis.



Mary Tudor

1516-1558



- ◆ She was also known as “Bloody Mary”.
- ◆ She had over 250 people executed for being Protestant.
- ◆ Her mother was Catherine of Aragon.
- ◆ She was the half sister of Edward and Elizabeth.
- ◆ She was a devout Catholic (like her mother).
- ◆ She ruled from 1553-1558.
- ◆ She died of ovarian cancer.

Elizabeth 1533-1603

- ◆ Her mother was Anne Boleyn.
- ◆ She is also known as the “Virgin Queen” because she never married.
- ◆ She was a Protestant.
- ◆ Many thought she should not be Queen since she was conceived out of wedlock.
- ◆ She ruled from 1558-1603.
- ◆ She was the last of the Tudor monarchy to rule England.
- ◆ She died of depression, failing health, and refusal to take nourishment.

