

Why did Henry VIII marry six times?

Learning Objective:

To locate the Tudors on a timeline and learn about Henry VIII's six wives.

NEXT



Who is
this man?

What do you
know about him?



BACK

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This is Henry VIII, King of England from 1509 to 1547. He is famous for having six different wives...although not all at the same time!



Do you know any of his wives' names?



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How
many of
these
did you
think
of?



Catherine of
Aragon



Anne Boleyn



Jane Seymour



Anne of Cleves



Catherine Howard



Catherine Parr

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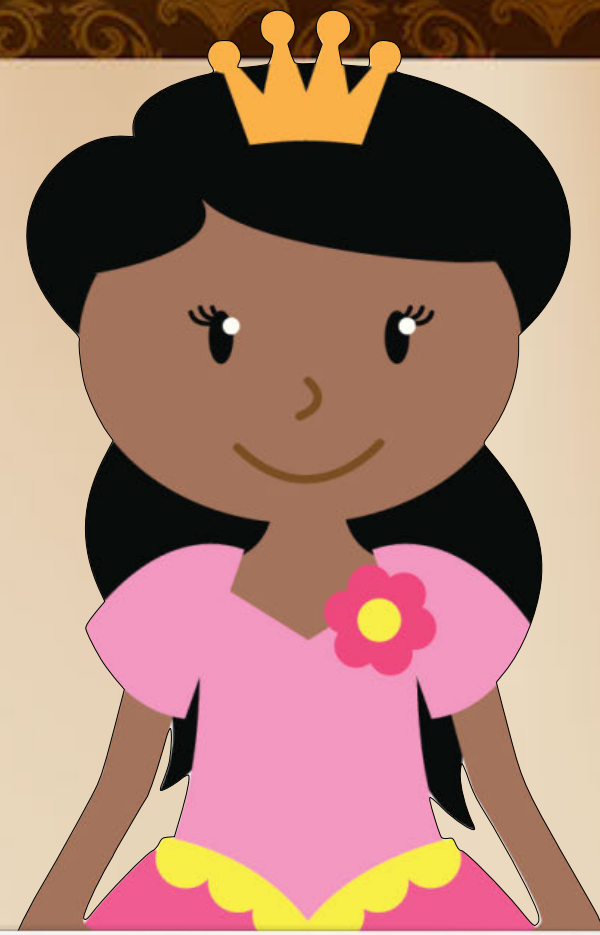
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Timeline of British History

1945 to today	1945 onwards
1901-1945	World Wars
1837 - 1901	Victorian Britain
1714 - 1837	Empire and Sea Power
1603 - 1714	Civil War and Revolution
1485 - 1603	Tudors
1154 - 1485	Middle Ages
1066 - 1154	Norman Britain
790 - 1066	Vikings
410 - 790	Anglo-Saxons
43AD - 410	Roman Britain
800BC - 43AD	Iron Age

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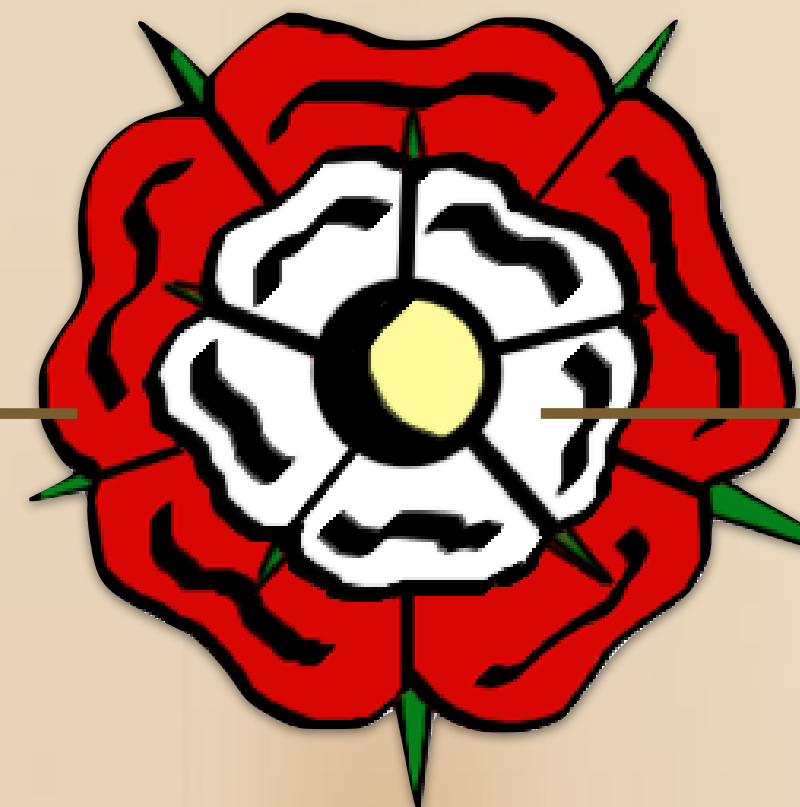
The Tudor family came to power in 1485 when Henry VIII's father, Henry VII, defeated King Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth. This battle ended the Wars of the Roses which had seen the York family and Lancaster family at war with each other to decide who should rule the country. Henry VII was a Lancastrian and he married Elizabeth of York, thus uniting the two families.



Henry VII

The Tudor Rose symbolises the red Lancaster rose and the white York rose and reminded people that the Wars of the Roses were finally over.

