

The Tudors

The Bloody Reign of Mary Tudor



twinkl



Learning Objective

- To understand why Queen Mary I was considered a 'bloody' monarch.

Success Criteria

- To know when Mary I ruled England.
- To understand why Mary executed Protestant Christians.
- To evaluate whether Mary deserves the name 'Bloody Mary'.

Timeline Mix-Up



Use your knowledge of the Tudors to put the Tudor monarchs in the correct **chronological** order.



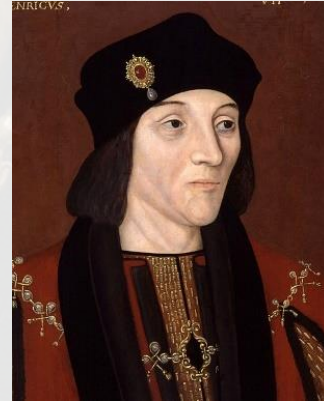
Mary I



Henry VIII



Elizabeth I



Henry VII



Edward VI



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Henry VII



Henry VIII



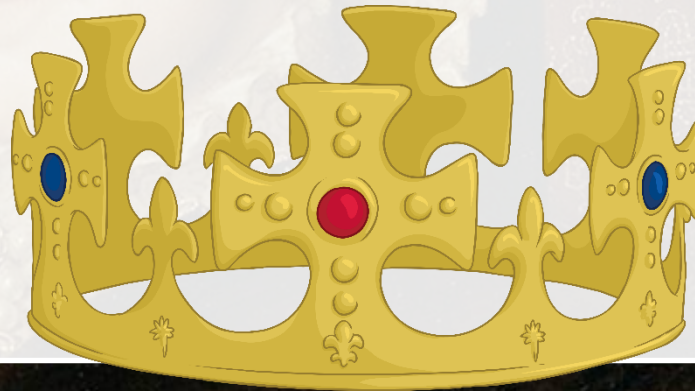
Edward VI



Mary I



Elizabeth I



The Young Mary



Mary I was the daughter of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon, a Spanish Catholic.

It is said that Mary was not Henry's favourite daughter; he much preferred his younger daughter Elizabeth.

Mary was raised as a Catholic, unlike Henry's other two children, Edward VI and Elizabeth. Her mother was keen to marry her off to a powerful Catholic prince. Many offers were made, but rejected, to royal European men.

King Edward VI ruled England before Mary, but since he was very young and sick, the Duke of Northumberland did most of the behind-the-scenes ruling. Edward and Northumberland were against making Mary the next queen. Northumberland would much rather his daughter-in-law, Lady Jane Grey, take over.



Pause for Thought

Can you think of two reasons why Northumberland might want to stop Mary being Queen? Think about religion, gender and power.

The Young Mary

On the death of Edward VI, Lady Jane Grey was declared Queen.

She would not last long though, after nine days, Mary had led a popular rebellion against the new queen and had her and Northumberland arrested and later executed.

Mary was made Queen in July, 1553. She had the people of England behind her. They mostly saw Mary as the rightful successor since she was Henry VIII's eldest daughter.

Mary promised to not treat Protestants harshly when she became queen, a promise she was not to keep...



'The Execution of Lady Jane Grey...' Painted in 1833



Rejoicing in the Streets



All the people of London rejoiced and made many great fires. They set out tables and feasted.

Extract from a diary at the time of Mary's coronation.

Mary came to power on a wave of popular support. People were hoping for a bold leader with a right to the throne. Catholics wanted a Catholic queen.

They had been unhappy with the religious change from Catholic to Protestant under Edward VII.

Explain what the source above tells us about the way people viewed the new Queen Mary.



War on Heresy



When Mary came to the throne, it was not long before she started to make Catholicism the religion of England.

Her first unpopular move was to marry King Philip I of Spain. This was troubling to many English people as they feared that Spain would start interfering with English laws, especially around religion.

Religious laws started to come into place, such as these below:

1. Churches were re-decorated as Roman Catholic.
2. The country was officially Catholic again, and therefore the Pope had control of religious law.
3. Married priests were forced to leave their wives – Roman Catholic priests were not allowed to marry.
4. It was made illegal to read or produce the Bible in English. Catholics believed only Latin versions were valid.
5. Those who remained openly Protestant could be executed as heretics.



Key Terms

Heretic – Someone who goes against the established religion.

War on Heresy



Mary's favoured method of executing heretics was by burning them at the stake. She reasoned that by experiencing a taste of hell-fire, those who were dying would convert to Catholicism as they burned.

Below are some statistics showing the Tudor monarchs and the number of people each one had burnt.

Use this data to create a bar chart on your activity sheet.

Monarch	Years Reigned	Number of Burnings
Henry VI	23	10
Henry VIII	37	81
Mary I	5	300
Elizabeth I	44	5

War on Heresy



Freeze Frame

In groups of six, create a freeze frame showing an execution of a heretic. Three of you should be Protestant and three Catholic.

One Protestant should be the unfortunate heretic and the rest of you group should be watching the burning.

Position yourselves in a way to show how each character would be reacting to the event.

Think about your facial expressions and what you would be thinking at the time.

You may well be interviewed by your teacher as you hold the frame!



Rejoicing in the Streets



...When Mary died, all the churches of London did ring and at night did make bonfires and set tables in the street and did eat and drink and be merry.

Extract from a diary at the time of Mary's death.

When Mary died, London was the scene of almost identical celebrations as the ones for her coronation!

Explain what this tells us about the way people's views of Mary had changed over her five-year reign.

What do you think the main cause of this was?



Bloody Mary



Mary is commonly known as 'Bloody Mary'. Discuss whether you think this nickname is deserved.

When you have discussed this issue, evaluate this nickname on your activity sheet.

Use the facts on this slide to help you decide.

Executions were not uncommon in 16th century Europe – Mary wasn't doing anything new.

Mary started her reign by executing Lady Jane Grey, her husband and supporters.

The day Mary died, she signed two more death warrants before succumbing to cancer.

Mary burnt around 300 people for being the wrong religion.

Mary teamed up with Spain to fight a war with France which led to the last area of France, controlled by England, being lost to the French.

Henry VIII only burnt 81 people, but executed over 70,000 in other ways! He is not known as Bloody Henry.

Something About Mary



Write two short statements about Mary to complete this lesson.
Use the boxes on your activity sheet to describe Queen Mary from
a Protestant and Catholic point of view.

