

# HORRIBLE HISTORIES

SPECIAL

## Cruel Kings *and* Mean Queens

THAT'LL TEACH  
YOU TO MAKE  
LUMPY CUSTARD

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МОУ СОШ №5



# идея

Идея проекта родилась на уроках английского языка. В учебнике Афанасьевой О. В. и Михеевой И. В. «Английский язык – IX» мы познакомились с отрывком из книги Дж. Фармана «Очень кровавая история Британии». Нам понравилась идея автора написать об истории с иронией. Это делает книгу интересной, особенно для подростков.

Наше внимание привлекла книга «Жестокие короли и подлые королевы» Т. Дерри. Книга написана в подобном стиле. Автор рисует генеалогическое древо правителей Британии и представляет их биографии с иронией.

Естественно, мы изучали историю Британии на уроках в школе. Но это было отнюдь неинтересно. Необычный стиль этой книги побудил нас прочитать ее от корки до корки в оригинале. Мы решили рассказать **самые горячие факты самых известных королей и королев Британии.**



**Цель данного проекта:** создание краткой электронной энциклопедии, раскрывающей иронические факты из истории королей и королев Британии.

**Задачи:**

- Собрать и систематизировать материал на данную тему
- Составить генеалогическое дерево правителей Британии.

**В перспективе:** исследование различий и сходств известных английских и русских правителей.

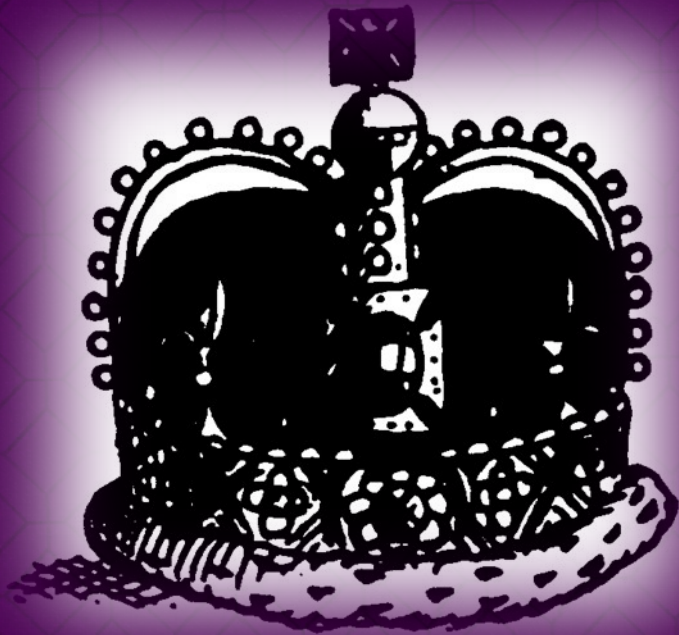


## Результат:

занимательное электронное пособие для изучения биографий британских правителей на уроках английского языка и для самообразования.



From Alfred the Great in the  
9<sup>th</sup> century to Elizabeth I today,  
56 men & women have reigned  
as Kings or Queens of England





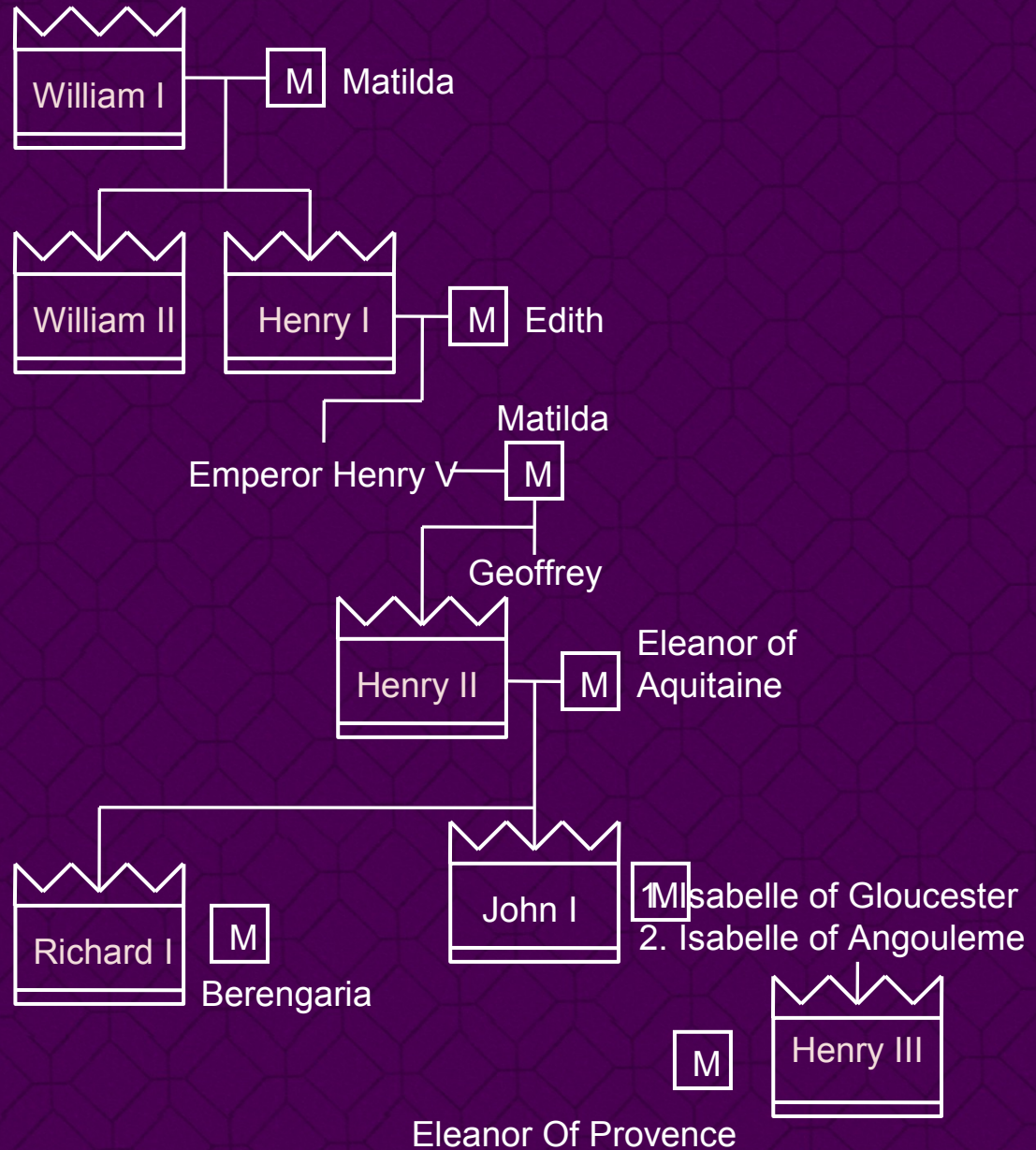
# Contents:

