

Was Henry VIII a good king?

Henry VIII is one of England's most infamous kings as children across the country still learn about him and his wives 473 years later. However, he was a complicated character and changed England forever. Did this make him a good king?

Firstly, Henry VIII had six wives during his reign and unfortunately two of them were executed and two were divorced. Therefore, he could have been a cruel and ruthless man to order the deaths of his own wives who he claimed to love. On the other hand, his first wife (Catherine of Aragon) was married to him for over 20 years but failed to produce a son. His second wife (Anne Boleyn) also failed in providing Henry with a son. Consequently, Henry believed that for the greater good for England he needed a wife that could give his country the next king.

Furthermore, twice England went to war with France spending significant amounts of money. This resulted in the country becoming poorer and poorer because thousands of pounds were being spent on fighting the French. However, Henry triumphed in France capturing towns and coming back to England a hero. It was important for England to have a warrior king, who would fight for their country.

In conclusion, Henry VIII was a complicated character who made choices good and bad as king. I believe he thought he was doing it for the good of England but at the cost of the people around him who cared for him.