The Tudors

Learning Objective: To explore and recreate Tudor portraits.





In Tudor times, there were no cameras so rich people would have artists paint their portraits so that future generations would be able to see what they looked like. It was also a good opportunity for people to show how wealthy they were. They would often wear their most impressive clothes and expensive jewellery to show how rich and important they were.











This is a portrait of Henry VIII by Hans Holbein, painted around the year 1537. What a handsome chap!

One of the most famous portraitists of the 16th century was Hans Holbein. He was a German artist who came to England in 1526. In 1535 he became King's Painter to Henry VIII, which means he was commissioned to paint portraits of the king and other members of the royal family.





This is another portrait of Henry VIII by Holbein. What do you think Henry wanted this portrait to say about him?











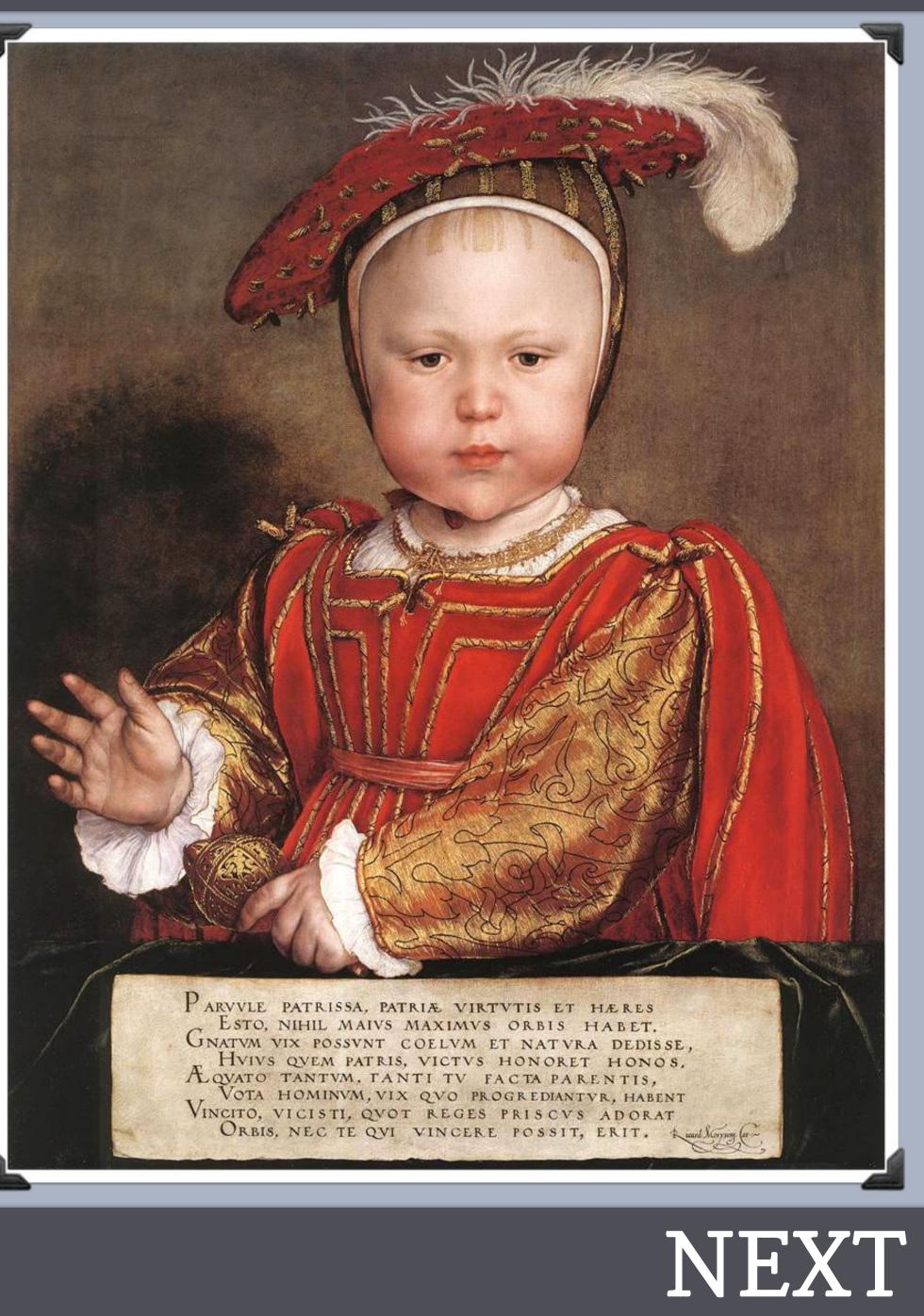
This is a portrait of Jane Seymour, Henry VIII's third wife. It was painted by Hans Holbein.





