

# PREPARED STUDY GUIDE: ENGLAND UNDER KING HENRY VIII

This booklet is complements of 16TH CENTURY, INC., a Florida not-for-profit cultural and educational organization, and is designed to be used by teachers in presenting studies of the reign of Henry VIII, and European history of the 16th Century.

If presenting this booklet directly to students: the material, as it appears, is appropriate for students 13 and older. Teach with discretion to students under 13.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## CONTENTS

I. HENRY VIII
II. MAJOR POLITICAL POWERS DURING HENRY VIII's REIGN
CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF EVENTS REGARDING ENGLAND, SPAIN, AND FRANCE
III. SUCCESSION OF THOMAS'S10
IV. THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII 13
V. PARLIAMENT16
EXAMPLES OF PARLIAMENTARY USAGE DURING HENRY VIII's REIGN 16
VI. CHURCH REFORMATION19
MAJOR REASONS FOR ENGLISH REFORMATION/SECESSION: 20
WOLSEY'S PART IN THE CHURCH REFORMATION 20
KEY FACTORS IN THE LEGALIZATION OF THE CHURCH REFORMATION21QUESTIONS REGARDING REFORMATION
VII. CUSTOMS AND MANNERISMS24
VIII. RENAISSANCE LANGUAGE25
HENRY VIII AND RENAISSANCE LITERATURE 26
OTHER FOREIGN INFLUENCES OF THOUGHT 27
IX. SPORTS & PASTIMES
X. HISTORY OF THE JOUST 29
JOUSTING AND THE CHURCH 29
HENRY VIII'S JOUST
XI. MISCELLANEOUS FACTS REGARDING ENGLISH LIFE DURING THE TIME OF HENRY VIII
XIII. SUMMARY
SUGGESTED PROJECTS AND CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES 32
BIBLIOGRAPHY

9

## I. HENRY VIII



**Lived:** June 28, 1491 - January 27, 1547 **Reigned:** April 22, 1509 - January 27, 1547

Henry VIII was the very model of a strong king. Not only was he physically impressive (standing over six feet tall at a time when the average height for males was only 5'4"), but he was also highly intelligent. He had a very good memory, an excellent eye for detail, and was a shrewd judge of men.

Henry was not the first in line for the English throne. He was born the second son to **Henry VII** and **Elizabeth of York**. His siblings included an older brother, Arthur, and two sisters, Margaret, and Mary. As the second son of the King, Henry was destined for the Church; specifically, he was expected to become the **Archbishop of Canterbury**. As a young lad, Henry divided his time between theological studies, artistic endeavors, and sports. Henry was quite accomplished as a musician. He played several instruments, among them the lute, recorder, flute, and harp. He composed many songs, his most famous being "Greensleeves" (the melody which you may know as the Christmas carol "What Child Is This"). He was also quite a dancer and a poet. Henry is described as having red hair, fair complexion, and a tall muscular build; he was considered to be quite handsome. In addition to his social accomplishments, Henry was an outstanding athlete.

He was an extremely fine jouster and enjoyed falconry, hunting, and tennis. In contrast, Henry VII (the father) was cold, calculating, and conservative. Henry VII mainly guided his foreign policy by matrimony rather than by war.

Arthur died in 1502, leaving a widow (see Catherine of Aragon, page 14), and all eyes turned to Henry as next in line for the throne. Henry VIII was crowned on April 22, 1509, at the age of seventeen. He brought to the throne his zest for life, and the early part of Henry's reign was looked upon as a time of celebration by all of England. As a leader, he was inspiring; even ambassadors from other countries sang Henry's praises.

Two months after he was crowned, Henry married his brother's widow, **Catherine of Aragon**. Henry had to gain a special dispensation from the Pope which declared Catherine's previous marriage annulled and cleared the way for Henry. It is believed that at the time, young Henry was genuinely in love with Catherine. Besides Henry's feelings for Catherine, she was also the daughter of **King Ferdinand of Spain**; their marriage created an important political alliance which would forever influence Henry and his reign.

As a young king, Henry was ready for the glories of war. He had his sights set on France, whose history of warring with England was ancient- and both sides had done well to nurture that relationship for hundreds of years. In 1511, Henry joined the **Holy League** which united Pope Julius II, England, Switzerland, Venice, and Spain against France.

In 1513 Henry lead an army into France. Between July and August, the French towns of **Tournai** and **Therouanne** were captured by the English. In August of that year, the **Battle of Spurs** was fought. This battle (so named because of the hasty retreat of French troops) gave Henry his first grand victory of note.

On September 7, 1513, a battle took place between England and Scotland (a long-time ally of France) back on English soil. This battle shaped the relationship between these two countries for most of Henry's reign. This was the **Battle of Flodden Edge**, where a vastly superior Scottish army lead by **King James IV** was defeated by English troops lead by the Earl of Surrey. During that battle, more than ten thousand Scotsmen were killed including King James IV himself and several Scottish lords. King James' widow (AKA King Henry's sister, Margaret) became Queen Regent; their son, a young child at the time, would be **King James V**.

In 1514, Henry signed a treaty with France. In this treaty, France agreed to give the town of Tournai to England and to pay a large pension. To cement this agreement, Henry betrothed his younger sister, Mary, to King Louis XII of France.



#### II. MAJOR POLITICAL POWERS DURING HENRY VIII'S REIGN

## Kings of Spain

Ferdinand of Aragon (died 1516) Charles V (1516 - beyond Henry's reign)

Charles V, grandson of Ferdinand and nephew of Emperor Maximilian, drew his support from many locations. After only three years as King of Spain, Charles V also became the leader of the Holy Roman Empire (a collection of German principalities). In addition to these two powerful titles, Charles ruled over some of Asia and Africa, Naples, Sicily, the Mediterranean Empire of Balearic Islands, and the Netherlands (including Antwerp, which was an important trade center). Even though Spain only had a population of eight million, Charles V's other holdings made him the most powerful man in all Europe.

## **Kings of France**

Louis XII (died 1515) Francois I (1515 - beyond Henry's reign)

In Henry VIII's time, France had a population of approximately twelve million people, the largest of any single country. It was the only European power that was capable of competing with Charles V's **Spain** on equal terms.

## Kings of Scotland

James IV (died 1513) James V (1513 - 1542)

Scotland was a very small power in the European scheme of things. But it was geographically important to England because of the border shared by the two countries. Scotland had a history of border skirmishes with England. Due to these border disputes, Scotland was a willing ally of France against England whenever the opportunity arose.