Red Lancastrian
Rose



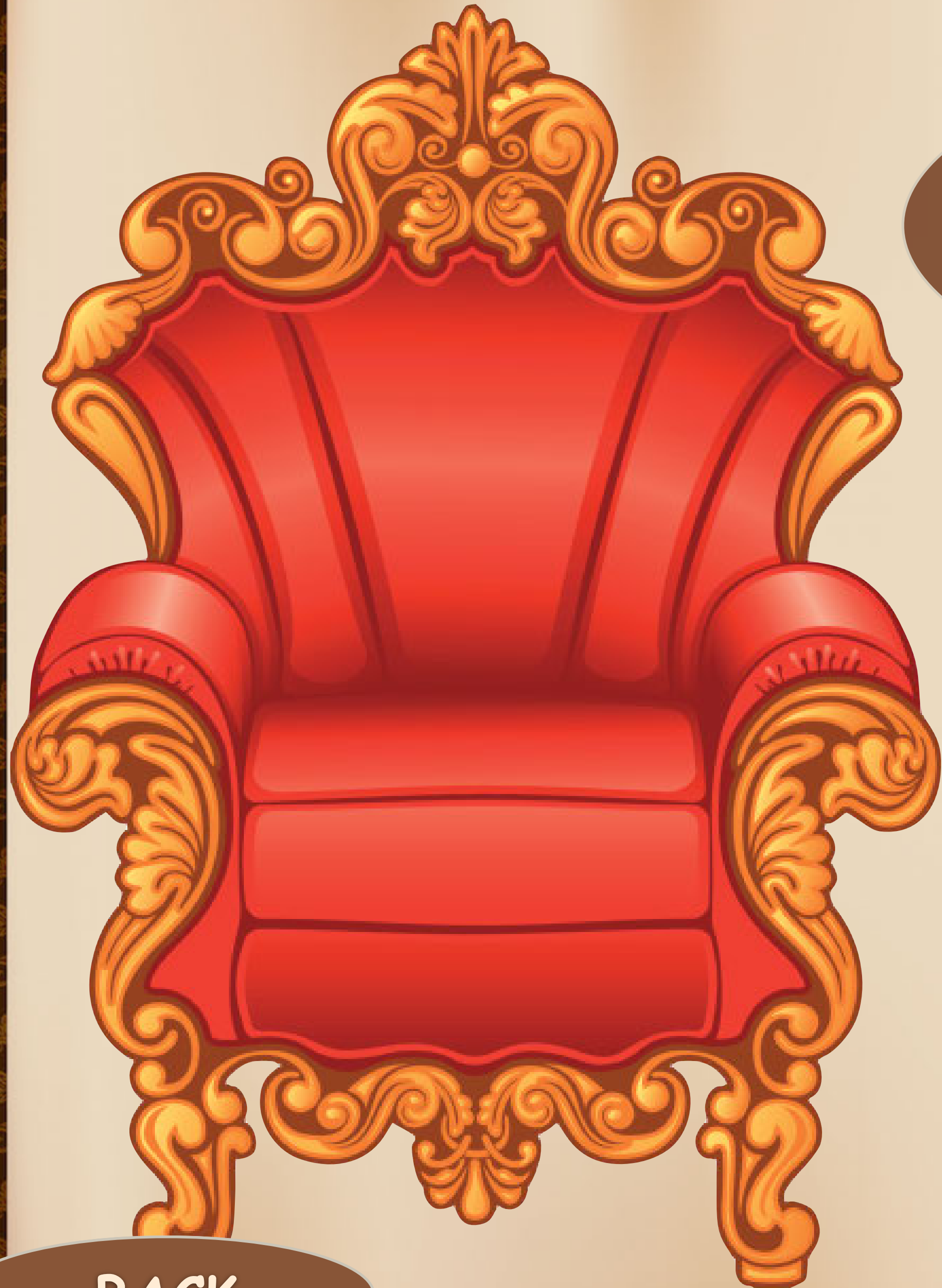
White Yorkist
Rose



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Imagine I am in
the Hot Seat. What questions
would you ask me?



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Henry VIII's Six Wives



Henry VIII came to the throne on 21 April 1509. He was the second son of Henry VII and hadn't expected to become king because his older brother, Arthur, was first in line for the crown. However, Arthur died before he could become king and it was therefore up to Henry to rule England.



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Henry's first wife was Catherine of Aragon. Catherine had been married to Arthur but when he died she became Henry's wife. She was the daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain. Catherine and Henry were married for 24 years before they got divorced.



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Anne Boleyn was Henry's second wife. He married her very soon after his divorce from Catherine of Aragon. Henry was besotted with Anne's charm and beauty when they first married, but when she failed to produce a son Henry decided he needed a new wife. Rumours circulated that Anne was unfaithful to Henry.

Some people even said she was a witch. She was beheaded in 1536. They had been married less than three years.



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Jane Seymour was married to Henry soon after Anne Boleyn was executed. She gave Henry the son he so desperately wanted. They called him Edward.



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However, there were problems after the birth and Jane died when Edward was just two weeks old.



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Anne of Cleves was Henry's fourth wife but Henry divorced her after only six months. She was given a big divorce settlement and she outlived all of Henry's other wives.



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Catherine Howard was married to Henry almost immediately after his divorce to Anne of Cleves. Catherine was Anne Boleyn's cousin. She was married to Henry for two years before Henry had her executed on charges of treason and adultery.



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Catherine Parr was the last of Henry's wives. She married Henry in 1543 and was his wife until Henry died in 1547.

Catherine was the most married English Queen, having four different husbands in her lifetime!



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Can you remember the
names of each of
Henry's wives?

Can you put them in
the correct order?

Test yourself with a partner!



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