This Holbein portrait shows Edward VI, Henry's only son, as a young child.











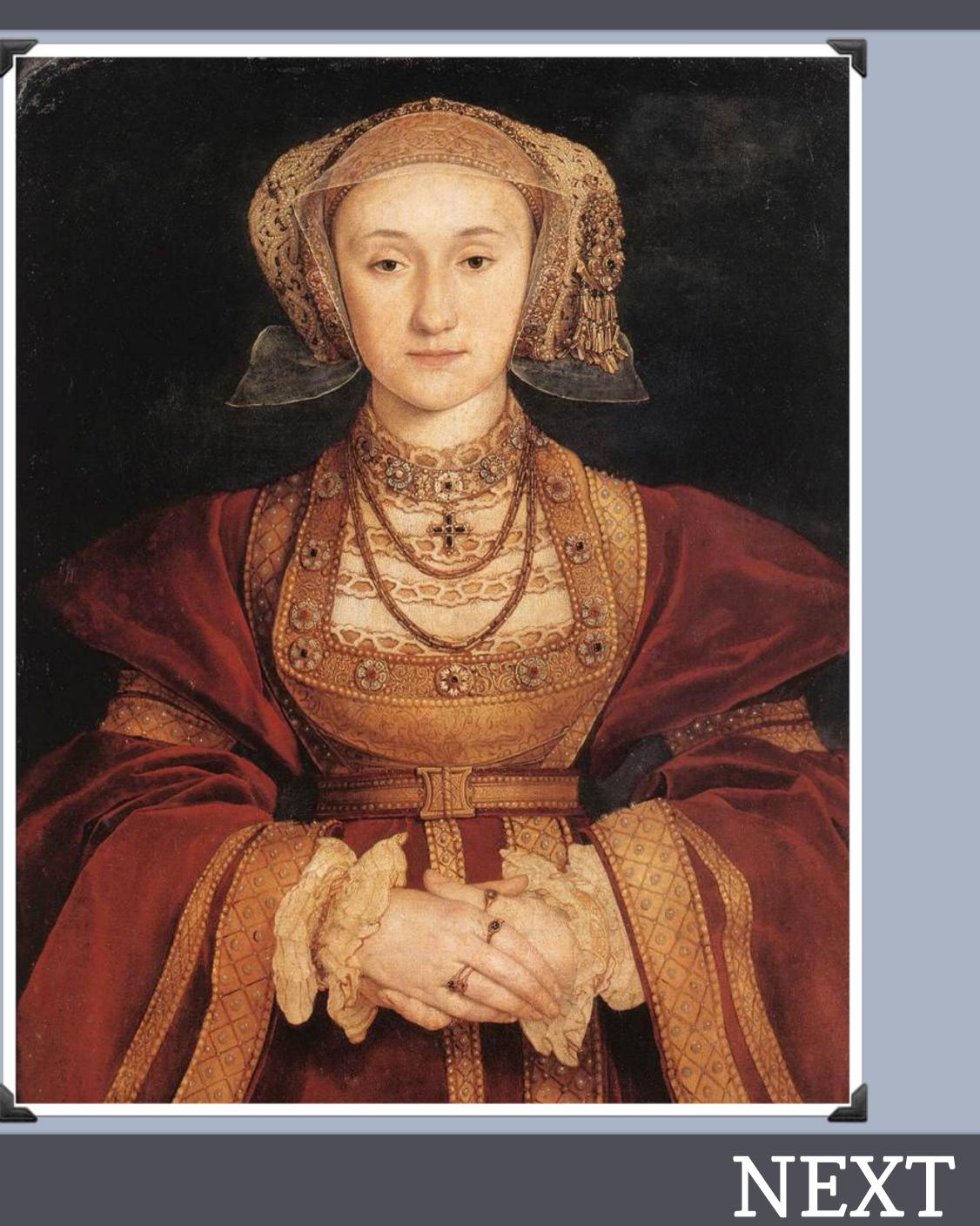
This portrait is of Catherine Howard, Henry's fifth wife. What do you think of this portrait?





