

## Year 7 HT 5 – The Tudors

The Tudors were a royal dynasty that ruled England from 1485 to 1603. This period is generally known as the Tudor period in English history. The Tudor period in England lasted from 1485 to 1603, and it was a time of great change and excitement. The most famous Tudor monarchs were Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I. The Tudors brought stability to the country and introduced important reforms. One of the significant changes was the establishment of the Church of England, which separated from the Catholic Church. Henry VIII, known for having six wives, played a big role in this change. The Tudor era was also known for exploration, with explorers like Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh venturing to new lands. It was a time of great artistic and literary achievements, with playwright William Shakespeare creating some of his most famous works.

Concurrent historical events in the UK during the Tudors:

1. War of the Roses (1455-1487): The War of the Roses was a series of battles between two rival factions that fought for control of the English throne. The Lancastrian faction was led by Henry Tudor who defeated King Richard III in the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, marking the beginning of the Tudor dynasty.
2. Reformation (16th century): The Tudor period saw significant religious upheaval in England due to the Protestant Reformation. King Henry VIII famously broke with the Catholic Church and established the Church of England in 1534.
3. Spanish Armada (1588): This was a failed invasion attempt by Spain to conquer England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. It had significant implications for England's naval power and marked a turning point in European history.

Key historical events taking place around the world during the Tudors:

1. Columbus' voyage to America (1492): This marked the beginning of the European exploration and colonization of America.
2. The Protestant Reformation (16th century): This was a religious movement that challenged the authority of the Catholic Church and led to the formation of various Protestant denominations.
3. The printing press (1440): The invention of the printing press allowed for the mass production of literature and had a significant impact on education and society.
4. The Renaissance (14th-17th century): This was a cultural movement that saw a revival of interest in classical art, literature, and learning.

It is important for students to understand the interrelation between events both in the UK and around the world during the Tudor period to fully grasp the complexity of historical chronology. Additionally, the emphasis on key events such as the Reformation and the Spanish Armada in the 2014 National Curriculum in England highlights their importance in shaping the course of English history.

### Further reading:

Fiction:

The Terrible Tudors (Horrible Histories) by Terry Deary - This is a fun and engaging introduction to the Tudor period with a focus on the more gruesome and gruesome aspects.

Non fiction:

Oxford Illustrated History of Tudor & Stuart Britain edited by John Morrill - This is a comprehensive and scholarly text that provides a detailed look at the Tudor period, including social, political, and cultural aspects.