- ❖ Family Tree
- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ William the Conqueror
- ❖ William II
- ❖ Nutty nicknames
- ❖ Edward III
- ❖ Henry VIII
- ❖ Test your teacher
- ❖ Mary Tudor
- ❖ Elizabeth I
- ❖ Good sports
- ❖ Victoria
- ❖ Elizabeth II
- ❖ Nursery nasties
- ❖ Glossary
- ❖ Who said that?
- ❖ Epilogue
- ❖ Resources



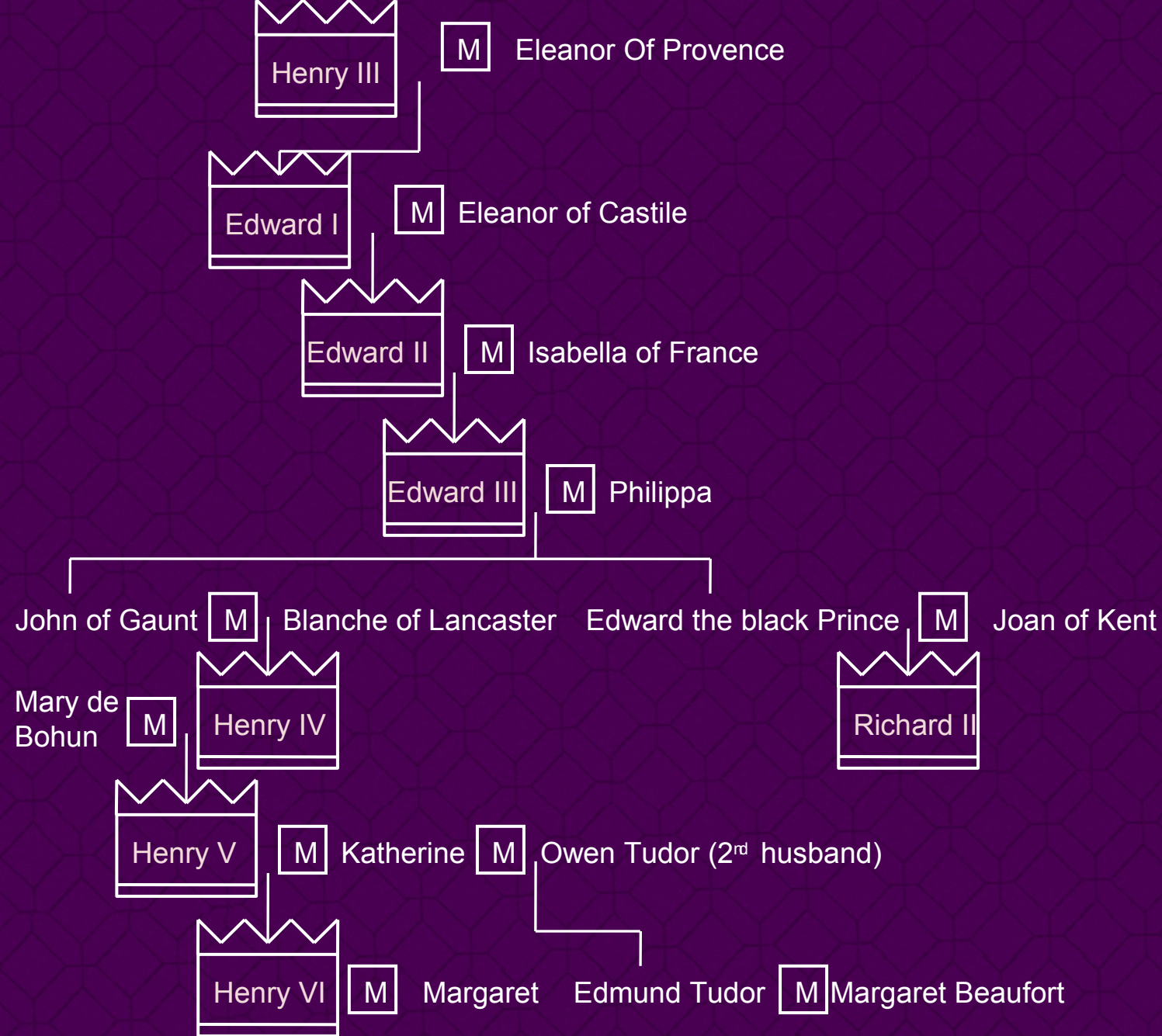


# FAMILY TREE

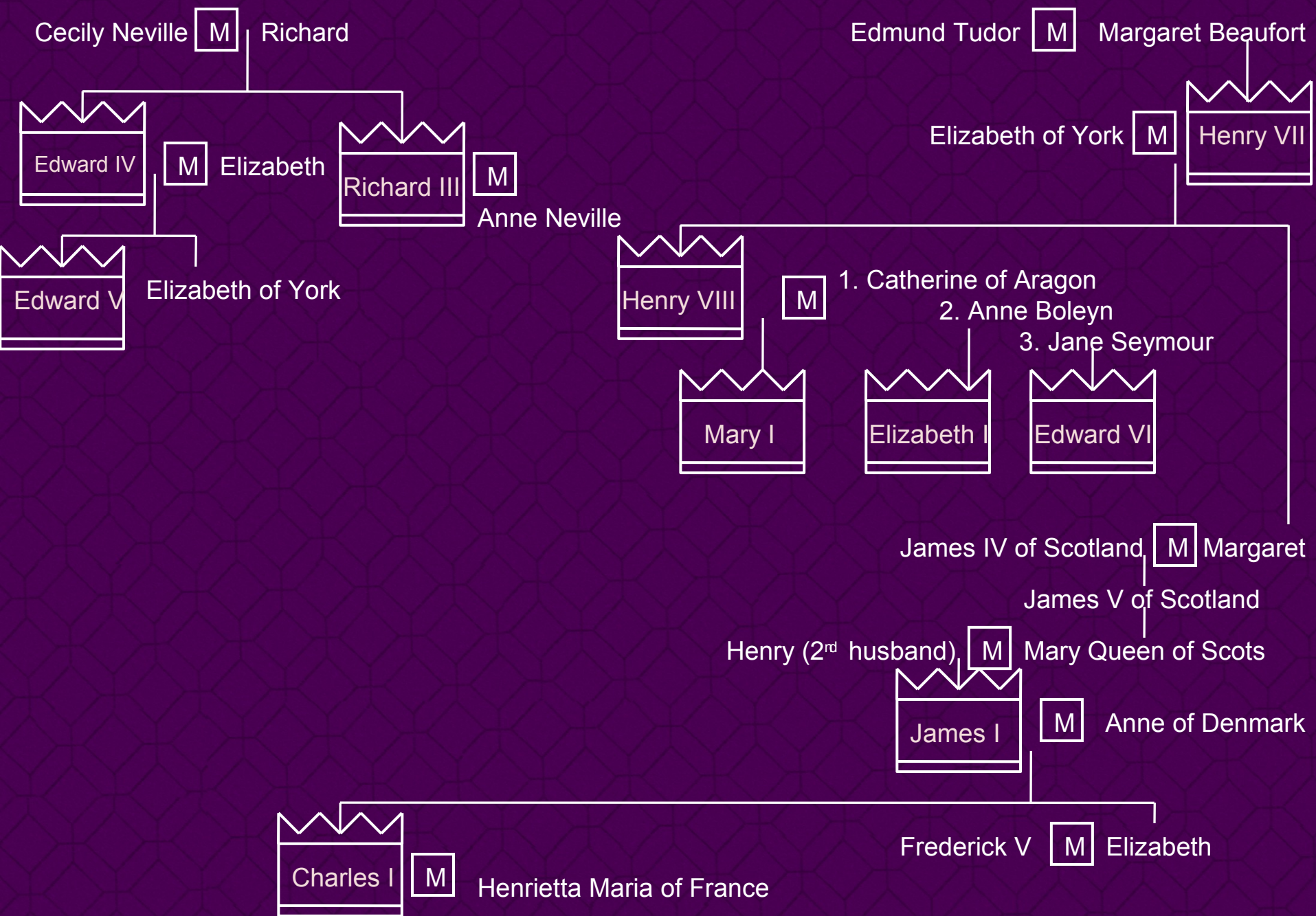


M=Married

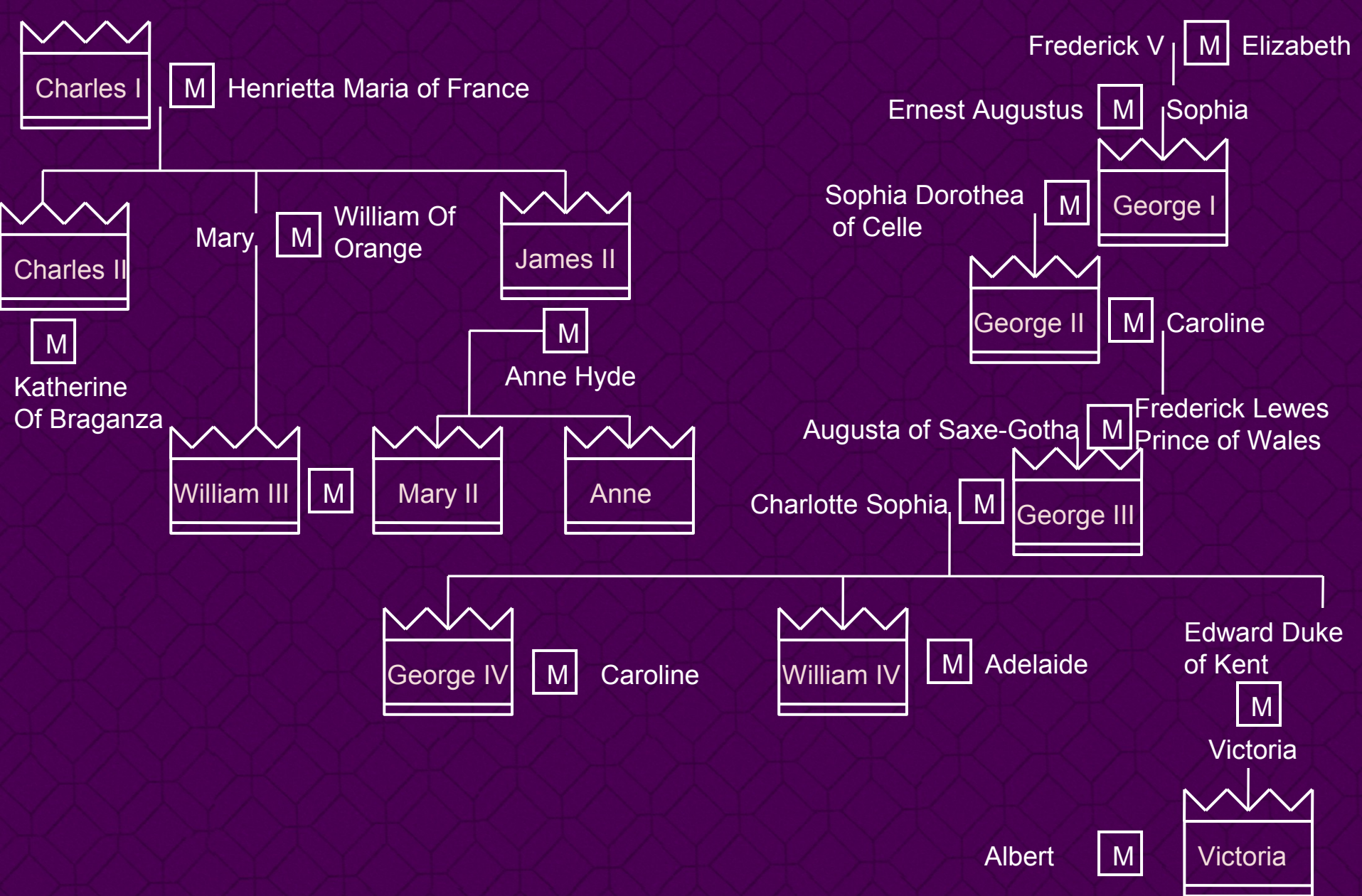




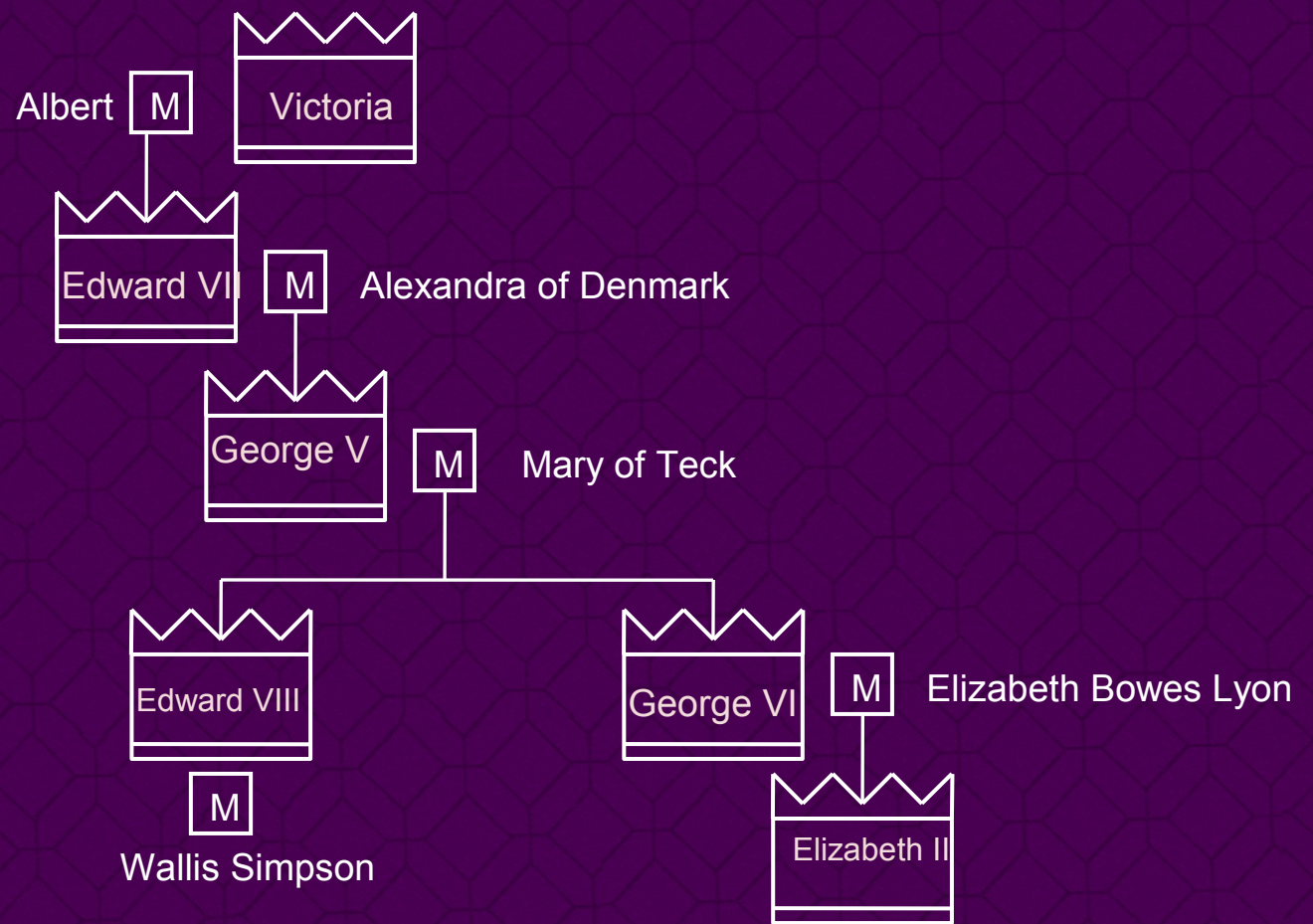














# INTRODUCTION

Some history books tell you about great kings and grand queens. But this is horrible history. This will tell you about grotty kings and gruesome queens. From their disgusting habits...

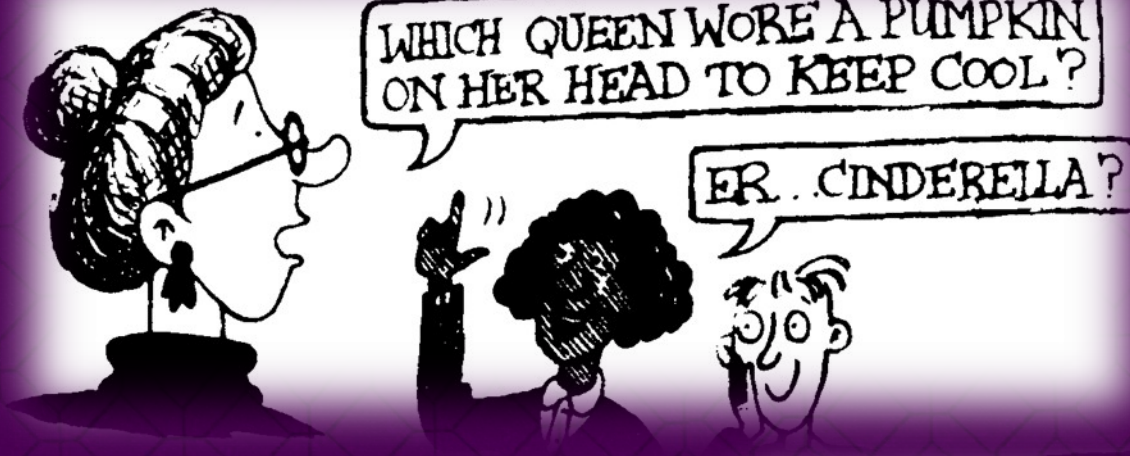


... to their dreadful deaths.

Britain has had as weird a collection of Kings and queens as any country. And a lot of them are presented in this project.



The funny facts...



The funny facts...

The fantastic facts...



The first king to claim to rule all of England was one who came over from France.  
The Norman, William the Conqueror



# WILLIAM – THE CONQUEROR (1066-1087)

## Claim to fame

- ❖ Won the Battle of Hastings in 1066
- ❖ Built castles around England
- ❖ Had the *Domesday Book* written so he could charge lots of lovely taxes

Cruel King  
Fantastic fact  
Funny fact





# WILLIAM II – BAD BILLY (1087-1100)

## Claim to fame

- ❖ A greedy, bad-tempered bully - at least that's what the monks who wrote the history said about him