## Popes of the Catholic Church

Julius II (died 1513) Leo XI (1513 - 1521) Clement VII (1521 - 1534) Paul III (1534 - beyond Henry's reign)

During Henry VIII's time, the Catholic Church was both a religious and a military power. The Pope had his own army which wielded not only physical strength but also spiritual force (the Church had power over the people's souls).

#### Ottoman Empire

A constant source of concern because of its frequent forays into Italy. The Ottoman holdings included the North African coast and the eastern Mediterranean.

#### Portugal

Portugal was a major economic power due to its lucrative trade with the West Indies.

#### Independent, Minor Powers

Republic of Venice

Switzerland (neutral but still a good recruiting ground for mercenaries)

Elective Kingdom of Poland

#### CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF EVENTS REGARDING ENGLAND, SPAIN, AND FRANCE

DATE | EVENT | \*= BENEFITS ENGLAND

#### 1512 | England declares war on France

- 1513 | Battle of Spurs
  - \*Capture of Toulouse
  - \*Capture of Therouanne
- 1514 | France signs peace treaty with England
- 1520 | Meeting on the Field of the Cloth of Gold:

A meeting between Henry VIII and Francois I near Calais

- 1522 | Charles V and England declare war on France
- 1523 | England's contribution to the war dwindles because of poor finances
- 1525 | Battle of Pavia:

Charles V's generals captured Francois I, and peace is restored

#### 1527 | Charles V's armies capture Rome

This endangered Thomas Wolsey's power in the Catholic Church This marked a major turning point in the Renaissance era

1528 | Wolsey allies England with France in a war against Charles V

\*England refuses to fight

\*Beginning of Wolsey's fall from power

1529 | France signs peace treaty with Charles V England is left out of the treaty

## 1543 | England declares war on France, again

1546 | England signs peace treaty with France

\*England retains Boulogne until 1554

\*France promises to pay England sizable pensions

## MAJOR BATTLES/WARS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

1512 | War declared by England

#### 1513 | Battle of Flodden Edge

- \*Eliminated a military threat
- \*King James IV killed
- \*More than 10,000 Scotsmen killed
- \*A child ascends to the throne of Scotland, and Henry's sister serves as Regent
- \*Eliminated the threat of Scotland (which set the stage for war with France)
- 1542 | England declares war on Scotland

## Battle of Solway Moss-

- \*Few deaths occurred, but a large number of Scottish lords surrendered.
- \*News of this hastened the death of the ailing James V.

## III. SUCCESSION OF THOMAS'S

#### THOMAS WOLSEY

Lived: 1473 – 1530

Thomas Wolsey, once a commoner who was the son of a butcher and innkeeper, became one of the most powerful men in England during Henry VIII's reign.

#### WOLSEY'S RISE TO POWER

- 1509 | Appointed Dean of Lincoln
- 1513 | Appointed to several other Deaneries (offices could be accumulated) Given Bishopric of Tournai
- 1514 | Named Archbishop of York
- 1515 | Named as a Candidate from the Pope

Appointed Lord Chancellor of England

Appointed Chief Councilor for the King's Cabinet

## 1518 | Appointed Legate a Latere

(The highest authority the Pope could grant in England)

Cardinal Wolsey was a shrewd, vain, power-hungry opportunist. As Legate a Latere, he held a position of power in England second only to the King himself.

## WOLSEY'S DECLINE

In 1527, Charles V sacked Rome and captured the Pope. This capture presented two problems for England. First, Henry VIII was trying to get a dispensation from the Pope to void his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. With the Pope being held hostage by Charles V (who was Catherine's nephew), this seemed unlikely. Secondly, by capturing the Pope, Charles V had more power than England wanted him to have.

Desperate to solve these two problems, Wolsey suggested that England ally itself with France, and, in 1528, these two allies declared war on Charles V. Even though there was political motivation, the Commonwealth of England was not in favor of the war: enthusiasm was low, and funds were even lower. In 1529, France signed a peace treaty with Charles V and abandoned England in the war. This was the beginning of the end for Wolsey.

With England "losing face" and the Pope still in Charles' possession, Wolsey was unable to deliver on his promise to gain an annulment of Henry's marriage to Catherine. The king was not happy, and Wolsey's many enemies jumped at the chance to bring about his downfall. In 1530, Wolsey was arrested for high treason.

While imprisoned, he died of natural causes.

Because Wolsey hoarded so much of the Church's political and financial influence, his death created a power vacuum in England. With no powerful Church leaders in England, and the Protestant movement sweeping across Eastern Europe, the Pope's influence was severely weakened; the stage was set for Henry's Church Reformation in England.

## THOMAS CROMWELL

Lived: 1485 – 1540

To a great extent, Thomas Cromwell's rise to power was facilitated by the power vacuum left after Wolsey's passing. Cromwell was born sometime around 1485 and became the country's first Parliamentary "statesman." He was not deceptive or opportunistic like Wolsey, but actually a great cooperator and worked to improve the realm of England.

- \* He influenced Parliament opinion to get laws passed
- \* He developed laws to expand Parliament's influence in the government
- \* He combined royal powers and Parliamentary powers into a working partnership
- \* His cooperation made Henry's Church Reformation a relatively peaceful process
- \* These practices paved the way for present-day Parliamentary procedure

In many ways, Cromwell was the rising tide that raised all ships for Henry VIII's England.

## CROMWELL'S RISE TO POWER

1532 | Gained Henry VIII's confidence by helping to annul the marriage with Catherine of Aragon

- 1533 | Named Chancellor of Exchequer
- 1534 | Named Principal Secretary and Master of Rolls
- 1535 | Appointed Vicar General by Henry VIII to oversee the Church of England
- 1536 | Named Lord of the Privy Seal

Cromwell formed the Privy Council from the Inner Ring of the King's Council. The Privy Council served as an intellectual resource for policy making.

## **CROMWELL'S DECLINE**

Cromwell hastily engineered the marriage between Henry VIII and Anne of Cleves in order to secure an alliance with Germany. Henry was extremely unhappy with this particular marriage and therefore unhappy with Cromwell. Following the Reformation, the Church of England was a dangerous political weapon; Cromwell's enemies (Stephen Gardiner and the Duke of Norfolk, in particular) charged Cromwell with sacramental heresy.

Cromwell was tried, found guilty, and executed in 1540.

## THOMAS CRANMER

#### Lived: Unknown – 1555

Thomas Cranmer served as Archbishop of Canterbury from 1532 until his death in 1555. He was the ecclesiastical leader of the new Church of England, and one of Henry VIII's most trusted friends. Protestant leanings combined with a lack of interest in political power often left him vulnerable to attacks by politically savvy Roman Catholics; however, Henry VIII always managed to save him. Cranmer survived the King by eight years.

