History Department

THE SECRET DIARY OF HENRY VIII

Independent Learning Project - Year 8 – Spring Half Term 1

YOUR TASK

Create your own version of Henry VII's diary explaining why his marriages ended.

• Research the background of first five of Henry's wives

• Research key events that happened during each of his marriages

Draft your diary in the style of Henry VIII

You'll find some suggestions of where to start your research at the end of these pages.

Write all of your responses at the back of your History book







SUCCESS CRITERIA

Show understanding of the features Henry VIII's reign

Select and combine information

Make a record of your sources of evidence

Research effectively using a range of sources

Write creatively and imaginatively

Good spelling, punctuation and grammar

WIFE 1: Katherine of Aragon

TASK 1 – Find out the following details about Katherine of Aragon

- 1. What was Katherine's family background?
- 2. Who was Katherine's first husband?
- 3. Who was Katherine's daughter?
- 4. Why did Henry want to divorce Katherine?
- 5. What did Henry do when the Pope said he could not get divorced from Katherine?
- 6. When did Henry finally divorce Katherine?

TASK 2 – Bibliography

Make a list of the books and websites you got your information from.

TASK 3 – Diary entry 1

Imagine it is the day after Henry has got divorced from Katherine.

Write his diary entry. You could include:

- •An explanation the reasons why he wanted the divorce
- •How he would be feeling
- •What he might be hoping for next



WIFE 2: Anne Boleyn

TASK 1 – Find out the following details about Anne Boleyn

- 1. Which country had Anne lived in as a young woman?
- 2. What was Anne's religion?
- 3. Who was Anne's daughter?
- 4. When did Anne have a miscarriage?
- 5. What offence was Anne executed for?
- 6. Where and how was Anne executed?

TASK 2 – Bibliography

Make a list of the books and websites you got your information from.

TASK 3 – Diary entry 2

Imagine it is the day after Anne's execution. Write Henry's diary entry. You could include:

- •An explanation the reasons why he wanted Anne dead
- •How he would be feeling
- •What he might regret about his marriage to Anne



WIFE 3: Jane Seymour

TASK 1 – Find out the following details about Jane Seymour

- 1. What was Jane's family background?
- 2. How old was Jane when she married Henry?
- 3. Who was Jane's son?
- 4. How was Jane's character different to Anne Boleyn's?
- 5. How did Jane die?
- 6. How did Henry react to Jane's death?

TASK 2 – Bibliography

Make a list of the books and websites you got your information from.

TASK 3 – Diary entry 3

Imagine it is the day after Jane's death. Write Henry's diary entry. You could include:

- Henry's grief at losing his wife
- •How he would be feeling about finally getting a son
- •What he might be hoping for next





WIFE 4: Anne of Cleves

TASK 1 – Find out the following details about Anne of Cleves

- 1. Where is Cleves?
- 2. How old was Anne when she got married to Henry?
- 3. Why did Henry marry Anne?
- 4. How did Henry react when he first met Anne?
- 5. How many children did Anne have (careful here!)?
- 6. What happened to Anne after Henry divorced her?

TASK 2 – Bibliography

Make a list of the books and websites you got your information from.

TASK 3 – Diary entry 4

Imagine it is the day after Henry's divorce from Anne of Cleves. Write Henry's diary entry. You could include:

- •An explanation the reasons why he wanted the divorce
- •How he would be feeling
- •How he might treat Anne now

WIFE 5: Katherine Howard

TASK 1 – Find out the following details about Katherine Howard



- 1. Who was Katherine's powerful uncle?
- 2. How old was Katherine when she married Henry?
- 3. Which previous wife of Henry was Katherine's cousin?
- 4. How long did Katherine's marriage to Henry VIII last for?
- 5. What offence was Katherine executed for?

TASK 2 – Bibliography

Make a list of the books and websites you got your information from.

TASK 3 – Diary entry 5

Imagine it is the day after Katherine's execution. Write Henry's diary entry. You could include:

Henry's embarrassment at Katherine's adultery
Henry's regrets about marrying Katherine at all
What he might be hoping for next

USEFUL WEBSITES

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/tudors

http://tudorhistory.org/wives/

http://www.hrp.org.uk/henry-viii/wives

http://www.historyonthenet.com/tudors/six wives henry viii.htm

http://www.sixwives.info/henry-viii-wives.htm