- ❖ Red hair and a redder face gave him the nickname Rufus - that's Latin for 'red'
- ❖ Shot with an arrow while out hunting - probably murdered on the orders of his brother, Henry

Cruel king  
Funny fact







# NUTTY NICKNAMES

Can you match the nickname to the owner?

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| ❖ Geoffrey-nice <b>feller</b> ?         | a. Blearie           |
| ❖ Edith-big swallow?                    | b. Soft-sword        |
| ❖ James II-hot stuff?                   | c. Swan neck         |
| ❖ George IV-bit of a ninny?             | d. Silly             |
| ❖ Robert II-sight for sore eyes?        | e. Harefoot          |
| ❖ John I-fighting flop?                 | f. The fierce        |
| ❖ Harold-run rabbit run?                | g. The handsome      |
| ❖ William IV-willy the wally?           | h. Fiery face        |
| ❖ Charles II-sorry, wrong number?       | i. Charles the third |
| ❖ Alexander of Scotland-temper, temper? | j. prinny            |

answers



# EDWARD III – SLOB ED (1327-1377)

## Claim to fame

- ❖ Fought against the Scots and French... but not at the same time
- ❖ The war with France went on a long time. So long that King Ed died after reigning 50 years and war was still going on. In fact, it became the Hundred Years war.

Mean queen  
Foul fact





# HENRY VIII – HENRY ATE (1509-1547)

## Claim to fame

- ❖ He built the first modern navy
- ❖ He liked hunting, eating, riding, eating, archery, eating, music, eating... and getting his own way and eating, eating, eating... Anyone who annoyed him tended to get the chop even a good friend like Thomas More