In 1553, Queen Mary I (Henry's first heir, daughtered by Catherine of Aragon) had Cranmer arrested for treason, and he was burned at the stake in 1555.

#### CATHERINE OF ARAGON

Lived: 1485-1536 Reigned: 1509-1533

Catherine of Aragon was the daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain. At the age of 16, she was married to Henry's older brother, Arthur. Five months later she was a widow. **King Henry VII** refused to allow Catherine to return home to her parents; to him, she was a royal pawn.

Henry VII reduced her staff to a handful of Spanish servants, restricted her ability to move about the court and to practice Catholicism as she desired, and blocked money from being spent for her personal support. After spending almost eight years under these extreme conditions, she married her late husband's younger brother, **Henry VIII**.

In order to marry his brother's widow, Henry VIII had to circumvent Biblical warnings ("If a man shall take his brother's wife, it is an unclean thing."). Theirs was a marriage begun in true love, but Henry grew tired of her and became exasperated with her failure to produce a living male heir to the throne. In the twenty-four years of their marriage, Catherine endured six pregnancies, with only one producing a living child. They had a daughter named Mary, who would later be disowned and then reinstated, eventually going on to reign as Queen Mary I.

After Catherine proved unable to bear a son, Henry became convinced that God was punishing him for an incestuous marriage; in addition to this spiritual issue, Henry had become enamored with a lady-in-waiting, Anne Boleyn. The process leading to the royal divorce became known as "the King's Great Matter." The Pope, being held hostage by Charles V, refused to nullify the marriage he had previously blessed; amidst this conflict, the crown of England officially broke away from the Roman Catholic Church.

Catherine, an extremely devout Roman Catholic, refused to accept the dissolution of her marriage. She spent the remainder of her life in forced seclusion but considered herself the true queen until her death.

#### ANNE BOLEYN

Lived: 1507 - 1536 Reigned: 1533 – 1536

Anne Boleyn was not popular among her English subjects. They were loyal to Catherine of Aragon, and many believed Anne had bewitched their king, an opinion that was reinforced by Pope Clement VII refusing to annul Henry's marriage to Catherine. After breaking away from Rome, Henry appointed himself as Supreme Head of the Church of England. Henry and Anne were secretly married in January of 1533.

In June, Henry's archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, announced Henry's first marriage null and void, and thus Anne Boleyn was crowned queen. In September, she gave birth to her only living child, who later ruled England as the widely beloved "Virgin Queen," Elizabeth I.

However, the King's desire for a son led him to grow weary of Anne. After only three years of marriage and a miscarriage, Anne was charged with adultery and treason (although historians agree the charges were probably false). She was beheaded in May of 1536.

#### JANE SEYMOUR

Lived: 1509 – 1537 Reigned: 1536-1537

Jane Seymour, like her predecessor, had been a lady-in-waiting to Catherine of Aragon and had also served Queen Anne Boleyn. Less than two weeks after Anne Boleyn's death, Henry married the quiet, gentle Jane. In October of 1537, she died giving birth to Henry's long-awaited son, Edward.

## ANNE OF CLEVES

Lived: 1515-1557 Reigned: 1540

Anne of Cleves was a political bride. Henry needed allies in Germany, so he agreed to this marriage after seeing a rather hastily produced portrait of the woman. Their first meeting, however, revealed that Anne's portrait was none too accurate. Comments from the court at the time claimed that Anne of Cleves bore a rather horse-like visage. Henry married her, but the marriage was declared null and void after six months. After the divorce, Anne was granted a pension and remained on peaceful terms with her royal ex-husband. This political marriage proved to be the undoing of Thomas Cromwell, who had organized the affair.

## CATHERINE HOWARD

Lived: Unknown -1542 Reigned: 1540 – 1542

Although the date of her birth is unknown, Catherine Howard was quite young at the time of her marriage to Henry, who was approximately thirty years older than she. Catherine's past contained numerous rumors of intimate relationships with various men, and she was secretly engaged to another man when the King took an interest in her. The relationship was encouraged by the Conservative party in an attempt to further discredit Henry's chief minister, Thomas Cromwell, who had arranged Henry's previous marriage to Anne of Cleves.

The plotting worked, and Henry married Catherine on the very day Cromwell was executed. In 1541, Henry's Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, was compelled to reveal to the King the numerous rumors of his young wife's infidelity. Catherine was charged with unchastity before marriage and with adultery; both charges were probably true. She was beheaded in February 1542.

#### CATHERINE PARR

Lived: 1512 - 1548 Reigned: 1543 – 1547

Catherine Parr was more of a nurse and companion than a wife to the elderly, sickly king. She had been twice widowed before her royal wedding. Although she was secretly engaged to Sir Thomas Seymour (brother of Henry's third wife, Jane Seymour), Catherine married the king instead in July of 1543. She proved to be a good influence on the king: she was a devout Protestant who spent much of her time discussing theology with the king (much to the dismay of Henry's clergymen) and was successful in mitigating the king's excessive acts of cruelty in religious persecutions of the time. She was instrumental in restoring to favor the King's eldest daughters, Mary, and Elizabeth. During Henry's absence from court during the Siege of Boulogne in 1544, Catherine acted as Regent. Just months after Henry's death, Catherine married her true love, Thomas Seymour. She died in childbirth in 1548.

## V. PARLIAMENT

In the early years of Henry VIII's reign, when Wolsey was in power, there was friction between the Crown and Parliament. Henry VIII and Wolsey (on behalf of the Pope) ran foreign policy, and Parliament held the purse strings. On two occasions (1522 and 1528), Parliament refused to grant taxes to fund wars Wolsey had committed England into. After Wolsey's death, a positive relationship between Henry and Parliament started to develop; but it wasn't until Cromwell entered the scene (1530's) when the Crown and Parliament reached a level of full cooperation.

Parliament was (and is) made up of two sections called Houses:

The House of Lords - consisting of Church officials, lords, and other nobles

The House of Commons - consisting of knights of shires, and burghers of boroughs

Knights held land and influence as rewards for military achievements and chivalrous deeds. Burghers were prosperous, reputable citizens from around England's holdings.

Parliamentary powers:

- > Only Parliament could pass new taxes, often referred to as grants.
- ➢ If the King wanted the force of law to support one of his proclamations, it needed to be passed by both Houses (Lords and Commons) and codified into a law.
- The House of Commons was represented by a Speaker. The Speaker, while acting in his position, could speak openly to the King and either praise or criticize royal policies with impunity.
- > Parliament, like most governments, would give advice on a wide range of subjects.
- Parliament enacted laws to codify the King's policies, thereby giving them legal sanction and making them enforceable by law.

