

A description of Henry VIII written by the Venetian Ambassador to Henry's court.

After dinner we were taken to see King Henry VIII. The King is very good looking. Tall and strong with auburn hair. He speaks many languages and plays sport as well as any man in England. He is a young man who will soon be 25 years old.



Henry VIII as a young man.

Written by a modern historian.

By the time he died in 1547 he was massively overweight, trusted no one, was easily annoyed and was a very dangerous man to fall out with.



Henry VIII as an older man.

Henry VIII

- ❖ He was the son of Henry VII.
- ❖ Henry wanted a son. His wife Catherine of Aragon had given him a daughter. Her chances of giving Henry a son were small.
- ❖ Henry wanted a new wife to give him a son. Only the pope could give Henry a divorce he refused. Henry had fallen in love with Anne Boleyn. In 1533 the Arch Bishop of Canterbury on Henry's orders made Henry man and wife.
- ❖ Henry was Bankrupt. He spent a lot of money on palaces, books and wars. He needed to get some money. Henry had spent money because he wanted to be very powerful.
- ❖ Henry wanted to be powerful. He wanted to control the Church in England instead of the Pope who lived in Rome. The monasteries were rich and very loyal to the pope.

Henry VIII.

Words used to describe people are called adjectives.

Words used to describe Henry as a young man.

Words used to describe Henry as an older man.

EXT: Which of Henry VIII problems do you consider to be the most important? Why?

What were Henry's problems?



HWK: Using the words you have picked out and the photographs write your own description of Henry VIII.