

HENRY 8

Reigned 1509–1547; play opens in 1520; closes in 1533.
Written about 1612 or 1613.

Dramatis Personae:

King Henry the Eighth
Cardinal Wolsey
Cardinal Campeius
Capucius
Cranmer
Duke of Norfolk
Duke of Suffolk
Duke of Buckingham
Earl of Surrey
Lord Chamberlain
Lord Chancellor
Gardiner
Bishop of Lincoln
Lord Abergavenny
Lord Sandys
Sir Henry Guilford
Sir Thomas Lovell
Sir Anthony Denny
Sir Nicholas Vaux
Cromwell
Secretaries to Wolsey
Griffith
Three Gentlemen
Garter King-at-Arms
Doctor Butts
Surveyor to the Duke of Buckingham
Brandon
Door-keeper of the Council-chamber
Porter and his man
Page to Gardiner
A Crier
Queen Katherine
Anne Bullen
An Old Lady
Patience
Lords and Ladies in the Dumb-shows
Women attending the Queen
Scribes, Officers, Guards, other Attendants
Spirits

HENRY 8

Reigned 1509–1547; play opens in 1520; closes in 1533.
Written about 1612 or 1613.

Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
King Henry VIII His older brother Arthur married Catherine of Aragon and six months later died of the sweating sickness at Ludlow, at age 16; Henry was 10 years old. Henry was betrothed to Catherine (who was 16) two months later, but because of political turmoil in Spain, they didn't marry until Henry VII died. Henry was 18 when they married; Catherine was 24.	June 1491	January 1547	29/42	56
Queen Catharine of Aragon Youngest daughter of Ferdinand and Isabel. Her nephew is Charles V, emperor of Germany, Spain, and Italy. She gave birth to five children, but only Mary survived. Catherine never saw Henry again after 1531.	1485	January 7, 1536	35/48	51
Anne Boleyn Niece (granddaughter?) of the Duke of Norfolk, Thomas Howard. Mother of Queen Elizabeth I.	between 1502–1507	May 19, 1536 beheaded with a sword	28-34/ 26-31	29-34
Cardinal Wolsey Son of a butcher. Rose to great prominence then fell to the noblemen and was accused of treason. He died on the way to the Tower.	1465	1530 died on his way to the Tower	55/--	65
Cardinal Campeius Born Lorenzo Compeggio. An emissary from the Pope.	1461	1539	59/72	78 died in Rome
Eustachius Capucius Spanish ambassador from Emperor Charles V, the Queen's nephew.				
Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury He pronounced the marriage of Henry and Catherine null and void, and married Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn. Queen Mary forced him to recant Protestantism, which he did, but he later recanted that and said the Pope was the antiChrist.	1489	1556 burned at the stake by Queen Mary	31/44	67
Thomas Howard, 2nd Duke of Norfolk Became Duke at age 70 after winning the battle at Flodden Field against the Scots and James IV.	1443	May 1524	77/--	81
Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey Oldest son of Duke of Norfolk. Also son-in-law of Buckingham and uncle to Anne Boleyn. His son was beheaded by Henry, and his own self was about to be beheaded but Henry VIII died the day before his execution (1547).	1473	1554	47/60	81
Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk Son of Sir Wm. Brandon who fell at Bosworth protecting Henry VII. Handsomest man of the age. Henry VIII's best friend. Married Henry's little sister, Mary.	1483	1545	37/50	62
Edward Stafford, 3rd Duke of Buckingham Eldest son of the Buckingham in Richard III. He is father-in-law to Surrey and Abergavenny.	1478	1521 beheaded by HVIII on Tower Hill	42/--	43
Charles Somerset, Lord Chamberlain Married to Elizabeth, daughter of William Herbert, 2nd Earl of Pembroke (1st creation).	1460	1527	60/--	67
Sir Thomas More, Lord Chancellor During the time period of the play, the Lord Chancellor was More, Sir Thomas Audley (at the time of Anne Boleyn's coronation), and Sir Thomas Wriothesly.				

HENRY 8

Reigned 1509–1547; play opens in 1520; closes in 1533.
Written about 1612 or 1613.

Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
Stephen Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester	1483	1555 died of gout	37/50	72
John Longland, Bishop of Lincoln Confessor to Henry VIII. He was the first to suggest divorce.	1476	1547	44/57	71
George Neville, Lord Abergavenny Oldest son of George, 2nd Baron Abergavenny. Grandson of Edward Neville, sixth and youngest son of 1st Earl of Westmorland. His 3rd wife is Mary Stafford, daughter of the Duke of Buckingham in this play.	1471	1535	49/62	64
Lord Sandys, Sir William Sandys 1st Baron Sandys of the Vine	1472	1540	48/61	68
Sir Henry Guildford Son of Sir Richard Guildford and his second wife, Joan Vaux. Thus Henry is the nephew of Sir Nicholas Vaux.	1478	1532	42/--	54
Sir Thomas Lovel Fifth son of Sir Ralph Lovel.	1460?	1524	60/--	64
Sir Anthony Denny Son of Sir Edmund Denny. Anthony was a friend of Henry VIII's from youth.	1500	1549	20/33	49
Sir Nicholas Vaux Uncle to Guildford. Son and heir to the Vaux in 2HVI. Married Anne Green. Suspected in the intended treason of Buckingham, but not charged.		1523		
Thomas Cromwell Son of a blacksmith. It was his idea to break with Rome and that Henry be head of the Church of England. He also instigated the dissolution of the monasteries. Driven from home by misconduct in his early manhood. Henry didn't like Cromwell's choice of a bride for him, Anne of Cleves, and so he smit off Cromwell's head.	1485	1540 beheaded by Henry	35/48	
Griffith Queen Katherine's gentleman usher.				
Doctor William Butts Principal physician to Henry VIII.	1495	1545	25/38	50