#### EXAMPLES OF PARLIAMENTARY USAGE DURING HENRY VIII'S REIGN

It is important to realize that, in Henry VIII's time, there was no annual meeting of Parliament. The King would call for a meeting of Parliament only when he wanted one. Consequently, Parliament could go for years without meeting.

## 1510

First Parliament meeting called under Henry VIII This meeting was noteworthy in that it claimed the first two persons to die under the charge of treason during Henry VIII's reign. John Dudley and Richard Empson, the ministers responsible for collecting government revenue during the reign of Henry VIII, were charged not only with treason but also with subverting the laws and impoverishing the King's subjects. Historians view these executions as a popularity move by Henry to solidify his public standing; in today's perspective, this would be as if the President abolished the IRS at the start of a new term. At any rate, Parliament readily endorsed the executions.

#### 1512

Henry's first request for funding for a war against France. Parliament agreed to new taxes/grants to support England's war. This led to the capture of Therouanne and Toulouse.

## 1523

Wolsey requests funding for a war against France.

Parliament sat in meetings for over four months (a very long time for 16th Century Parliaments) and spent almost all of that time refusing Wolsey's requests for taxes/grants to support England in its war with France.

## 1530's

The rise to power of Thomas Cromwell changed Parliament forever. Cromwell's presence marked the end of the medieval political system, and the beginning of the modern workings of Parliament. Primarily, the changes concerned the way in which Parliament was utilized, the key developments being:

1. Parliament was used to spread information throughout the realm.

2. Parliament could be manipulated to directly bolster support for the Crown.

3. Parliament unified the nation as a government through representation.

Parliamentary cooperation was key in the Church Reformation being a relatively peaceful process for King Henry VIII.

By creating statutes that legally protected the Church Reformation, Parliament demonstrated its power not only over the governing of the state but also over the Church itself. This demonstration of the power of Parliamentary statutes is the cornerstone of modern English government.

## 1536

Parliament faces a series of proposed judicial system changes.

Parliament supported Cromwell's policy which states that only the King could appoint judges and justices. Also, only the King could grant pardons for those charged with a felony or treason. For the first time in England's history, the judicial system was centralized, and this centralization gave the nation a sense of unity. Most importantly, it brought Wales and Northern England under the rule of the King.

Another important establishment by Cromwell and Henry VIII was to create a united England that represented the entire nation and its territories in Parliament. Even Calais (which was located in France) had members in Parliament. This nationwide-representative Parliament ended the situation of "kingdoms within a kingdom" and allowed the creation of a true national government.

A good illustration of Parliament's role in Henry VIII's reign can be found in this excerpt: "We at no time stand so highly in our estate royal as in the time of Parliament, wherein we, as head, and you, as members, are conjoined and knit together as one body politic."

-Henry VIII, a speech to Parliament

Ca. 1543

Essentially, Henry is expressing to Parliament that through their unity and cooperation, they had ushered England into its greatest era of prosperity thus far. With the Crown acting as the head, and Parliament now empowered to spread the governments influence throughout the nation, both worked in unison as one political body.

#### VI. CHURCH REFORMATION

Not to be confused with the **Protestant Reformation** at large that was happening in Europe at the time- the Church Reformation in England had little to do with theology. In fact, there were no major changes of doctrine, rather, it was mainly a jurisdictional change. The Church's power was seated in Rome, with the Pope, and passed down from there. The first sparks of the Protestant Reformation were lit when the 95 theses of Martin Luther were delivered to the Pope in protest of the Pope's actions regarding the collection of tithes. Martin Luther was then summoned by Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor, to defend his 95 theses at the **Diet of Worms** (literally "the Meeting in Worms," Worms being the name of the city where they met). Martin Luther bravely stood by his arguments, debating with Charles over 3 days. Out of admiration for Luther's faith in God and reputation as a man of the church, Charles granted him safe passage from Worms- even though the Pope's Church would likely send to have him executed for heresy soon after.

Unexpected political conflict saved Luther from religious prosecution. A prince from the Holy Roman Empire, who was frustrated with Charles V and the Pope, had kidnapped Luther as he was leaving Worms. This prince, Frederick the Wise, kept Luther safe for some time in a secret place.

This allowed for Luther to continue developing his arguments in *protest* of the Papacy, as well as the church *reforms* he sought to implement.

Eventually, Charles V was distracted away by war, and Luther was forgotten as little more than a momentary nuisance. Able to return to public life, Luther began his campaign to spread his new teachings, which included the first ever translated mass-printing of the New Testament. Up until that point, the Bible was exclusively kept in Latin, a language that only priests learned to read. Luther translated the Bible into the Germanic English spoken at the time, making it available for anyone who knew their letters- this took the key power of the Church to control people's interpretations of the word of God.

Luther's mission of protest and reform spread across Europe like fire and is now referred to as the **Protestant Reformation**.

This climate of dissatisfaction with the Catholic Church was widespread and became an issue that was just as political as it was religious. Local authorities finally had the justification they needed to combat the power structure in Europe at the time, where governing power was being hoarded by foreign religious leaders- the Pope and the Holy Roman Emperor.

It was in this moment that King Henry VIII saw his opportunity to take full control of his nation starting with a secession from the Catholic Papacy, giving the King the role as head of the Church in England.

This change made the Church in England the Church of England.

#### MAJOR REASONS FOR ENGLISH REFORMATION/SECESSION:

1. Henry wanted to dissolve his marriage to Catherine of Aragon.

2. Henry desired marriage to Anne Boleyn.

3. Anne Boleyn was already pregnant, hopefully with a male heir. Their child would not be a legitimate heir to the throne unless they married

4. England would gain Papal revenue.

5. England would gain Church-owned lands (1/3 of the land in England).

6. England was not being represented in the Church of Rome; there were no English ambassadors in the Pope's hierarchy.

7. Nobles and lords were jealous of the amount of land and wealth owned by the Church.

8. Divine Right (In the custom of the time, it was believed that the King had been chosen to rule England by God. Therefore, if God had chosen him to rule England, it was only fitting that he should rule the Church as well.)

Outside of Henry's selfish desires, there were many valid reasons to break with the Pope's authority- but it is still astonishing that it was done with so little repercussion compared to the rest of Europe.

The rise of Protestant faith was the cause of much brutality and violence across Europe. Thousands of people were hanged, tortured, and burned at the stake- on both sides of the conflict.

England was a very religious and violent nation; were it not for the perfect set of circumstances all falling in place at once, the country could easily have been thrown into civil war.

