3 HENRY 6

Reigned 1422–1461; 1470–1471. Play opens in 1460 (battles of second St. Albans and Wakefield); closes in 1471 (death of H6 and Yorkist victory at Tewkesbury), although it includes capture of Oxford in 1474 and ransom of Margaret in 1475. *Written about 1589*.

Dramatis Personae:

King Henry the Sixth

Queen Margaret

Lady Grey, afterwards Queen to Edward the Fourth

Bona, sister to the French King

Edward, Prince of Wales, his son

Lewis the Eleventh, King of France

Duke of Somerset

Duke of Exeter

Earl of Oxford

Earl of Northumberland

Earl of Westmoreland

Lord Clifford

Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York

Edward, Earl of March, afterwards King Edward the Fourth

Edmund, Earl of Rutland

George, Duke of Clarence

Richard, Duke of Gloucester

Duke of Norfolk

Marquess of Montague

Earl of Warwick

Earl of Pembroke

Lord Hastings

Lord Stafford

Sir John Mortimer

Sir Hugh Mortimer

Henry, Earl of Richmond

Earl Rivers

Sir William Stanley

Sir John Montgomery

Sir John Somerville

Tutor to Rutland

Mayor of York

Lieutenant of the Tower

A Nobleman

Two Keepers

A Huntsman

A Son, who has killed his father

A Father, who has killed his son

Soldiers and other Attendants,

Messengers, Watchmen



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Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
King Henry VI, Duke of Lancaster Only son of Henry V; his father died when Henry VI was 9 months old. Married the French Margaret of Anjou (1430–1482) 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. Henry "went insane" in 1453; recovered in 1455.	1421	1471 murdered in the Tower of London after the defeat at Tewskesbury	39/50	50
Edward, Prince of Wales, their son Killed at Tewkesbury. Married to Anne Neville, daughter of Ralph Neville Earl of Warwick (Kingmaker). Anne's second husband was Richard III.	Oct 1453	May 1471 murdered at Tewkesbury	7/19	19
(Henry &) Edmund Beaufort, (3rd)4th Dukes of Somerset Henry and Edmund were the last of the Beauforts, the hope of the Lancastrian party. Henry's attainder was never reversed, so Edmund wasn't really the 4th Duke. In 4.i, the playwright is probably referring to the older brother, Henry, who was in Edward's favor at the time.	1438	1471 Tewkesbury, beheaded	22/33	33
Henry Holland, 2nd Duke of Exeter Son of John Holland, Earl of Huntingdon mentioned in HV. Joined with his dad as Constable of the Tower in 1446. Married Anne Plantagenet (daughter of York), sister of EdIV, but remained faithful to HVI. Attainted by EdIV.	1430	1475 supposedly thrown overboard when returning from France	30/41	45
John de Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford Married first to Margaret Neville (1C5R), so he was brother-in-law to Richard and John Neville. Lancastrian. His father John and elder brother Aubrey were executed in 1462. His son died in the Tower while he was exiled; succession went to his nephew.	1442	1513	18/29 32 when ransomed	71
Henry Percy, 3rd Earl of Northumberland Grandson of Hotspur.	1421	March 1461 Slain at the Battle of Towton	39/	40
Ralph Neville, 2nd Earl of Westmorland Grandson of the 1st Earl in 1HIV. First cousin to Richard and John Neville. Lancastrian, but left partisanship to his brothers.	1406	1484	54/65	78
Richard Plantagenet, 3rd Duke of York Only son of Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cambridge, and Anne Mortimer. He married Cecily Neville, daughter of the 1st Earl of Westmorland. Father of King Edward IV, King Richard III, George the unfortunate Duke of Clarence. His 12-year-old son Edmund was slain at Wakefield.	1411	1460 Slain at Wakefield; beheaded, his head crowned with paper crown and set upon the walls of York, along with Salisbury's.	49/	49
Edward Plantagenet, Earl of March, Duke of York, afterwards King Edward IV Eldest son of Richard Duke of York.	1442	1483 Supposedly died of mortification.	18/29	41