- ❖ Got rid of the Catholic Church in England and made himself head of the Church

Cruel king

Did you know...?

Mean Queen

Foul fact

Fantastic fact







# TEST YOUR TEACHER

True or false?

- 1 King John did not sign the Magna Carta.
- 2 The Battle of Hastings in 1066 was not fought at Hastings.
- 3 A 'yard' was the distance from the thumb of Henry I to the tip of his nose.
- 4 James I was the first British monarch to take a trip in a submarine.
- 5 Elisabeth I had Mary Queen of Scots imprisoned for 19 years then executed, but the two women never met.
- 6 Two hundred years after his death, King Henry VIII's finger bone was used as a knife handle.
- 7 Old King Cole was an English king.
- 8 In the reign of Henry II, the king had the right to give a single woman in marriage and be paid for her.
- 9 Queen Alexandra, wife of Edward VII, walked with a limp. Fashionable ladies copied the limp. The walk became known as the Alexandra Glide.
- 10 Queen Alexandra nicknamed her daughter-in-law (wife of George V) 'Fat Mary'

answers



# MARY TUDOR – FLAMING MARY

## (1553-1558)

### Claim to fame

- ❖ Married the King of Spain, then got England drawn into Spain's battles with France. Her unpopular marriage caused an English rebellion led by Thomas Wyatt. Wyatt lost the first battle and was executed.
- ❖ Fanatical Catholic - had Protestants burned at the stake if they didn't change back to her religion.
- ❖ A sickly and unhappy woman who went down in history as 'Bloody Mary', though she wasn't cruel in herself ... just trying to do what she thought right.