#### WOLSEY'S PART IN THE CHURCH REFORMATION

Even though the Reformation did not begin until after Thomas Wolsey had died, by his own follies he assisted in creating an environment that was ripe for change.

1. As Legate a Latere (the Pope's appointed representative in England), he took advantage of his office to hoard wealth and power. By 1530, the churchmen and nobles of England were tired of Wolsey and the Pope's influence.

2. To make sure he was the only Catholic power in England, Wolsey selected foreign bishops to serve as England's representatives in Rome. These bishops served their positions without ever residing in England; therefore, the Roman Catholic Church was never present to oppose the Reformation after Wolsey's death.

3. When elderly bishops would die, Wolsey would leave their positions unfilled and draw the money and power for himself.

Consequently, when Wolsey died, he had hoarded so much power that there was no one even capable of filling in his position as Legate. Without a strong church leader, and very little Papal influence left in England to organize an opposition to the Church Reformation, the process was relatively peaceful.

## KEY FACTORS IN THE LEGALIZATION OF THE CHURCH REFORMATION

Thomas Cromwell and Henry VIII led the Parliament into creating a series of statutes that made their interests in the Reformation legally enforceable:

## 1529

Parliament launched a vicious legal attack focused on Roman Catholic Church clerical abuses.

## 1532

The Submission of Clergy was passed; this legal break granted the King the following powers:

- 1. Papal revenues were now to be sent to the King
- 2. The King now had the sole power to appoint and ordain bishops and Archbishops
- 3. All new canons needed to have the King's approval
- 4. All old canons would be reviewed by a committee of 32 people selected by the King
- 5. The King was the ultimate source of Canon law in England

## 1533

Parliament passed the <u>Act in Restraint of Appeals</u>. This gave Cranmer the power to legally annul the marriage between Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon, with no possibility of appeal to Rome. This gave Henry the confidence he needed to abandon the Pope's rule.

## 1534

Parliament passed the <u>Act of Supremacy</u>. This declared the King to be the Supreme Head of the Church of England.

## 1534

Parliament passed the <u>Act of Succession</u>. This act required all English people to take an oath of loyalty to the King and Queen (Anne Boleyn), an oath that the King was the Supreme Head of the Church of England, and an oath claiming that Elizabeth, Henry and Anne's daughter, was the sole heir to the throne (the oath thereby renounced his first daughter, Mary, as a legitimate heir). Failure to take any of these three oaths was considered treason and subject to a penalty of death.

## 1535

Thomas Cromwell was appointed Vicar General by the Supreme Head to oversee the Church of England. Cromwell used his power to start closing down the monasteries. The main benefit was that the lands these monasteries occupied would then go back to the Church (the King). Cromwell sent agents to all the monasteries to strictly enforce the vows that the monks had taken. These vows were:

- 1. Celibacy
- 2. Clean living (free of sins)
- 3. Asceticism (practice of strict self-denial as a measure of spiritual discipline)
- 4. General obedience to all their vows with all the rigor possible

## 1536

Parliament enacted a law stating that any monastery below a certain size be disbanded. The theory behind this act was that the smaller monasteries were more corrupt. This means that in the eyes of Parliament, the line between "corrupt" and "non-corrupt" was a <u>financial</u> line. Monks from smaller houses could either retire (with a pension) or go to a larger monastery.

## 1536

<u>The Pilgrimage of Grace</u> occurred. This was a Northern uprising against Church Reformation, inflation, and a variety of private interests. Although there were over 30 thousand armed rebels, no actual battles were ever fought. The rebellion ended when the King agreed to the demands made by the rebel leader, Robert Aske.

However, as those who attended the parlay were being granted safe passage back to their homes in the north, a small group of rebels stirred up trouble without authorization from Aske. A small dispatch led by Sir Francis Bigod attempted to sieze Scarborough Castle, then the port of Hull. Both attacks failed miserably, and when word reached Henry, he took this as an opportunity to change his mind about meeting the rebels demands.

Within six months over 200 people were executed for treason (including Robert Aske, who had theoretically been granted a King's pardon).

The Pilgrimage paved the way for more reforms, both political and religious.

-Spurred the Crown to bring northern England under control. Henry and Parliament later used northern England's reforms as a guideline for Wales's inclusion.

-Fearful of radical Protestant retaliation (which was the cause of much death in other nations already, namely France), Henry issued the <u>Ten Articles</u>, which were a compromise between the old and new religions.

## 1539

England was being split in two by a religious controversy between radicals (Protestant-based) and conservatives (Catholic-based). Parliament held a debate, and the conservatives prevailed. The radical statesmen backed down when they saw the trend of how the members from the Commonwealth felt.

Parliament enacted a statute which enforced the <u>Six Articles of Faith</u>. These articles embodied a full Catholic-focused doctrine.

## QUESTIONS REGARDING REFORMATION

The two biggest benefits of the Reformation for England:

Income to the Crown - doubled the yearly royal income.

**Elimination of foreign influence** - Reformation completely rid England of the Papal influence, thereby making England a sovereign state. Henry VIII was now the Supreme Ruler of England, both spiritually and temporally.

List two ways the Reformation hurt England.

## VII. CUSTOMS AND MANNERISMS

Customs and mannerisms in Henry VIII's time were dictated by fashion, flirtation, survival, and superstition. Listed below are some examples of customs and mannerisms of the time:

#### WOMEN'S CLOTHING

The popular fashion for women's clothing was to have a tightly corseted bodice that was very low-cut. Women's fashions of the time were designed to show off their bosom.

Just as the bosom was the focal point of women's fashions, the calf of the leg was the emphasis in men's clothing. Men took every opportunity to show off this physical attribute. Men wore stockings and short pants. They would stand with their right foot pointing away from their bodies, then present the right leg forward to show off that calf.

#### MEN GREETING MEN

When men would meet each other, they would not shake hands as they would today. Rather, they would grasp each other's right wrist and give a firm shake. Then they would pat each other on the back with their left hands. There was a very practical reason for this: they were checking sleeves and backs for hidden weapons. Men shook right hands for two reasons: one was to prove that the man held no weapon in that hand; the other was the belief that left-handedness was a sign of the devil (so a man would hide this fact if that were the case). The modern-day practice of shaking hands probably evolved from this custom.

#### WOMEN GREETING WOMEN

Women greeted other women with the latest craze from the Continent: the French kiss (no, it's not what you think). Women would face each other and lightly grasp each other by the shoulders. Then they would kiss the air on either side of the other woman's cheeks, three times. One would never actually touch the cheeks for reasons of courtesy as well as fear of contracting the plague. This type of kiss is still practiced commonly in France today between both men and women.