This portrait of Anne of Cleves is the picture that Holbein painted in Germany to show King Henry what she looked like before they were married. When Henry saw her in person, he was cross with Holbein for making her look prettier than she was! He called her the 'Flander's Mare' and divorced her a few months later.







Hans Holbein was not the only portraitist in the Tudor period. Have a look these other portraits of the Tudor royal family and think about these questions...

> What do you think of the style of painting?

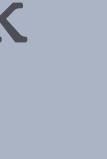
What do all the portraits have in common?





What colours have been used and why do you think this is?







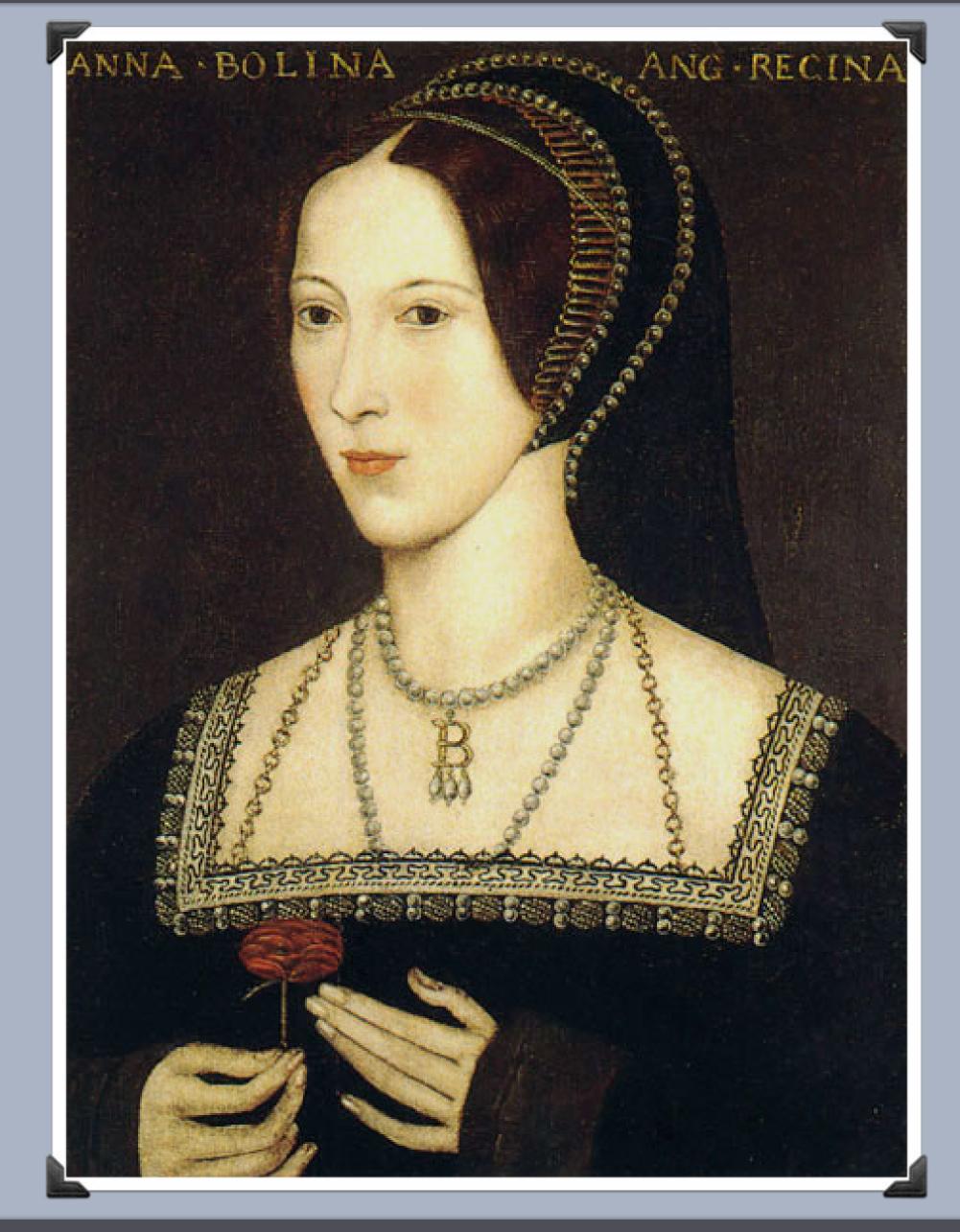


Itis believed that this is a portrait of a young Catherine of Aragon, Henry VIII's first wife.











