

### Week Five tasks

This chapter in the Kerboodle book is all about the beginning of the Tudor dynasty. We won't have enough time in your timetabled sessions to complete the chapter, however I have assigned you the whole thing on kerboodle if you want to finish it – this is optional.

To begin with, you will need to log in to kerboodle (check the help sheet on the HMS website if you are unsure). Once you have logged in, you will need to click on KS3 History 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. You will then be able to see any assignments you have been given, and complete them by clicking on the 'assessment' tab. You will also be able to look at the student book by clicking on 'digital book'.

8.1 – Was King Henry VII a gangster? Read the pages and complete the end of lesson assessment quiz. As an extension, you could also try completing some or all of the tasks in the book.

## 8.1 Was King Henry VII a gangster?

Have you ever heard of a 'gangster'? Some of you will have. Take a moment to think and talk about what a gangster is and what his word means. Could the word ever be used to describe an English king?

**Objectives**

- Investigate the life of Henry VII.
- Assess the tactics Henry VII used to become more powerful.

A gangster is usually someone who is powerful. And they are often involved in unfair or criminal activities. They get money from people (sometimes unfairly) and make deals to increase their power. They often live lavish lifestyles and enjoy showing off their wealth and power. They sometimes use weapons to bully people.

Henry VII was not a criminal: he was King of England and Wales. In 1485, when he was simply Henry Tudor, he had beaten King Richard III in the Battle of Bosworth Field, near Leicester. Richard was killed and Henry Tudor became the new king – Henry VII.

Henry VII, who had become king by fighting, was desperate to remain king. So, he had to do things to keep his position safe. Now that you know what a gangster is, see if you think Henry VII acted like one.

**He made sure he had the best weapons**

Cannons first appeared in Britain in the 1390s. They were the most destructive and feared weapons by the time Henry became king, so he made sure he had the finest cannons in the land.

**He married a rival**

Henry was a member of the Lancastrian family. The Lancastrians' bitter rivals were the members of the York family, who were also keen to rule the country. In 1481, Henry married a member of the rival family – Elizabeth of York. She was the daughter of Edward IV and the older sister of Edward V – the king who had disappeared in the Tower of London in 1483. With Elizabeth of York as the new queen, it meant that the king was a Lancastrian and the queen was a York.

**He banned private armies**

Some powerful men in England had their own private armies. Henry knew these armies could be used against him... so he made a law that banned them. One rich lord who failed to get rid of his private army was fined £10,000!

**He forced people to give him money**

Henry made the rich people in his kingdom pay him heavy taxes. He sent messengers around the country looking for large, expensive houses. If they found one, Henry said they could afford to pay a large tax and forced them to pay. In addition, if the officials found nobles who were not giving a battle, they were careful with their money. Henry assumed they must be saving money... so he forced them to hand over some of their savings in gold.

**He made deals with other countries**

Henry once got Parliament to give him money to fight the French – then got the French king to pay him not to fight! He also made his eldest son, Arthur, marry a Spanish princess called Catherine of Aragon in order to become friends with Spain. And when Arthur died, he said his youngest son, Henry, should marry her as well. He even encouraged his 10-year-old daughter Mary to marry the 12-year-old King of France, and his other daughter, Margaret, to marry the King of Scotland.

**He made sure everyone knew he was king**

Henry was very careful with money but liked to enjoy himself! He spent huge amounts of money on lavish parties and entertainment. The Tudor rose symbol appeared all over the country – in churches, paintings, palaces and cathedrals.

**Meanwhile...**

In 1486, the same year Henry VII married Elizabeth of York, the word 'football' was first used to describe a game where a ball is kicked (see pages 92–93).

**Henry dies**

When Henry VII died in 1509, the throne was safe, and England was at peace. His son and heir, Henry VIII, became king without any opposition. He also left Henry VII a fortune! But what do you think? Was Henry VII a bit of a gangster?

**Source A**

A painting of Henry VII dating from 1505. He is shown in a portrait to a possible new wife after his first wife, Elizabeth of York, died in 1503. Notice that he is clapping a rose in his right hand, one of the many Tudor symbols.

**Over to You**

- In your own words, explain what is meant by the word 'gangster'.
- Imagine you are Henry VII and have been on the throne for several years. A new king in another country has written you a letter asking how you have become so powerful, raised so much money, and made yourself safe and secure. Write him a letter back in reply.
- Look again at your answer to question 1. Do you think Henry VII acted like a gangster? Explain your opinion.