## THE FORK

Another new trend from France was the use of the fork as an eating utensil. The fork was fairly common among the nobility but was not very widespread among the peasant class. Peasants continued to eat with their fingers as they feared the fork's tines were a sign from the devil (perhaps they were afraid to put the devil's pitchfork in their mouths).

## "GARDALOO"

The term "gardaloo" (also from the French) was used as a word of warning. People used chamber pots at night instead of going to the out-house. In the morning, they would open their windows, shout "gardaloo!" and toss the contents of the chamber pot out the window. If you heard this warning in Henry VIII's time, you would be wise to stand clear!

## EVIL SPIRITS/GOODLUCK CHARMS

Both peasants and nobles alike firmly believed in evil spirits and the power of good luck charms to ward them off. People often sewed tiny bells or coin-like metal disks (known as bezants) to their clothing in the belief that the noise would scare away evil spirits. People also wore crosses or carried Bibles to ward off evil.

## WITCHES/POSSESSIONS

People readily believed in witches and possession by evil spirits. Many people believed, in fact, that Anne Boleyn herself was a witch and that she had cast a spell over Henry to make him fall in love with her. There were various hand signs that one could use to ward off evil in a pinch. One sign was to make the sign of the cross over your body (head, chest, shoulder to shoulder) when passing by an evil person. Another was to cross your fingers and point them at the person as they passed. This is most likely how the custom of crossing one's fingers for good luck began.

## VIII. RENAISSANCE LANGUAGE

The Renaissance language cherished a quick and creative wit in a highly descriptive ornate style of prose, Ciceronian. The language had many freedoms with multiple dialects, no grammatical structures, chaotic spelling variations and changing definitions of words. Inventive swearing, insults and compliments became a characteristic of 16th Century language.

Opposite meanings and double comparatives are used freely in English Renaissance language. Some examples of these are as follows:

"Awful:" deserving of awe.

## "The most unkindest cut of all"

## -Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

Litotes, or extreme understatements, were also widely used as stylistic form of language in this time period. For example:

## "Man will not be perfect, for a few more years."

## -Thomas More

England's love affair with language continued through the 17th Century. William Shakespeare's plays and sonnets are testimony to that love.

#### HENRY VIII AND RENAISSANCE LITERATURE

Approximately fifteen years before Henry VIII's birth, the invention of Caxton's printing press in 1476 had set forth a revival of social consciousness and the spread of education. Various authors, including Henry himself, created great pieces of literature and ventured into new realms of thought.

#### **HENRY VIII**

"Defense of The Seven Sacraments"

This book was written in Latin with the help of Thomas More. It attacked the ideas of Martin Luther's theses. After the completion, Pope Leo X gave Henry the title, "Defender of the Faith." Henry's attempt was of dynastic not religious motives.

## THOMAS MORE (1478-1535).

"Utopia"

This satire of the English of the day was written in Latin and was an appeal to all of Europe to reconsider social institutions in the light of reason, and to achieve economic equality and peace. As Henry's Lord Chancellor, he was a great leader of the intellectual movement known as humanism and gave up his life rather than pledge allegiance to Henry and sign the Oath of Succession that made Henry the head of the English Church.

## SIR THOMAS WYATT THE ELDER (1503-1542)

"They Flee From Me, My Galley Charged With Forgetfulness"

Wyatt spent most of his life as a courtier and diplomat, serving Henry VIII as Clerk of the King's Jewels and as ambassador to Spain and to the Emperor Charles V. He used the courtly love tradition in his poetry; the unattainable woman in "They Flee from Me" is aimed at Anne Boleyn. The tone of most of his poetry uses the dolemdi voluptas, or delightful sorrow.

## HENRY HOWARD, EARL OF SURREY (1517-1547)

"The Long Love That Doth Reign and Live Within My Though"

Surrey was descended from kings; brought up with Henry's illegitimate son, the Duke of Richmond, who married Surrey's sister. His cousin was Catherine Howard. Surrey's importance as a poet rest upon his continuing the practice of the sonnet in English form, for it was later used by Shakespeare. "The Long Love..." is an imitation of Petrarch, one of Geoffrey Chaucer's contemporaries and the first humanist. This is the first poem to be published in blank verse to imitate normal speech.

#### OTHER FOREIGN INFLUENCES OF THOUGHT

#### NICOLO MACHIAVELLI (1469-1527)

"The Prince"

The Assistant Secretary of State of the Republic of Florence from 1498-1512. A strong moralist with a style of an ancient orator from the Roman state. In 1500, Thomas Cromwell brought his Prince back to organize ideas of Rhetoric in Henry's court.

#### DESIDERIUS ERASMUS OF ROTTERDAM (1466-1536)

Thomas More's friend had a strong influence on the fields of education, which at the time was based on the classics and the Bible. Erasmus led the fight against the intellectual domination of the church. The Voltaire of the 16th Century.

#### IX. SPORTS & PASTIMES

#### JOUSTING

Jousts and tournaments were among the most popular of all sports, most likely because Henry VIII not only loved them, but was also excellent at them. Jousting- from the Latin "juxtare," to meet together- was a way of practicing mounted combat between parties of knights. As far as skill is concerned, jousting was sometimes preferable over tournaments because the knights could show off their prowess in single combat.

Henry VIII loved to stage elaborate tournaments and jousts. He would actually erect small castles to attack and make big shows of banners and shields. These tournaments were often held in celebration of some event, such as the birth of a royal child.

In 1536 he held a tournament of Greenwich, the site of the finest armory in all of England, to celebrate the news that Anne Boleyn was pregnant. This was one of the last tournaments in which he ever participated because he was knocked from his horse; the animal, who was also wearing full armor, fell on him, almost killing him. The Queen later miscarried saying the fear brought on observing this accident caused it.

#### **BEAR BAITING**

The cruel practice of bear baiting was extremely popular. A bear was tied by one hind leg to a tree or post and hunting dogs were turned loose to taunt and attack it. The "game" continued until the bear was killed. Spectators placed bets on the longevity of certain dogs and the bear.

#### ARCHERY

Archery was compulsory. Every English man between the ages of 16 and 60 was obligated by law to own a longbow, and target practice areas were set up (also by law) in every village. Another law required that every father give his son a bow upon his seventh birthday. Like jousting, the sport of archery was intended to prepare men for battle.

#### HUNTING

Nobility enjoyed hunting as a sport. Game included hare (rabbits), hind (deer), wolf, wild bear, and fox. Shooting was done with bows and arrows, or the prey might be pursued by greyhounds (a favorite practice of the ladies who often accompanied their lords on a hunt). Another popular form of hunting among the upper classes was falconry. These birds of prey were considered so valuable that they were protected by a Royal edict. Anyone found guilty of killing a falcon could be put to death.