This is Anne Boleyn, Henry's second wife.



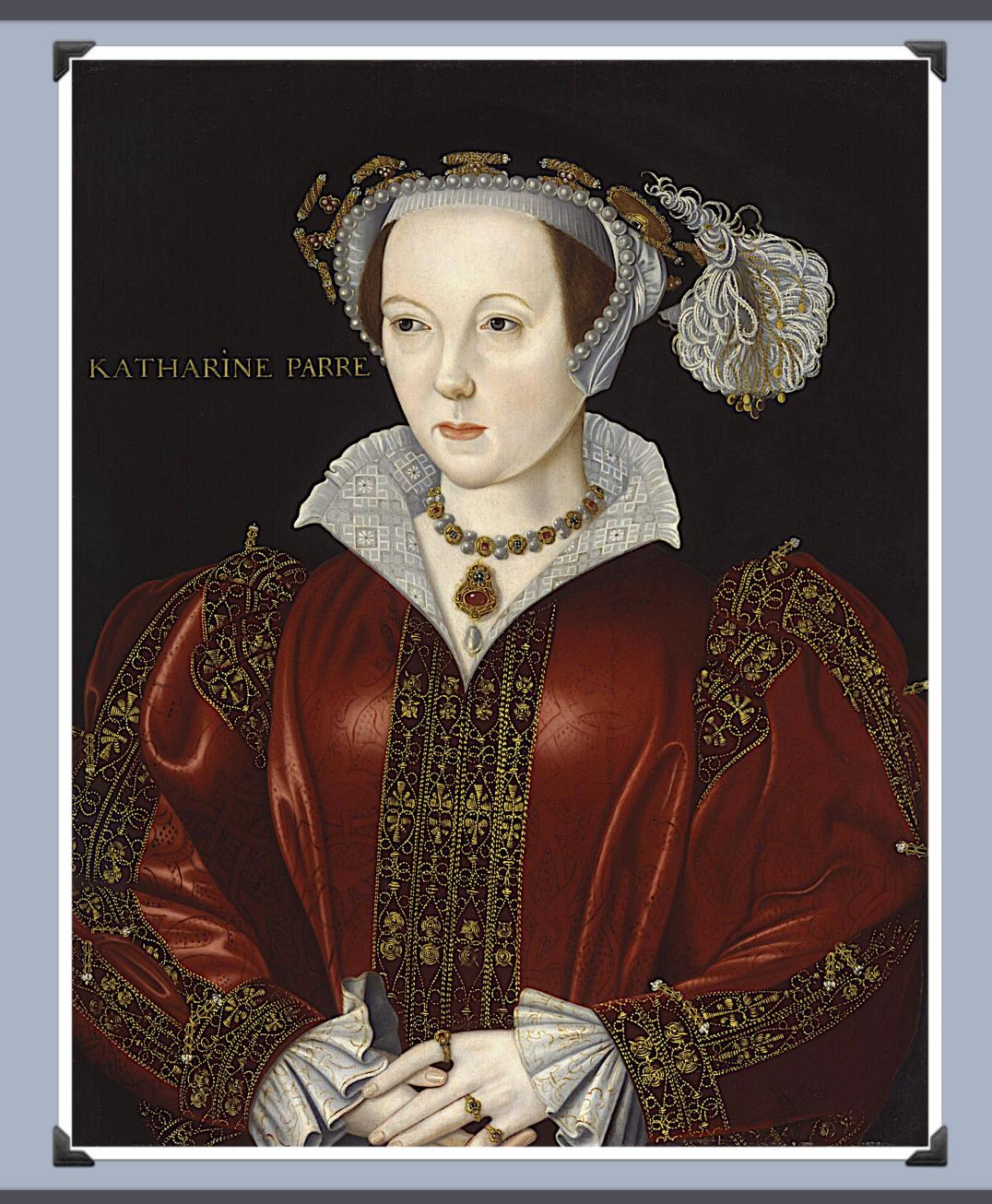


This is Mary I. She was also known as Bloody Mary because of her harsh treatment of Protestants.











This is Catherine Parr. She was Henry VIII's sixth and final wife.



This is Queen Elizabeth I. She was the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.







Are you ready to go and create some Tudor portraits of your own?