**Consequence**

- Make a brief list of the actions taken by Henry VII to secure his kingdom.
- Explain two of the following:
  - The importance of banning private armies in making Henry VII a secure king.
  - The importance of marrying Elizabeth of York.
  - The importance of making lots of money in order to be a secure king.

8.2 – What was young Henry VIII like? Read the pages and complete the end of lesson assessment quiz. As an extension, you could also try completing some or all of the tasks in the book.

## 8.2 What was young Henry VIII like?

Everybody has heard of Henry VIII. Most people think they know a few things about him too. They usually say:

- He was a big fat bloke.
- He had six wives... or was it eight?
- His behemoths most of his wives.

Some of these statements are true. Henry did have six wives, but he didn't chop the heads off most of them (although he did behead two). As for him being a big fat bloke – well, yes, he was – but only for the last few years of his life. In fact, on his forty-fifth birthday, Henry was the same size as when he became king just days before his eighteenth birthday!

**Objectives**

- Examine how young Henry VIII spent his time and money.
- Judge how religious he was as a young man.

**A new Tudor king**

Henry's father, Henry VII, was unpopular towards the end of his reign because he taxed people heavily. When he died, and Henry VIII became king in 1509, there were wild celebrations. The new king was tall, handsome and full of youthful energy. The diagram on this page shows why many people thought he was ideally suited to be king.

**Fact**

Henry VIII employed someone to wipe his bottom! He was officially called the Groom of the Stool. It was a much-prized job because the employee got to spend so much time with the king!

**Source A**

A portrait of King Henry VIII showing him in his late twenties in 1530.

**Henry loved entertaining**

**Henry was a keen sportsman**

**He loved jousting**

**He was a keen poet.**

**He spoke four languages.**

**He wrote music.**

**Henry the Great?**

Henry was desperate to become known as a 'super king' and even liked to call himself 'Henry the Great'. However, he didn't achieve this aim. Instead he is perhaps best known for the number of wives he had and the significant religious changes he made. These changes affected religion not only in Henry's time, they changed religion in England and Wales for good.

**Source B**

Adapted from a poem written by Thomas More in 1509 to celebrate the coronation of Henry VIII. More wrote this at a time when he was one of Henry's most trusted advisers. However, in 1532 he was convicted of treason and beheaded on Henry's orders.

'The King stands out the tallest, and his strength the his majestic body... There is Henry power in his eyes, beauty in his face... He has immediately arrested and imprisoned anyone who had harmed the country.'

**Henry the good Catholic**

Henry was a very religious man and, like most people in the country at the time, he was a Christian, and followed the Roman Catholic religion. He visited church at least three times a day and even wrote a book supporting the Pope, who was the Head of the Catholic Church. Henry was such a good Catholic that in 1521, the Pope rewarded him with the title *Fidel Defensor*, which means Defender of the Faith. Henry loved this title and was very proud of it – and so were many other kings and queens. You can still see the letters FD or Fid Def on British coins today.

**Later on...**

Can you see 'FD' on the British £1 coin? And the Tudor rose?

**It all goes wrong**

However, by 1533, Henry had fallen out with the Pope, who excommunicated him, meaning he was expelled from the Catholic Church. This was a very serious punishment at the time because it meant you could not talk to a priest about your sins. If a priest did not forgive you for your sins, you wouldn't get to heaven. Also, monarchs from other countries might believe it was right to attack Britain because they would be pleasing the Pope – and God. So why did Henry VIII and the Pope fall out with each other? What had Henry done that was so terrible that he received the worst kind of religious punishment? The next few pages chart an amazing story.

**Fact**

Henry loved to bet on anything – cards, dice, tennis, wrestling or jousting. He would sometimes win (and lose) the equivalent of thousands of pounds in one day. Henry also loved to dress in the smartest, most expensive clothes. His fine shirts, gold buttons and jewel-encrusted jackets would have cost a fortune. So, too, would his legendary parties, held at any of Henry's 55 palaces.

**Over to You**

- Write a profile of the young King Henry VIII. Search through the text to find out details about the young king, using the following subheadings to guide your writing:
  - The athlete
  - The good Catholic
  - The big spender
- Write your own opinion in answer to the following question: 'Should the young King Henry have been called Henry the Great?'

**Source Analysis**

- Study Source B. Choose three words that summarise More's opinion of Henry VIII.
- Explain how this source is useful to a historian studying Henry VIII at the time of his coronation.

Happy kerboodling Highfielders!

Mrs. Bell ☺