#### **EMBROIDERY/ TAPESTRIES**

Women of all classes practiced needlework as a pastime, as well as by necessity.

#### THEATRE

In Henry VIII's time there were no movies or television shows. Therefore, theatre was VERY popular. Traveling troupes of male actors (women were not allowed on stage) would visit villages and perform on makeshift stages. The actors relied on the generosity of the villagers for their incomes. A very popular form of theatre was the Commedia d'el Arte, which was a very broad, slapstick style of performing (similar to the Three Stooges).

#### OTHER GAMES

Many games that were popular during Henry VIII's time still survive today. Adult games included dice, chess, backgammon (called 'tables"), bowling, bocci ball, and cards. Children's games included skipping, leap frog, marbles, and blind man's bluff.

## X. HISTORY OF THE JOUST

The invention of the "Joust" and "Tournament" combat sports are credited to a Frenchman named Geoffori de Pruelli in 1066. The sport quickly spread from France to Germany, then England, and into southern Europe from there.

De Pruelli was killed in the very tournament for which he had written the original rules.

The terms "joust" and "tournament" are often used interchangeably. Strictly speaking, a "joust" should describe single combat between two horsemen. "Tournament" may be used to refer to one single large-scale battle where all present knights participate to the last man standing; it often described a proceeding of jousts where knights are eliminated one by one, similar to how modern sports tournaments operate.

War was a common occupation for men, and naturally had its pros and cons. In exchange for excitement, renown, and honor, one would face the disagreeable prospects of dysentery, sleeping on the cold ground, baking inside a suit of armor under the sun, and dying. Although at times it was necessary to go to battle in service of one's liege, the riches of war could be won at far less inconvenience in a lord's Tournament held during peace times. Winning such tournaments was a great opportunity for unloved knights or inglorious noble-born men to make a quick name for themselves, win riches and bring honor to their families.

#### JOUSTING AND THE CHURCH

There was a direct conflict between Christian ideals and the proceedings of tournaments. The French especially excelled in this department, engaging in what can best be described as *polite aristocratic adultery*; it was custom for a knight to dedicate his fight in a lady's honor (a "lady" being a woman married to a nobleman with political rank). If a knight were victorious, the lady was expected to return the favor by accompanying him for the night. Refusing to honor a knight's favor was considered treacherous. In England, such an affair was less common but not completely absent; the English regarded tournaments much more seriously as a means to remain prepared for war. English culture was so barbaric that the Church of England eventually forbade the Christian burial of anyone who fell in tournament; "Those who fall in tourneys will go to hell."

#### HENRY VIII'S JOUST

Where tournaments once resembled petty local wars, they slowly transitioned from matters of life-and-death into sport-oriented, sophisticated affairs.

By the time of Henry VIII's reign, there was an official Statute of Arms for Tournaments (est. 1292). This edict curtailed most of the bloodshed at tournaments; all knights were automatically considered gentlemen required to abide by Chivalry and fair play. Much of the credit for the rise of Chivalry is given to "King Arthur and the tales of the Round Table," a wildly popular genre of English folklore originating in the 1200's.

Tournaments ceased to be miniature no-holds-barred wars and became organized spectacles subject to legal scrutiny and organized conventions. Knights fought with blunted weapons, and the objective became to knock opponents off their horses while breaking as many lances as possible on an opponent. The more lances a knight broke, the greater the force of his charge and the higher his level of horsemanship. To kill a man in tournament was considered wrong- and at the very least unfortunate. There was no excuse for killing a horse, which was punishable by a large fine paid to the horse's owner.

King Henry VIII was famous for his jousting abilities, and often hosted tournaments for his personal celebrations. As mentioned in section IX, Henry hosted a tournament in 1536 to celebrate the pregnancy of Anne Boleyn (with a baby they had hoped to be his firstborn son). While jousting the Duke of Suffolk (Henry's close friend and brother-in-law), Henry's horse reared and toppled over unexpectedly. His horse, large enough to be rode into war by the towering king, was also dressed in full plate horse armor. Henry was pinned under the horse and suffered extensive damage to his body. The king mostly made a full physical recovery, but it should be noted that he was supposedly knocked unconscious for a full two hours. This likely would have caused permanent brain damage to the king and may explain his rather unpleasant change in character following the accident- for example, only three months later he had Anne Boleyn executed.

No blame was ever laid to the Duke following the accident, and he retained his office and Henry's favor until the Duke's passing nine years later.

## XI. MISCELLANEOUS FACTS REGARDING ENGLISH LIFE DURING THE TIME OF HENRY VIII

- The population of England was approximately 3.5 million, which was considered crowded. London was a city of approximately 160,000 residents.
- The lifestyle of many commoners revolved around agriculture. The chief livestock was sheep; there were approximately three sheep per person in England.
- People drank ale (beer) instead of water, the very upper classes and royalty drank wine.
  - Water purification was a difficult process with the technology of the time.
    Compared to water, basic alcohol was reliably safe to drink, could be stored for long periods of time, and got them drunk.
- Medical texts expressed a deep mistrust of fresh fruits which were believed to cause melancholy, poisoning, and illness.
- There was a very rigid class system in Henry VIII's time. The social levels for non-nobles were:
- 1. Wealthy merchants
- 2. Lawyers and clerks
- 3. Master craftsmen
- 4. Merchants/middle class
- 5. Journeymen/apprentices
- 6. Independent traders
- 7. Domestics

People did not do much griping about one's level in society; they fairly readily accepted there was no escaping one's birth. However, within each level of society, there was a good deal of snobbery.

- Shopping was possible in four venues: markets, fairs, in-town shops, and at home (from traveling peddlers). Markets, which were sponsored by the local lord, dealt mostly with food items, and were usually held on a weekly basis. Fairs were rarer than markets, lasted longer, and offered a wider variety of goods. They were usually held in conjunction with some festival.
- Most English villagers were functionally illiterate. They might be able to recognize a few letters or numbers but reading and writing were skills that basically belonged to members of the clergy and to nobility. Because of this, business signs were often a drawing or carving of the trade offered.
- Society was entirely male-dominant. Women were expected to marry soon upon reaching child-bearing age, and their chief duties were to maintain a home and to bear as many children (preferably male) as possible. Infant and child mortality rates were extremely high. Also, the more children you had, the more free labor you had in the household to help out.

