

Tudor Times with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the structure of Tudor society and identify key features of life during the 16th century.

Use your knowledge of Tudor history to answer the following questions. Remember to use full sentences and clear explanations.

Ellie the Elephant is busy studying her history books! She has been looking at how life in England changed between 1485 and 1603. From the grand palaces of the monarchs to the bustling market towns, the Tudor era was a time of great change, new discoveries, and strict social rules.

Word bank: Monarch · Hierarchy · Gentry · Peasant · Tudor Rose · Apprentice · Exploration

1. The Tudor period had a strict 'social hierarchy'. Explain what this means and why it was important for people to know their place in society. (2 marks)

2. If a Tudor merchant wanted to buy fine silk for a new doublet, he might pay £5 and 10 shillings. If he bought three of them, how much would he spend in total? Show your working out. (2 marks)

3. Why was the Tudor Rose such an important symbol for Henry VII, and what two royal houses did it represent? (2 marks)

4. Life for a child in the Tudor era depended on their family's wealth. Describe one difference between the education of a wealthy child and a child from a poorer family. (2 marks)

5. During the reign of Elizabeth I, many explorers set sail. What were two main reasons why Tudor ships travelled to distant lands? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a Tudor market scene. Include at least one stall selling goods with prices in pounds (£) and draw a Tudor-style building with timber frames in the background.



Extension challenge: Research a famous Tudor monarch of your choice. Write a short poem (4–6 lines) in the style of Leo the Lion, describing one major event that happened during their reign.