



**Vocabulary**  
Key terms and definitions

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Monarch         | The king or queen   |
| The Reformation | When Henry VIII changed England from a Catholic country to a Protestant country |
| Excommunicate   | To expel from the Catholic Church- a serious punishment                         |
| Pope            | Head of the Catholic church   |
| Armada          | A fleet of warships sent by Phillip II of Spain to invade England               |
| Heretic         | Someone who goes against the religious beliefs of the king/queen                |
| Catholic        | A member of the Christian church led by the Pope                                |
| Protestant      | A Christian who protested against the Catholic church.                          |
| Vagabond        | A wanderer or a homeless person   |
| Martyr          | A person prepared to die for their beliefs                                      |
| Successor       | The next in line to the throne  |

## The Tudor Monarchs

- **Henry VII - 1485-1509**

The first Tudor monarch.

He won the Battle of Bosworth to become king. This ended the War of the Roses

- **Henry VIII - 1509-1547**

Henry was brought up as a Catholic but reformed the church in England when the Pope refused to grant him a divorce.

He dissolved the Monasteries and declared himself the Head of the Church of England.

- **Edward VI**

Edward was a child when he came to the throne and was sick. He died at the age of 15. As he was so young, his advisors made most important decisions for him. He was Protestant.

- **Mary I**

Mary was a strong Catholic and wanted to reverse the changes her father (Henry VIII) had made. She declared England a Catholic country. She was married to Phillip II of Spain who was also a Catholic.

- **Elizabeth I**

Elizabeth was a Protestant but was reasonably tolerant of Catholics. She introduced a religious settlement that aimed to satisfy Protestants and Catholics and end years of religious turmoil.

## Key individuals

- **Richard III**

Richard III was king before being defeated by Henry VII at the Battle of Bosworth.

- **Lady Jane Grey**

Lady Jane Grey is sometimes referred to as the 'Nine day queen'. Edward VI named her as his successor as he knew he would not produce an heir before he died. Edward's sister Mary I disputed this and proved she was the rightful queen. Mary had Lady Jane Grey executed.

- **Mary, Queen of Scots**

Mary was the cousin of Edward, Mary I and Elizabeth. Mary was involved in a plot against Elizabeth and was executed after 19 years of imprisonment.

- **Phillip II of Spain**

Phillip was married to Mary I and proposed to Elizabeth after Mary died. Elizabeth declined. He was a Catholic ruler and sent the Spanish Armada to invade England in 1558. This was unsuccessful.

- **Thomas More**

Thomas More was an important counsellor to Henry VIII in the 1500s. However he refused to accept Henry as head of the Church and was executed.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1485 | Henry Tudor defeats Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth and becomes the first Tudor king.                                      |
| 1509 | Henry VII dies and his son Henry VIII becomes king   |
| 1534 | The Pope refuses to allow Henry to divorce. Henry breaks from Rome and becomes Head of the Church of England                     |
| 1547 | Edward VI becomes king at the age of 9. He is a Protestant   |
| 1553 | The Catholic Mary I becomes queen. Nicknamed Bloody Mary   |
| 1554 | Lady Jane Grey is executed   |
| 1558 | Elizabeth I is the last of the Tudors and a Protestant   |
| 1587 | Catholic Mary, Queen of Scots is beheaded for plotting against Elizabeth   |
| 1588 | English victory over the Armada sent by Phillip II of Spain  |
| 1601 | The Act for the Relief for the Poor, also known as the Poor Law, is passed. This increased support for those who could not work. |
| 1603 | Elizabeth dies. James VI of Scotland becomes James I of England uniting both kingdoms  |

## Key questions:

Why did Henry VIII break with Rome?

- He wanted to divorce his wife but the Pope would not allow him to
- Henry needed money and being able to sell church land would help
- Henry was disappointed with the behaviour of some Monks and wanted to make religious change

Why was Lady Jane Grey executed?

- Edward named Lady Jane Grey as his successor, even though his sister Mary was next in line to the throne
- Mary did not accept this and proved she was the rightful heir. She had Jane and her husband executed for treason because they had tried to steal the throne from them
- Mary was Catholic and Lady Jane was Protestant. Jane refused to give up her Protestant faith

Why is Mary I known as 'Bloody Mary'?

- Over 300 Catholics were burned at the stake as heretics including the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer.
- Mary had the shortest reign of all the Tudor monarchs but the most burnings for heresy.

Why did the Spanish Armada fail?

- The Spanish plan went wrong. They could not maintain their crescent formation
- Spain had
- England spotted the Armada and had time to prepare
- The weather caused the Spanish ships to wreck