#### XIII. <u>SUMMARY</u>

King Henry VIII was a fascinating man in a turbulent time. During his reign, England saw the birth of nationalism, the establishment of England as a European power, the Reformation of the Church, the union of Wales and Northern England, refinement of Parliamentary procedure, and the organization of the Privy Council. These were not modest achievements, nor was Henry VIII a modest man.

"God has not only made us king by inheritance, but has given us wisdom, policy, and other graces in most plentiful sort, necessary for a prince to direct his affairs by honor and glory."

-Henry VIII, Ca. 1536,

A letter written in response to pleas from Charles V

#### SUGGESTED PROJECTS AND CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

1. Hold a complimenting contest in your classroom. Students will create their own compliments, then select an opponent. The more elaborate the compliment, the better, and the last person to run out of compliments wins. (The best formula for creating a Renaissance-style compliment is to compare your subject to beautiful things. For example: "Your eyes are more radiant than a thousand stars on a crisp, clear night." One of the richest sources for inspiration is Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet)

2. Design and build a model of a castle. During Henry VIII's time, he built the castles of Deal, St. Mawes, Walmer, Sandown, Pendennis, and re-built Dartmouth. However, following the dawn of gunpowder and cannons, the design of his castles was radically different from older Medieval castles. Henry's castles were circular or semi-circular structures made up of several circular sections. Medieval castles, for the most part, were square or rectangular. Rounded walls gave Henry's castles a more deflective surface against cannon fire, and a better field of fire for his own guns and cannons inside the castle. His castles also had a low profile (less of a target for cannons) and thick walls. Utilizing Henry VIII's criteria for design, build a castle.

3. Research and create a menu for a King's banquet. Remember that England is an island. There were plenty of sheep, and don't forget the delicious eels that Henry VIII was so fond of. Also, spices were quite a luxury because of their expense.

4. Create your own raiment (clothing). Have your class either design or actually build their own 16th Century peasant clothing. Utilize the costume supplement to give guidelines to your students. Also, the paintings of Bruegel are a great visual source. (We avoided nobility's clothing due to the expense and difficulty of construction.)

5. Coats of Arms were symbols that families, towns, and even governments rallied around. Many coats of arms contained lions, eagles, and mythical beasts. Create a coat of arms for your class or your school. Or research to see if your family has its own coat of arms. If not, create one. (An excellent resource is A Complete Guide to Heraldry by A. C. Fox-Davies. See Resource list).

6. Have your class practice greeting one another in the 16th Century style (see 'Customs & Mannerisms' section).

7. Present a debate between Henry VIII and the Pope in regard to the divorce from Catherine of Aragon (a las 'Can This Marriage Be Saved?').

8. Present an explanation of Parliamentary procedure. Alternatively, stage a parliamentary session- prepare a list of topics for debate (ex.: if a certain assignment will be graded or not) and have the students elect their Speaker. The teacher will act as the Crown presiding over parliament. Parliament and the Crown- with the Speaker as the only one allowed to directly criticize the Crown- will have to reach a compromise on the topics of discussion or risk animosity between the members of Parliament and the Crown.

9. Write a letter or a journal entry from the point of view of a historical figure. For example: a letter from Wolsey to Henry VIII regarding Parliament's refusal to grant Wolsey funding for a war; a journal entry from Anne Boleyn concerning her wedding; a journal entry from Catherine of Aragon regarding Henry's wish for a divorce. Be creative! Pick any one or make up one, but make sure the letter or journal entry deals with a specific event.

10. Act out a meeting between Henry and his advisors regarding one of his marriages.

11. Prepare a panel discussion or a debate regarding "the King's Great Matter."

12. Stage a pretend dinner party with Henry and all six of his wives present.

13. Demonstrate the various stylish mannerisms of the day such as 'making a leg,' 'French kissing,' 'gardaloo,' and the various means of warding off evil.

14. Although there were no newspapers in Henry VIII's time, create one for your class and include stories regarding Henry's activities, Parliament's activities, the various military actions, sports, and religious happenings.

15. Write an obituary notice for Henry VIII and for each of his six wives.

16. Stage a Christmas celebration in renaissance England. What would be on the menu? What songs would be sung? Was there a Santa Claus? etc.

17. Set up a small kingdom. Determine what jobs/roles need to be filled to operate the kingdom. (Examples: King, Queen, Lord Chancellor, Royal Cook, Innkeeper, Merchant, Master Artisan, Nobles/landowners, peasants.) Have the King decide he is going to have a big feast and all the subjects are involved as either participants or laborers.

18. Create a timeline based on the information presented in this booklet. Utilizing either computer or craft paper, highlight the important dates of Henry's reign.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING CLOTHING

Listed are sewing pattern books and pamphlets you can find online, simply google the publisher and pattern #

#### <u>SKIRTS</u>

McCalls #4463 - Full circle skirt. You will need to lengthen the pattern to floor length. Remember to buy extra yardage for the lengthening. This pattern will make a very full, flowing skirt.

McCalls #3254 - Basic skirt. Again, you will need to lengthen this to floor length. Also, if you want to make it fuller, cut out twice the normal number of panels and gather them up at the waist.

McCalls #4669 - This is a dress pattern, but it can easily be modified to make just a skirt. Cut out only the skirt portion of the pattern and add a waistband. This pattern is already floor length.

#### WOMEN'S BLOUSES

Butterick #6731 - Pirate costume. Lengthen sleeves on blouse to at least 3/4 length and use drawstrings instead of elastic.

Simplicity #7650 - Use View #2 or #3; shorten for blouse. Use drawstring instead of elastic.

Simplicity #9601 - Blouse. Don't put the ruffle on.

#### MEN'S SHIRTS

Vogue #7990 - Shirt. Use as is, or you can add cuffs and collar.

Butterick #6731 - Pirate costume. Use as is BUT use a drawstring instead of elastic.

#### MEN'S TROUSERS

Vogue #7990- Pants.

Bunerick #6731 - Pirate costume.

#### <u>HATS</u>

Simplicity #7650 - Women's muffin cap and coif.

Vogue #9454- Berets.

<u>CAPES</u> McCalls #3934

Vogue #7110

Vogue #7366

Simplicity #5199

#### APPROPRIATE FABRICS

Anything 100% cotton (but no denim!), muslin, wood and wool blends, canvas (for bodices), gauze, poly/cotton blends (greater than 50% cotton), rayon. Velvet and brocade (for nobility only). Leather is perfectly fine for vests and jerkins.

#### INAPPROPRIATE FABRICS

Prints, stripes, or plaids (unless your costume is Scottish), polyester, knits, corduroy.

#### <u>COLOR</u>

Don't be afraid of bright colors (no neon colors though). Purple is only for royalty, but anything else is fair game.

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