Mean Queen Foul fact





# ELIZABETH I-FRIZZY LIZZY

## (1558-1603)



### Claim to fame

- ❖ Beat the Spanish Armada (with a little help from Francis Drake and the English navy).
- ❖ Tried hard to stay young with harsh chemical make-up and hair-dye... but she just ended up bald and toothless.
- ❖ Never married... though she had a few flings.

Funny fact, Fantastic fact,  
Did you know... ?

Mean Queen    Mini Comics



# GOOD SPORTS

1 *George VI* played tennis at Wimbledon ... and won a trophy.

2 *Cruel Henry VIII* went off for a game of tennis while his wife, Anne Boleyn, was being beheaded.

3 *Mary Queen of Scots* had a billiard-table to while away the long years she spent in prison. She also enjoyed a game of golf, just like *Charles I*. While he was a prisoner in Newcastle he was allowed out into the fields outside the town to play a game of 'golf'. Both played golf -both had their heads chopped off. Is there some connection?



4 *George V* enjoyed shooting game-birds like grouse and pheasants. Once, he and his hunting friends killed 10,000 birds in a season. They even managed 1,000 in a single day. But.. one day, George V was walking in his garden when he found a dying bird. What did he do?

a Burst into tears.

b Wrung its neck.

c Cooked the bird and ate it.

(answer)

next ➡



5 *Edward IV* passed a law in 1477 which made it illegal to play cricket. This law was not in force in 1715. Maybe it ought to have been, because British history was changed by a game of cricket. Britain has never had a King Fred... but it should have. The son of *George II*, *Prince Frederick*, would have become king when his father died. But Fred died first. He was hit by a cricket ball and died in 1715.



*James I* was keen on hunting so it was only fair that hunting killed *him*. He often caught cold while he was out and that weakened his health and shortened his life. James also had porphyria, an illness that weakens the mind. But James's mind wasn't as



# VICTORIA - MISERY VEE

(1837-1901)



## Claim to fame

- ❖ Reigned while the British Empire grew. Eventually Victoria was the empress of a quarter of all the people in the world.
- ❖ For all the riches this brought, many British people lived terrible lives in slums.
- ❖ Married Albert and had nine children - then he died and Vic spent the last 40 years of her life moaning about it

Mean Queen

Fantastic fact

Foul fact

Did you know?

Funny fact



# ELIZABETH II-LIZZY THE LAST

## (1952 - ?)



### Claim to fame

- ❖ Doesn't consider the Windsors a *family so much as a business*
- ❖ Perhaps the richest woman in the world, yet British people pay her about £8 million a year to be queen. But she has also opened Buckingham Palace to paying tourists - hoping to make enough cash to repair fire damage at Windsor Castle
- ❖ Three of her children had married by 1994 – one had divorced and two separated. Her only sister had divorced too. Usual average for miserable monarchic marriages!

Mean Queen

Funny fact

Fantastic Fact, Foul fact



# NURSERY NASTIES

1 When Charles I's wife, Henrietta, gave birth to a son she was a bit disappointed. He was a strong, healthy child but his mother had to admit...



The ugly baby grew up to be Charles  
2 Anne's son, Prince William, was always weak and sickly. He often lost his balance and was frightened of climbing stairs without help. But if his father, George, caught anyone helping the Prince then poor William was beaten. Anne just stood by and let it happen.





3 When he was a child, Charles II had to suffer some pretty nasty medicines. These included potions of rhubarb and senna. So he suffered both sickness and diarrhoea.

4 An English lady once visited George II in Germany. She found George's wife, Queen Caroline, whipping one of their children. 'Ah,' George said. 'You English have no good manners because you are not brought up properly.' The whipping was George's idea of bringing children up 'properly'.

5 George V said...

My father was frightened of his mother. I was frightened of my father. I'm damned well going to see that my children are frightened of me








# GLOSSARY

- ❖ Claim to fame -
- ❖ Diarrhoea - frequent and copious discharge of abnormally liquid faeces
- ❖ Feller -
- ❖ Grotty - (Brit slang) unpleasant, nasty, or unattractive
- ❖ Lumpy Custard -
- ❖ Misery Vee - (Brit slang) a person who is habitually depressed
- ❖ Mouldy - (Brit slang) boring
- ❖ Ninny -
- ❖ Porphyria - hereditary disease of body metabolism, producing abdominal pain, mental confusion
- ❖ Rumour - information, often a mixture of truth and untruth, passed around verbally
- ❖ Senna - any of various tropical plants, having typically yellow flowers and long pods
- ❖ Tax - syn: charge, imposition, impost, levy



# WHO SAID THAT?

Of all the monarchs in all the places in all of Britain, which one said:



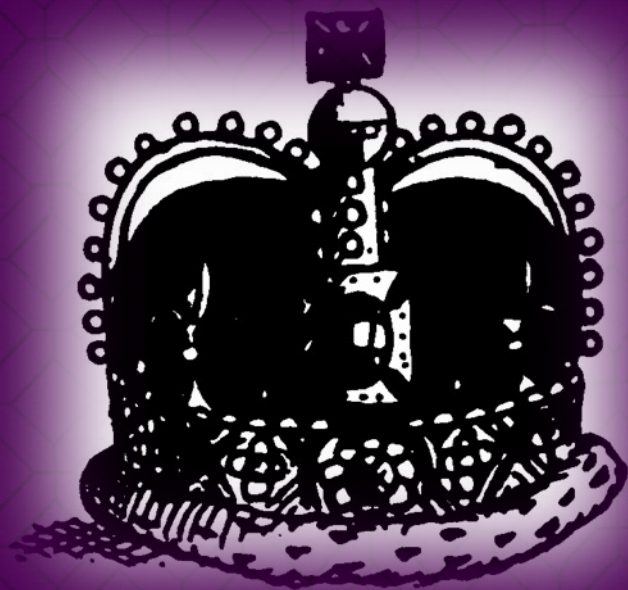
THERE'S TOO  
MUCH YOU  
KNOW HISTORY

Answer: Elizabeth II



# EPILOGUE

Let's be honest, Britain has been pretty unlucky with its kings and queens. There have been mad ones, bad ones, greedy ones and cruel ones. Some have been all these things at the same time! The Brits have had their share of murdering, mutilating and misruling monarchs. Do we want any more? The amazing answer is, 'Probably - yes!' Britain got rid of the monarchy once before when Charles I got the chop. But it was so BORING without a king and queen, the Brits brought back Chopped Charlie's son to rule again. Would the same thing happen again if we got rid of Elizabeth II and the royal family? What would the newspapers have to write about if there weren't royal scandals and shocking secrets? Whose face could we stick on stamps and five-pound notes?