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Edmund Plantagenet, Earl of Rutland Edward IV's first surviving brother. In the play he appears to be quite young (12), but he was actually 17 years old.	1443	1460 Slain by Lord Clifford at Wakefield.	17/	17
George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence Edward IV's second brother. Married Isabella, daughter of Richard Earl of Warwick. Kingmaker. He was charged with seeking the death of the King (his brother) by necromancy.	1449 Oct	1478 Feb Secretly executed at the Tower in 1478; supposedly drowned in a butt of malmsey.	11/22	28
Richard Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester Edward IV's third brother. Afterwards Richard III.	Oct 1452	Aug 1485 Slain at the Battle of Bosworth	8/19	33
Elizabeth Woodville, Lady Grey, afterwards Queen to Edward IV				
John Mowbray, 3rd Duke of Norfolk Grandson of the Duke of Norfolk in Richard II.	1415	1461	45/	46
Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick (and Earl of Salisbury) Kingmaker. Married Anne, sole daughter and heiress of Richard Beauchamp Earl of Warwick. His youngest daughter Anne was betrothed to Prince Edward, son of Margaret and HVI.	1428	April 1471 Slain at the Battle of Barnet with his brother	32/43	43
John Neville, Marquess of Montague Kingmaker's brother; nephew and supporter of Richard Duke of York.	1431	1471 Slain at the Battle of Barnet with his brother	29/40	40
William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke (non-speaking) First earl of the Herbert creation. Yorkist. Marched against Lancastrian rebels with his Welshmen; was defeated, captured, executed.	1423	1469 executed by HVI/ Warwick along with his brother Robert	37/	46
William Lord Hastings Brother-in-law to Richard and John Neville. Yorkist. "He is better known through Shakespeare than through history."	1430	1483 beheaded by Gloucester without a trial	30/41	53
Humphrey Lord Stafford (non-speaking part) Yorkist. Sent to opppose Robin of Redesdale, but quarrelled with Wm. Herbert 1st Earl of Pembroke, and Pembroke was defeated. Arrested and executed by Edward IV.	1439	1469 executed at Bridgewater	21/	30
John Lord Clifford "Young Clifford" from part 2. Called "The Butcher" after murdering young Lord Rutland at the Battle of Wakefield. Cut off Richard 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	25/	26
Sir John Mortimer Supposedly an uncle to Richard Duke of York, brother to Sir Hugh.		1460 Slain at Wakefield		
Sir Hugh Mortimer (non-speaking part) Supposedly an uncle to Richard Duke of York, brother to Sir John.		1460 Slain at Wakefield		



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Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond (non-speaking part) Future Henry VII. Son of Edmund Tudor, Earl of Richmond (who died two months before Henry was born), by Margaret Beaufort (13 years old). Grandson of Owen Tudor by Katherine, widow of Henry V.	1457 Pembroke Castle	1509	3/14	52
Anthony Woodville, 2nd Earl Rivers + Lord Scales Brother to Queen Elizabeth Woodville. Author of the first book printed in England.	1442	1483 beheaded by RIII with no trial	18/29	41
William Neville, Lord Falconbridge (and Earl of Kent) 2nd son of Ralph Neville, 1st Earl of Westmorland by 2nd wife Joan Beaufort. He's younger brother to Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury in 2HVI. Married Joan, heiress of the last Baron Falconbridge.	1406?	1463	54/	57
Sir Thomas Stanley, 1st Earl of Derby/Lord Stanley (non-speaking part) He was married first to Eleanor Neville, sister of Warwick. 2nd wife was Margaret Beaufort, widow of Edmund Tudor, thus step-father to Henry VII. Brother to William who later joined Perkin Warbeck. Thomson says this character is the brother, Sir William Stanley (bro is referred to in 3HVI). Wm was beheaded on Tower Hill in 1495.	1435	1504	25/36	69
Sir John Montgomery This is really Sir Thomas Montgomery, his brother, per Holinshed. 1460–1495? dates can't be correct.	≈1440	1495	20/31	55
Thomas Beverley, Mayor of York				
Lieutenant of the Tower Either John Tiptoft, "The Butcher of England"	1427	1471 executed in the Tower	33/44	44
Lieutenant of the Tower Or John Sutton, 6th Baron Dudley	1401	1487	59/70	86
Mentioned:				
Wiltshire (no relation to the one in RII) 1.i.14 James Butler, 5th Earl of Ormonde and Earl of Wiltshire; married to a Beaufort. Wounded at St. Albans.	1420	1461 taken at Towton and beheaded at Newcastle	40/dead	41
Lord Clifford 1.i.7 Father of Lord Clifford.			dead	
Henry/Humphrey Stafford, Lord Stafford 1.i.7 Son of the 1st Duke of Buckingham.	1424	1455 died of wounds received at first Battle of St. Albans	dead	31
Roger Mortimer, 4th Earl of March 1.i.106 Referred to in the play as Richard Duke of York's grandfather.	1374	1398	dead	24
Edmund/Edward Brooke Lord Cobham of Kent 1.ii.40	1412	1464	48/dead	52