

2 HENRY 6

Reigned 1422–1461; 1470–1471. Play opens in 1445 (Queen's coronation); closes in 1455 (first Battle of St. Albans). Written about 1589.

Dramatis Personae:

King Henry the Sixth
Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester
Cardinal Beaufort
Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York
Edward, Earl of March
Richard, Duke of Gloucester
Duke of Somerset
Duke of Suffolk
Duke of Buckingham
Lord Clifford
Young Clifford
Earl of Salisbury
Earl of Warwick
Lord Scales
Lord Say
Sir Humphrey Stafford
Sir John Stanley
Sir William Vaux
Matthew Goffe
Walter Whitmore
A Sea Captain, Master, and Master's Mate
Two Gentlemen, prisoners with Suffolk
John Hume and John Southwell
Bolingbroke
Thomas Horner
Peter
Clerk of Chatham
Mayor of St. Alban's
Simpcox
Jack Cade
George Bevis, John Holland, Dick the Butcher, Smith the Weaver, Michael, etc.
Alexander Iden
Two Murderers
Margaret, Queen of King Henry
Margery Jourdain
Wife of Simpcox
Lords, Ladies, and Attendants
Herald, Petitioner, Aldermen
A Beadle, Sheriff, and Officers
Citizens, Prentices, Falconers, Guards, Soldiers, Messengers, etc.
A Spirit

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Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
King Henry VI Only son of Henry V; his father died when Henry VI was 9 months old. Married the French Margaret of Anjou when she was 15 years old. Their only son Edward was killed at Tewkesbury when 19 years old, one day before Henry VI was murdered.	1421	1471	21/34	50
Humphrey Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester and Earl of Pembroke Youngest son of Henry IV by first wife Mary de Bohun. Thus he was brother to Henry V and Bedford; uncle to Henry VI. Married his mistress Eleanor Cobham after abandoning his first wife, who was French.	1391	1447	51/--	56
Eleanor Cobham, Duchess of Gloucester Wife of Humphrey, first being his mistress; brought to trial on charges of necromancy, heresy, and treason, trying to kill the king.		1454 on the Isle of Man		
Henry Beaufort, Cardinal of Winchester Same man who was Bishop in previous play. Second son of John of Gaunt by Catherine Swynford; half brother to Henry IV, brother to Thomas Beaufort. Great-uncle and guardian of infant Henry VI. Completed Winchester Cathedral.	1374	1447	68/--	73
Richard Plantagenet, 3rd Duke of York Only son of Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cambridge, and Anne Mortimer. He married Cicely Neville , daughter of the 1st Earl of Westmorland. Father of King Edward IV, King Richard III, George Duke of Clarence.	1411	1460 slain at Wakefield; his head placed on wall of York	31/44	49
Edward Plantagenet, 3rd Earl of March Oldest son of Richard Plantagenet, 3rd Duke of York, and Cicely Nevile; he becomes King Edward IV . He is brother to George, whom he made Duke of Clarence, and Richard, whom he made Duke of Gloucester (next play). He secretly married Elizabeth Woodville in 1464.	1442 extremely handsome; 6 foot 3.	1483 died of mortification, say the French	--/13	41
Richard Plantagenet, (later) Duke of Gloucester Son of Duke of York (see above); brother to Edward IV, Clarence. Becomes King Richard III .	1452	1485 at the Battle of Bosworth	--/30	33
Edmund Beaufort, (Earl, then) 2nd Duke of Somerset Younger brother of the Earl/Duke of Somerset in <i>part 1</i> ; nephew of Cardinal Beaufort. His was the first noble blood shed in the War of the Roses at St. Albans in 1455; his head appears in <i>part 3</i> . Married Eleanor, 2nd daughter of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick.	about 1405	1455 St. Albans; beheaded by York		
William de la Pole, 4th Earl of Suffolk (Marquess?) and later 1st Duke of Suffolk Brother of 3rd Earl of Suffolk in <i>Henry V</i> . Married Alice, widow of Earl of Salisbury. Their son John married Elizabeth Plantagenet, daughter of Richard, Duke of York.	1396	1450; beheaded at sea (not the King's orders)	26/49	54
Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham Married the heiress of the Earldom of Buckingham, Anne Neville. His mother Anne was daughter of Thomas of Gloucester, youngest son of Edward III.	1402	1460 Battle of Northampton	40/53	58
Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury Oldest son of Ralph 1st Earl of Westmorland and Joan Beaufort. Married Alice Montacute, only daughter of Thomas Montacute, Earl of Salisbury.	1400	1460 captured at Wakefield, beheaded at Pontefract	42/55	60

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Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick (and Earl of Salisbury) Kingmaker. Oldest son of the above. Married Anne, sole daughter and heiress of Richard Beauchamp Earl of Warwick. His youngest daughter Anne was betrothed to Edward, son of Margaret and Henry VI.	1428	April 1471 Slain at the Battle of Barnet	14/27	43
Thomas, Lord Clifford (8th Baron Clifford) Son of John 7th Baron by his wife Elizabeth Percy, only daughter of Hotspur. Married Joanna Dacres, daughter of Thomas Lord Dacres of Gillesland.	1414	May 1455 Slain at first Battle of St. Albans	28/41	41
John, Young Clifford (9th Baron Clifford) Son of Thomas Lord Clifford, above. Murdered the young son of York, Earl of Rutland; thus nicknamed The Butcher. Also cut off the Duke of York's head and presented it to Margaret with a paper crown.	1435	1461 slain on the eve of the Battle of Towton	7/20	26
Thomas Lord Scales (7th Baron Scales) Succeeded his brother Robert in 1420. His daughter Elizabeth was married to Anthony Woodville, Earl Rivers, who was brother of Catherine, wife of Edward IV.	1399	1460 murdered by London boatmen	43/56	61
James Fiennes, Lord Say (and Sele) His grandfather married Joan, heiress of Geoffrey, 2nd Baron Say. Son of Sir William de Fiennes and Elizabeth Batisford.	1395	July 1450 hung, drawn, quartered, and beheaded by Jack Cade	47/dead	55
Sir Humphrey Stafford Descended from one of William the Conqueror's favorite captains. Married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Thomas Aylesbury of Blatherwick. Their son was also beheaded, by HVII.	1400	1450 Slain by rebels under Jack Cade	42/dead	
Sir John Stanley Custodian of Eleanor Cobham, Duchess of Gloucester.		1459		
Sir William Vaux Of Harrowden. Attainted by Edward IV, but when Henry VII was crowned, Nicholas Vaux (his son) had restitution.		May 14, 1471 Slain at the Battle of Tewkesbury		
Matthew Goffe or Gough Third son of John Gough of Wales				
Alexander Iden A gentleman of Kent				
Jack Cade Rebel leader from Kent				
Mentioned:				
Sir Walter Blount, 1.i.16	1350	1403	dead	53
Sir John Blount, 1.i.16, 4.iii.81 Older son of Sir Walter.	1388	1418 siege of Rouen	dead	30