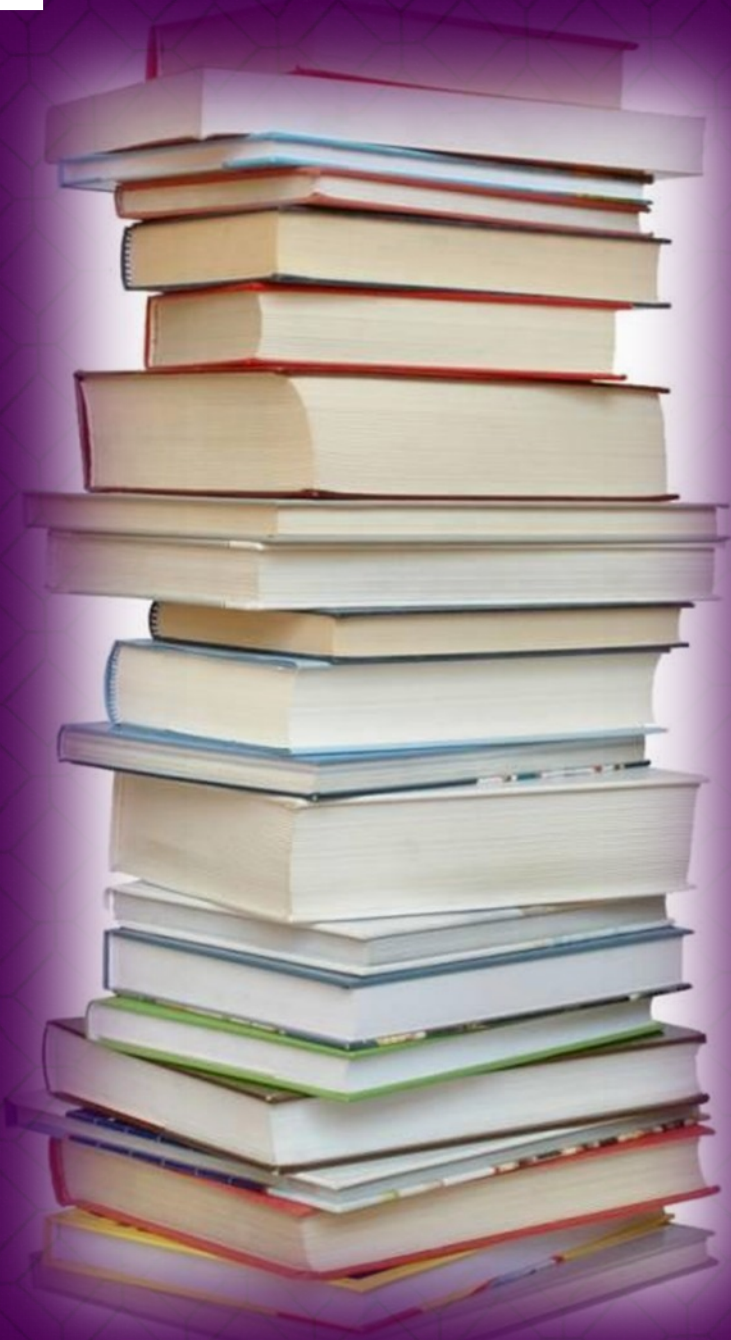


Who could we give the millions of pounds that we pay the Royals to be... well, royal?

The Royals are as useless as they ever were... but the Brits seem to like them that way. We've had Cruel Kings and Mean Queens for about a thousand years now - we'll probably have them for another thousand.



# RESOURCES



О. В. Афанасьева, И. В. Михеева «Учебник для IX класса школ с углубленным изучением английского языка, лицеев и гимназий», 2007, г. Москва

Terry Deary «Cruel Kings and Mean Queens»

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry\\_I\\_of\\_England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_I_of_England)

<http://www.answers.com/topic/henry-ii>

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/>

[PRgeorgeIV.htm](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/PRgeorgeIV.htm)

[http://www.factmonster.com/ce6/people/A](http://www.factmonster.com/ce6/people/A0852296.html)

[0852296.html](http://www.factmonster.com/ce6/people/A0852296.html)



# MEAN QUEEN

As a child, Elizabeth II was nicknamed Lilibet - because that was the way her baby tongue tried to pronounce her own name. Her governess reported that Lilibet and her sister, Margaret, could fight...viciously:





# Funny fact

The present Prince of Wales is Prince Charles. He has rather large ears. In June 1994 he went to Caernarfon to celebrate 25 years as Prince of Wales. The local joke shop almost sold out of joke big ears - Windsor Wingnuts as they called them. They also had 'Prince Charles masks' in the window. The local police said they were 'disrespectful' and ordered that they be kept under the counter. The owner was threatened with arrest but still refused to remove the ears. In the end, the police went away - the ears stayed.







# FANTASTIC FACT

The Queen's oldest son married Diana, the present Princess of Wales. But did you know that she is related to *all four of Henry VIII's English wives?*

# FOUL FACT

Elizabeth II's castle of Sandringham is haunted at Christmas. Each Christmas Eve, the Christmas cards are thrown to the floor. (Of course, it could simply be a very draughty castle.)





# MEAN QUEEN

Victoria had a lady-in-waiting, Lady Flora. Lady Flora's stomach began to swell and gossips said the unmarried lady was expecting a baby. Lady Flora denied it but vicious Victoria believed the rumours and gave the poor woman a hard time. In fact, Lady Flora's swelling was a cancer of the liver. She died two months later. The young queen's cruel treatment of Lady Flora made her very unpopular for the first few years of her reign.



# Fantastic fact

There were seven assassination attempts on Victoria's life, mostly with pistols. Fortunately for Vic, they were rotten shots. Incredibly, one man who shot at Victoria as she drove down London's Mall, came back the same time next day. Victoria drove past the same place at the same time and he was able to take a second pot at her.

# Foul fact

Albert died but Victoria still had his clothes laid out for him every morning as if he were alive and going to wake up and get dressed. This went on for 40 years! After that, Vic must have realized Bert wasn't going to be waking up ever again.







# DID YOU KNOW...?

Victoria won prizes at Cruft's dog show... at least, her dogs did.

## Funny fact

Victoria lived to the age of 81 - most of those years as Queen of Britain - yet she never spoke English perfectly. Like her Hanover family ancestors, her natural language was German. On 23 September 1896, Victoria made a special note in her diary. She had broken a record. She had ruled one day longer than George III. So what? So that made her the longest-ruling monarch Britain has ever had. And she still had five years to live.





# ANSWER

a

George wept over a single bird yet  
cheerfully massacred thousands.



# MEAN QUEEN

Elizabeth never married, but she had a few close shaves. (No, not on her head, you fool.) There were some men she came close to marrying several times. The first victim was Lord Dudley...





# MINI COMICS



Dudley's wife dies



Then that's the last thing you will hear!  
The punishment for spreading that rumour is to have your ears cut off





# DID YOU KNOW...?

Elizabeth I had 80 wigs to cover her baldness. She wasn't the only monarch with hair problems... William II, Henry I, Prince Edward, Georges II's son-in-law (the Prince of Orange), Edward VII, Charles I had these problems as well.



