

SUMMER BRIDGING WORK 2026

Summer Bridging Work is an important part of your transition to Wilberforce Sixth Form College. This piece of work will count towards your effort grade. Please complete your summer bridging work in time for the start of term.

You are required to bring evidence in paper format and hand this into your subject teacher during your first lesson.

History

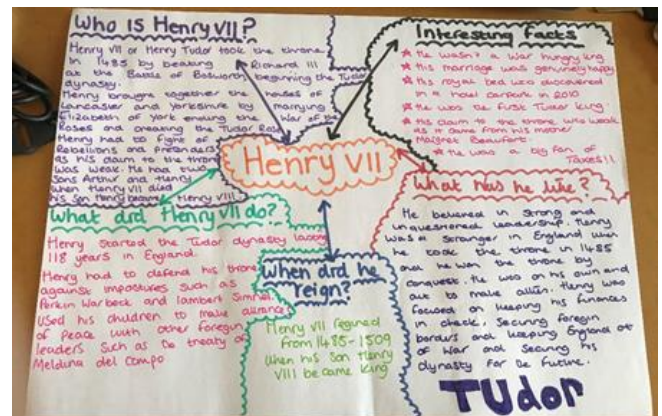
OVERVIEW OF SUBJECT: You should study history to learn about how and why the world and its people became what they are today. History is full of fascinating stories and characters whose decisions have shaped both the past and the present. History offers you the opportunity to delve below the surface and investigate why events happen and who is responsible. It gives you the chance to evaluate the significance of events and the impact of individuals and to understand who you are.

ENTRY CRITERIA You will need an average GCSE score of 5.3 and you must have a grade 4 in English

LITERACY TASKS

Using the mind map example, create 5 mini mind maps on a large piece of paper for 5 separate ones depending on what resources you have. You should make one mind map for each Tudor monarch: Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I. These should include:

- Who are they?
- What did they do? (Find examples e.g., Henry VIII created the Church of England)
- When did they reign?
- Are they remembered for anything in particular?
- Can you describe what they were like and find pictures?
- Any other interesting facts you can find.



Source analysis

In a moment look at the sources below. They regard Henry VII's methods of government (running the country). Follow these steps to analyse the source. 1=mini challenge 5=mega challenge complete the questions if you can don't worry if you can't do the mega challenge, you will learn these skills from September.

1. Mini challenge: can you describe what each source is saying?
2. Small challenge: can you describe what argument they are making do they think Henry VII's government was good or bad?
3. Medium challenge: can you pick out any examples for and against Henry's government? These can be quotes which are sentence, words or phrases from the extracts.
4. Big challenge: Can you decide which one you find the most convincing? What one do you believe or think has the best argument?

5. Mega challenge: Can you justify why you think that one is the most convincing, maybe you can look up some facts to help you. Explain why you made the decision you did in the big challenge was it because one extract had lots of data, good argument, truthful facts, covered a lot of time?

Extract A

Henry VII was a strong and independent king, ready to assert the powers of the English Crown. The centre of Henry VII's government was the King himself, assisted by those with whom he chose to surround himself – that is, his Council. This included great nobles, great prelates and great administrators. Generally speaking, Henry's councillors were office holders, but many of the offices were minor. Naturally, there were grades and distinctions among them, even, up to a point, signs of differences of responsibilities. The one qualification which embraced them all was that the King had chosen them; they were his men and did his will. It should be made plain, once and for all that there was never more than one Council in existence at the centre; there was only one body to which men called councillors could belong. The Council's function was three-fold. It existed to advise the King in matters of policy, to administer the realm and to adjudicate on cases brought before it in petition. Adapted from G R Elton, *England Under the Tudors*, 1977

Extract B

Little or nothing of much significance occurred in parliament in the reign of Henry VII. Throughout the twenty-three years and eight months of the reign, parliament sat for about seventy-two weeks in all. In 1504 Henry expressly stated that he was not minded to summon another parliament for a long time unless there was a 'great and urgent cause'. Few of the statutes that emerged from Henry VII's parliaments can be regarded as of major importance; many were little more than administrative developments, and some were trivial or short-term measures. However, for certain purposes, Henry VII could not do without parliament. First and foremost, he could not do without the financial grants agreed by parliament, and each of his seven parliaments made some kind of financial contribution. He also needed parliamentary assent to numerous acts of attainder and of restitution for those previously attainted. Henry needed parliamentary support for the substantial acts which enabled him to restore crown lands bringing him both land and power. Adapted from S B Chrimes, *Henry VII*, 1972

