

Henry VIII - A-level study day

Teacher notes

Session overview

Students will take part in complementary seminars at both the Tower of London and the National Portrait Gallery, with time out for lunch and travel.

The reign of Henry VIII saw cataclysmic changes for both church and nation. This session lets your students examine evidence across two sites to enhance their understanding of the period.

Schedule:

Please ensure you check which session you have booked (Session A or B) as they start at different locations.

Session A

10.30 - 12.15	National Portrait Gallery Examining evidence: students will learn how to examine Tudor portraits as evidence.
12.15 - 13.30	We would advise eating lunch whilst travelling to allow for 45 minutes travel time to the Tower of London via tube 15 minutes to collect wristbands from the Welcome Centre and walk up to the Learning Centre. <i>If you anticipate a late arrival please call us on 07896-275736.</i>
13.30 - 15.00	The Tower of London Examining evidence: through on-site study students will examine the Tower buildings and documentary inscriptions to investigate how far the Tower of London played a crucial role in re-shaping Henry's England. Key individuals and events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Boleyn • Margaret Pole • Thomas Cromwell • Break with Rome • Pilgrimage of Grace • Religious and political prisoners Plenary session



Session B

10.30 – 12.15	<p>The Tower of London Examining evidence: through on-site study students will examine the Tower buildings and documentary inscriptions to investigate how far the Tower of London played a crucial role in re-shaping Henry’s England.</p> <p>Key individuals and events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Boleyn • Margaret Pole • Thomas Cromwell • Break with Rome • Pilgrimage of Grace • Religious and political prisoners
12.15 – 13.30	<p>We would advise eating lunch whilst travelling to allow for 45 minutes travel time to the National Portrait Gallery via tube.</p>
13.30 – 15.00	<p>National Portrait Gallery Examining evidence: students will learn how to examine Tudor portraits as evidence Plenary session</p>

Exam board links

This session has been designed to complement the study of Henry VIII’s reign, and particularly the following exam boards:

- **AQA - 1C** The Tudors: England, 1485–1603
- **Edexcel - Paper 1, Option 1B:** England, 1509–1603: Authority, nation and religion and **Option 3, Paper 3:** Themes in breadth with aspects in depth **Option 31:** Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485–1603
- **OCR - Y106:** England 1485–1558: the Early Tudors
- **WJEC - Unit 1 (AS): Option 1:** Government, rebellion and society in Wales and England C.1485-1603 and **Unit 3 (A2):** Poverty, protest and rebellion in Wales and England, c.1485-1603

Session objectives

- To explore, analyse, interpret and cross-reference different types of primary evidence (portraits/ buildings/ written evidence); evaluating the difficulties/limitations of available evidence.
- To explain the main functions of the Tower of London during Henry’s reign.
- To use buildings as evidence to reach conclusions about the creation of Henry’s England.

Meeting points*

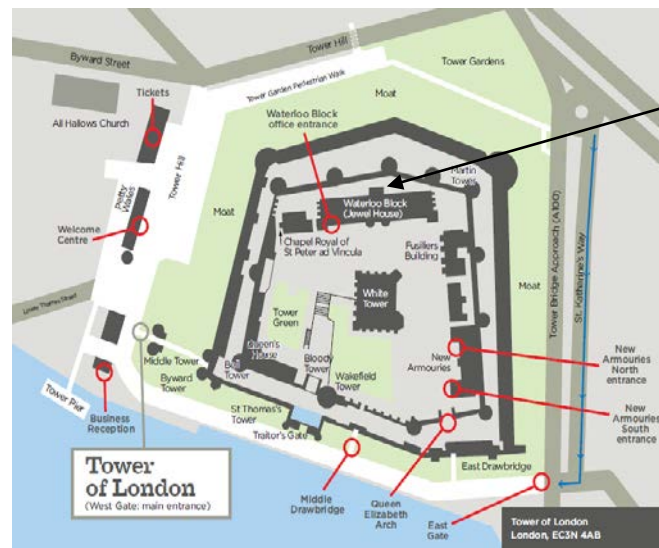
The Tower of London:

Your presenter will meet you in the Learning Centre, Jewel House.

Allow 15 minutes from the Welcome Centre to the Learning Centre.



1. Collect your admission wristbands from the [Welcome Centre](#).
2. Enter the Tower of London via [Middle Drawbridge](#) (*Groups Entrance*). After you have shown your wristband and had your bags checked, make your way to the Jewel House.
3. From the [Middle Drawbridge](#) turn right and walk towards then past the toilet block (on your right) and turn left through the [Queen Elizabeth Arch](#).
4. Keep walking straight ahead past the New Armouries restaurant (on your right) and the White Tower on your left towards the [Jewel House](#).
5. To access the [Learning Centre](#) you will need to go around the back of the Jewel House. Please do this using the **path between the Fusiliers Museum and the Jewel House**.
6. Once around the back of the building you will come across a **sign saying "No entry, except for booked school parties"**. Pass by this and the entrance to the [Learning Centre](#) will be on your left.
7. Your session presenter should be waiting here for you, but if not please use the buzzer on the wall to contact the [Learning Centre](#).



Please make your way to the entrance to the [Learning Centre](#) behind the [Jewel House](#)

National Portrait Gallery:

1. Enter by the Main Entrance in St Martin's Place and send your students down one flight of stairs to the Upper Basement, to wait briefly outside the Lecture Theatre (the toilets are here, too).
2. The Group Leader should go up to the Information Desk in the Main Hall to sign in.
3. Visitor Services staff will call your Gallery teacher to meet your group outside the Lecture Theatre.
4. The first part of your session will be in the Theatre and then you will go up to the galleries to continue working in front of the pictures.
 - * Please see overleaf for details of how to travel between sites



Getting to and from the Tower and National Portrait Gallery

The quickest and easiest way to travel between the two sites is by tube (Circle/ District Line) at Embankment/ Tower Hill. The journey should last approx 9 minutes (see map below).

Alternatively the no. 15 bus can take you between Tower Hill and Trafalgar Square (Fleet Street). The journey should last approx 15-20 minutes (see map below)

Please visit www.tfl.gov.uk for further details of tube and bus services and prices.

There is also the Thames Clipper boat service that can take you between the Embankment and Tower piers. The journey lasts approx 20-25 minutes.

Embankment – Tower 14, 34 and 54 minutes past the hour

Tower – Embankment 17, 37 and 57 minutes past the hour

Please visit www.thamesclippers.com for further details and prices