Of course, Charles I's father, James I, had a beard to hide his slobbering mouth...







## FANTASTIC FACT

Some people believed that Elizabeth I wrote the plays of William Shakespeare. That is nonsense. But it *is* true that Lizzie watched his plays. The actors had to be very careful what they showed her.

Elizabeth was terrified of being pushed off the throne, so she hated to see scenes where a monarch was overthrown. There's a scene in a Shakespeare play where Richard II is deposed. That scene was never performed during Lizzy's reign!

## FUNNY FACT

Elizabeth I had a tax put on men's beards.



# MEAN QUEEN

As young Edward VI lay dying he did a silly thing. He wanted to stop Mary taking the throne. So he was persuaded to name Lady Jane Grey as the next monarch.

But Jane was no older than Eddie and she had very little support compared to Mary. Eddie practically gave Jane Grey a death sentence. Jane was thrown off the throne after just nine days and Mary sentenced her to be beheaded, along with her young husband, Lord Guildford Dudley.

But the execution was particularly cruel. Instead of getting it over with quickly, poor Jane had to watch her husband being taken off to execution first. She then had to watch as his dead body was brought back on a cart - with his head wrapped in a cloth. After that horror she was taken to her own death. Her sad little ghost has been seen wandering the Bloody Tower in the Tower of London.







# FOUL FACT

Mary I hated Protestants ... and Protestants hated Mary. Some Protestants sneaked into Mary's room at Whitehall and left behind a dead dog. Its head had been shaved, like the head of a Catholic priest. Its ears had been clipped and there was a noose around its neck. This was a hint as to what would happen to Mary's Catholic priests. Mary was furious and swore revenge. She got it. Anyone who refused to convert to Catholicism died a slow and painful death, by burning at the stake. Mary had 283 Church of England supporters burned, including an Archbishop of Canterbury. One dead-dog joke cost a lot of lives.

Mary I was responsible for many cruel deaths but her sister, Elizabeth I, managed to equal her. The difference was that Mary killed as many in her five years as Liz did in 45!





# Answers:

1 True	6 True
2 True	7 True
3 True	8 True
4 True	9 True
5 True	10 True

Remember children!  
Your teacher is ALWAYS right!!!



# CRUEL KING

Henry was famous for his cruelty. Some of his worst acts were...

- 1 Henry held a party. He dressed in bright yellow, had a thanksgiving service at church followed by feasting, jousting and dancing
- 2 When Anne gave birth to a daughter Henry was upset. He wanted a son. He showed Anne how annoyed he was by refusing to go to the christening.
- 3 When he grew tired of Anne Boleyn, he had her accused of having other boyfriends. Her only real crime was that she couldn't produce a baby boy who could be next Tudor king of England

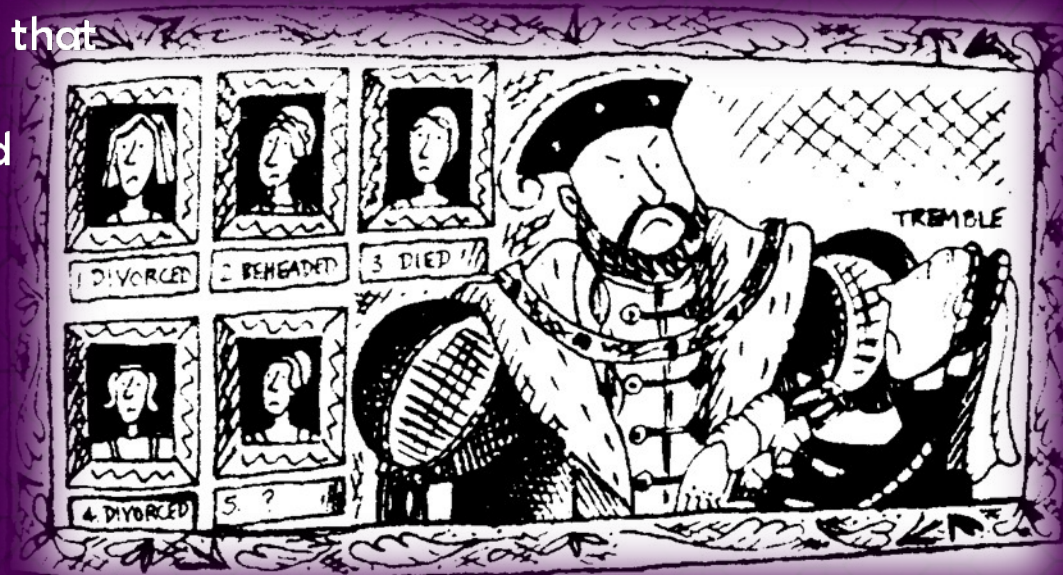
- 4 After Anne's death Henry set off the house of his next love, Jane Seymour.

She was his favourite wife – maybe because she gave him a sickly son before she died

- 5 Henry agreed to marry his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves. She looked attractive

- 6 Henry married Catherine Howard when she was just 19

- 7 Wife number six was due to marry Henry's brother-in-law, Thomas Seymour.







# MEAN QUEEN

Everyone knows about Henry's bloodthirsty nature. But they forget about his wives' nasty little habits. For example, Catherine of Aragon was left in charge of England while Henry went over to France. While he was away, Catherine's armies fought the Scottish king, James IV, and beat him at the battle of Flodden Field. Just to prove what a clever girl she was, Cathy sent Henry the blood-stained coat of the dead Scottish king.





# FOUL FACT

Anne Boleyn had an eating disorder. She would very often eat a meal... then be sick before she could leave the table. Her ladies-in-waiting became used to this and would hold up a sheet in front of her while she vomited into a bowl. Of course, Henry was supposed to have written the song, *Greensleeves*. Was it inspired by Anne's sickness? And could Henry have added a verse like...

*Alas, my love, you are looking bad;  
Perhaps it's the mouldy  
old peas you had. I used to love the white dress,  
it is sad,  
Because since you've been sick it's got green  
sleeves!*



# DID YOU KNOW...?

Henry VIII wrote a book. He wrote about how wonderful the Catholic Church was - so the Pope gave Henry the title, 'Defender of the Faith'... then the Pope refused to allow him to divorce his first wife.







# Fantastic fact

Anne Boleyn's head was cut off quickly and cleanly while she prayed. So quickly, in fact, that it is said her lips moved after her head was severed

# Funny fact

Henry had 6 wives. But not many people know that wife number six (Catherine Parr) had 4 husbands of her own including Henry



your name

## IDIOT'S EXAM PAPER

1. WRITE YOUR NAME AT THE TOP  
OF THE PAPER

2. ANSWER THE QUESTION:  
HOW LONG DID THE HUNDRED  
YEARS WAR LAST ?

A : 100 YEARS

B : 116 YEARS

C : 99 YEARS



# CRUEL KING

*The Anglo Saxon Chronicle said:*

He was very harsh and fierce in his rule over his realm and towards his followers and to all his neighbors. He was continually annoying this nation with plundering and unjust taxes. Everything that was hateful to God was the daily practice in this land during his reign, so he was hated by almost all his people.