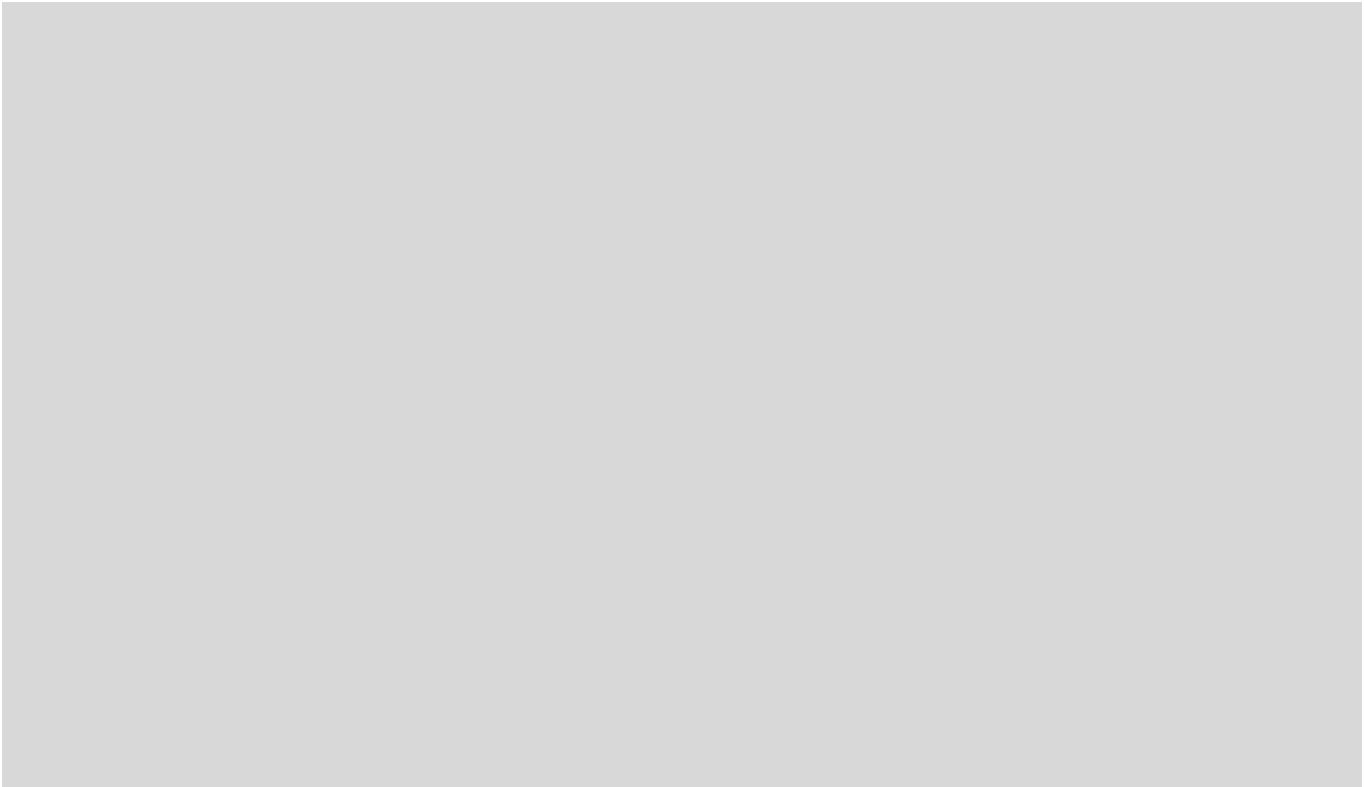
Extract C

The need in Henry VII's reign was less for new legislation than for the means to enforce existing law. Henry's most significant contribution to government was his shift towards direct reliance on lesser gentry as Justices of the Peace. The role of Justices of the Peace in local government was crucial to maintain law and order. Henry VII needed to appoint reliable men with local knowledge, legal expertise and sufficient social standing to command authority. Henry sought to weaken the ties which traditionally linked the local interests of the nobility and gentry and which resulted in the corruption of justice. To increase the Crown's control of law and order he appointed Justices of the Peace who were middling gentry, including professional lawyers and even men who did not have property in a shire. By the end of his reign, Henry had not fully established his authority in the localities, however, Justices of the Peace had superseded the sheriff and the feudal lord as the Crown's administrative agents.

Essay planning

Using the question below and the website attached create an essay plan for this question this should follow the structure below. You could do this as a poster and use colours.

[Henry VIII and the Church - Timelines.tv History of Britain B07](https://www.timelines.tv/history-of-britain/b07)

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- **Intro**- Give an overview of all the varied factors what had changed about the church and what had not & what will you agree is it a valid or not valid view? (Do you agree or disagree?)
 - **Paragraph 1**- the factor in the Q (apart from Henry making himself the head of the church little else changed)– describe it with accurate facts. Explain ways in which it is valid AND counter evidence that it was not valid. Refer to the Q.
 - **Paragraph 2** – Describe another factor with supporting facts. Henry was really a secret catholic does this explain why he did not change the church much even though it was now Protestant. Explain if and how it is more valid than the factor in the Q. If not why?
 - **Conclusion**- summarise all the reasons you have given why ONE factor seems to be more valid than the others.

‘Henry VIII may have made himself the head of the Church but little else changed’. Assess the validity of this view

PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES

Below we have listed four careers linked to history. You are tasked to research the four careers, choose one that most appeals to you and write a 200-word essay as to why you feel this career would be most suited to you.

Museum curator
Archivist
Researcher
Archaeologist

Kind regards

Catherine Johnson
Faculty Head for Humanities and Social Sciences

If you have any queries regarding your Summer Bridging Work, please contact me via email cej@wilberforce.ac.uk
I will aim to respond before your enrolment appointment.