## Billy's Sticky End

The big bad bully Billy decided to go hunting one day. The arrow-maker brought him 6 new arrows. He picked the best 4 and gave 2 to the knight. A letter warned the king that there was danger if he left the safety of the castle. William ignored.



Sure enough a deer trotted down the path. Sharp-shot Tirel missed! But the arrow flew across the path and hit the king in the chest, killing him instantly.

To this day, no one is sure if it was an accident (that was Tirel's story) or murder.





Answer:

b

The war started in 1337 and didn't end until 1453





# Cruel king

William the Conqueror did not believe in the old saying, 'Forgive and Forget'. Shortly after he was crowned there was a rebellion in the North of England where hundreds of his Normans were killed.

12<sup>th</sup>-century history said...

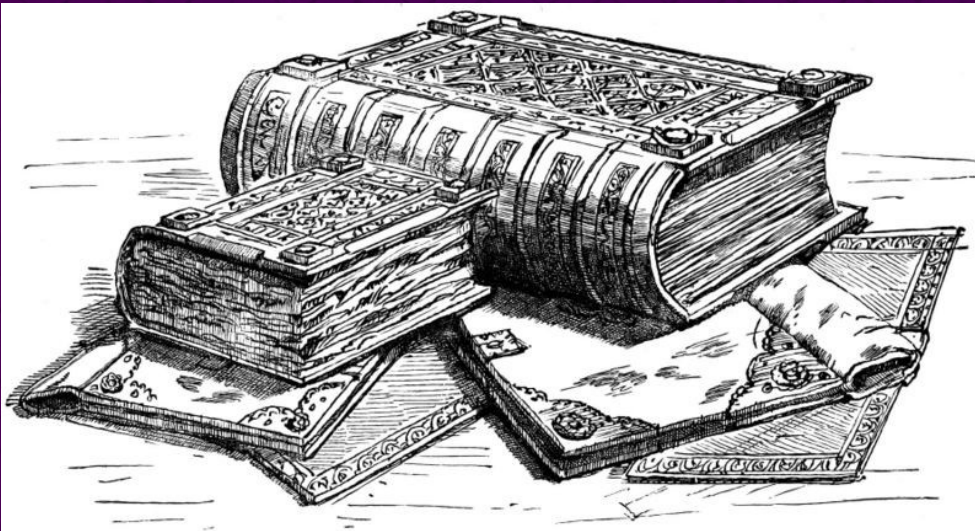
*William fell on the English in the North like a lion on its prey. He ordered that their houses, food, tools and belongings should be burnt and large herds of their cattle should be butchered. Thousands of children, old people, young men and women died of starvation.*



# FUNNY FACT

William the Conqueror had the famous Domesday Book written. It listed all of the places in the kingdom and all of the wealth - so the king could tax that wealth. You couldn't argue with it. It was law until the end of the world. Till Doomsday, in fact. That's how it got its nickname. But, did you now know, William never read the Domesday Book. Why not?

1. He died before it was finished.
2. He tried to borrow a copy but the library was closed.
3. William couldn't read.



Answer: 3 Like many early English kings, William couldn't read or write.  
the signed documents with a cross.



# FANTASTIC FACT

William the Conqueror was so strong that he could jump on to his horse when dressed in full







# ANSWERS:

- 1 g Geoffrey The Handsome (because he was handsome).
- 2 c Edith Swan Neck (because of her pale, long neck).
- 3 h James II Fiery Face (because of a red birthmark on his face).
- 4 j George IV Prinny (short for Prince of Wales - which he was for many years).
- 5 a Robert II Blearie.
- 6 b John I Soft-sword (because he lost a lot of battles).
- 7 e Harold Harefoot (because he was a fast runner).
- 8 d William IV Silly (because he was a Silly Billy).
- 9 i Charles II Charles the Third (Charles had a girlfriend called Nell. She'd had 2 boyfriends before the king, both called Charles).



# FUNNY FACT

ONE DAY HIS SERVANT BROUGHT HIM A NEW PAIR OF BOOTS

HOW MUCH DID THESE COST?



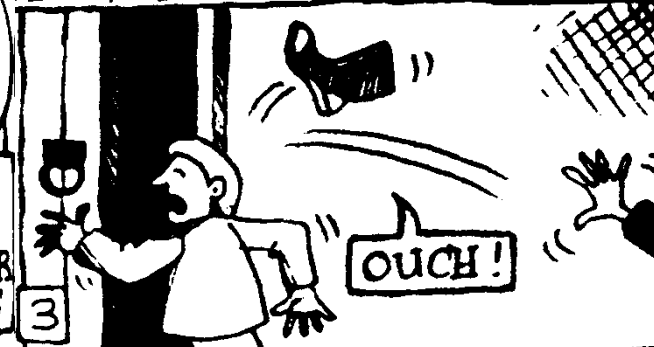
THE MAN RETURNED LATER THAT DAY



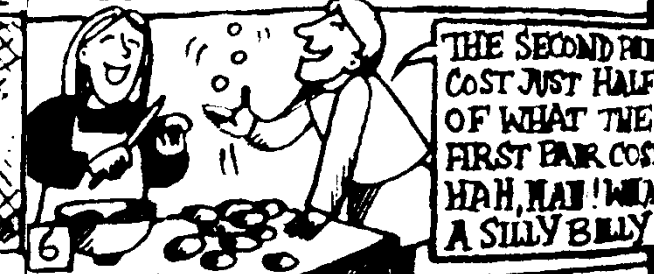
THE SERVANT BOWED AND HURRIED FROM THE ROOM BEFORE THE KING COULD SEE THE SMIRK ON HIS FACE



THE SERVANT TOOK THE MONEY AND HURRIED FROM THE ROOM. HE WANTED HIS REVENGE. HE GOT IT.



WHEN HE REACHED THE KITCHEN HE BURST INTO LAUGHTER AND EXPLAINED TO THE COOK



AS HE JANGLED THE CHANGE IN HIS HAND THEY SHARED THE JOKE

William was short, fat and ugly but he was proud of his appearance. His long reddish-blond hair was parted in the middle and his clothes were always the latest fashion. To his servants, this sometimes made him a bit of joke.



# MEAN QUEEN

Edward had trouble with greedy women in his life. His queen, Philippa, wanted to borrow money from Germany. So she promised the money-lenders Edward's Crown Jewels... it cost the king 30,000 packs of English wool to get the jewels back.



EDWARD III

...SOLD THE CROWN JEWELS TO BORROW MONEY FROM GERMANY... IT COST THE KING 30,000 PACKS OF ENGLISH WOOL TO GET THE JEWELS BACK.



# FOUL FACT

any English kings were messy eaters... but Edward III was a very messy reader. His teacher complained that he ruined his books by letting his nose dribble over the pages  
Marking his place with thick stalks of straw so the book split when it was closed  
Eating fruit and cheese or drinking while reading and allowing it to slop on the pages  
The disgusting youth also had filthy finger nails.

