The Tudors

Learning Objective:
To be able to sing in unison and as a round.

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Do you know any of these songs?
How do they go?

Row, Row, Row your Boat

Three Blind Mice

Frère Jacques

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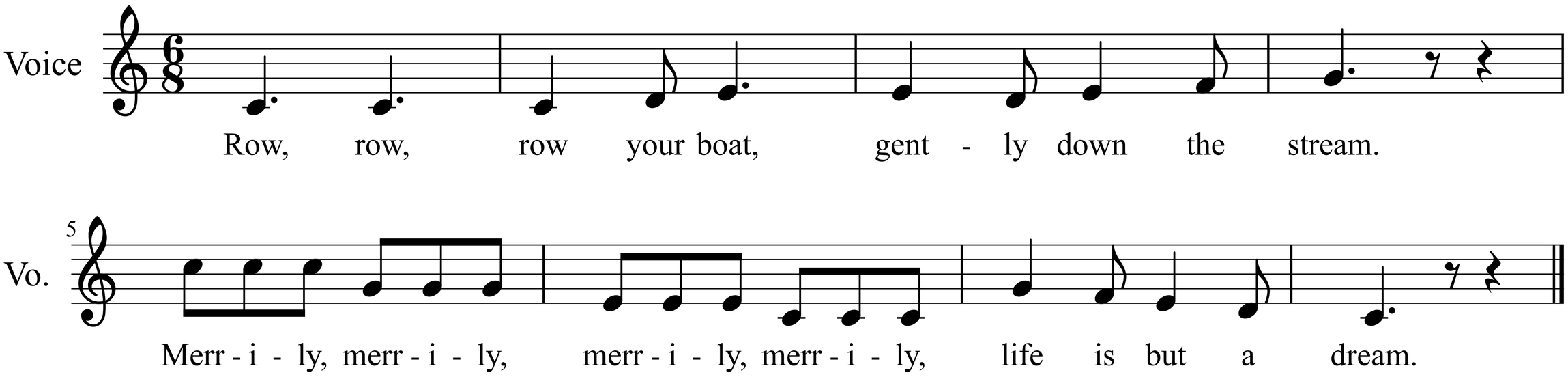
Row, Row, Row your Boat



Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream.

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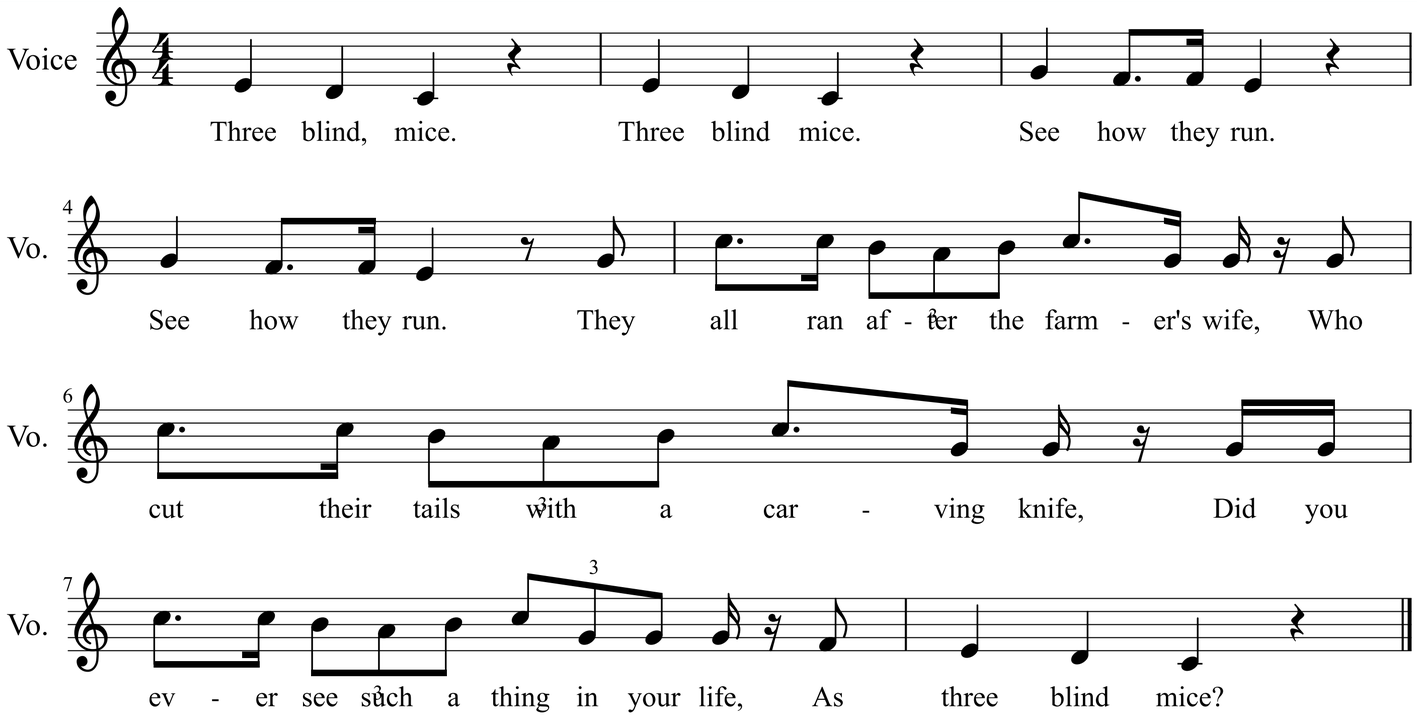
Three Blind Mice



Three blind mice, Three blind mice,
See how they run, See how they run.
They all ran after the farmer's wife,
Who cut their tails with a carving knife,
Did you ever see such a thing in your life,
As three blind mice?

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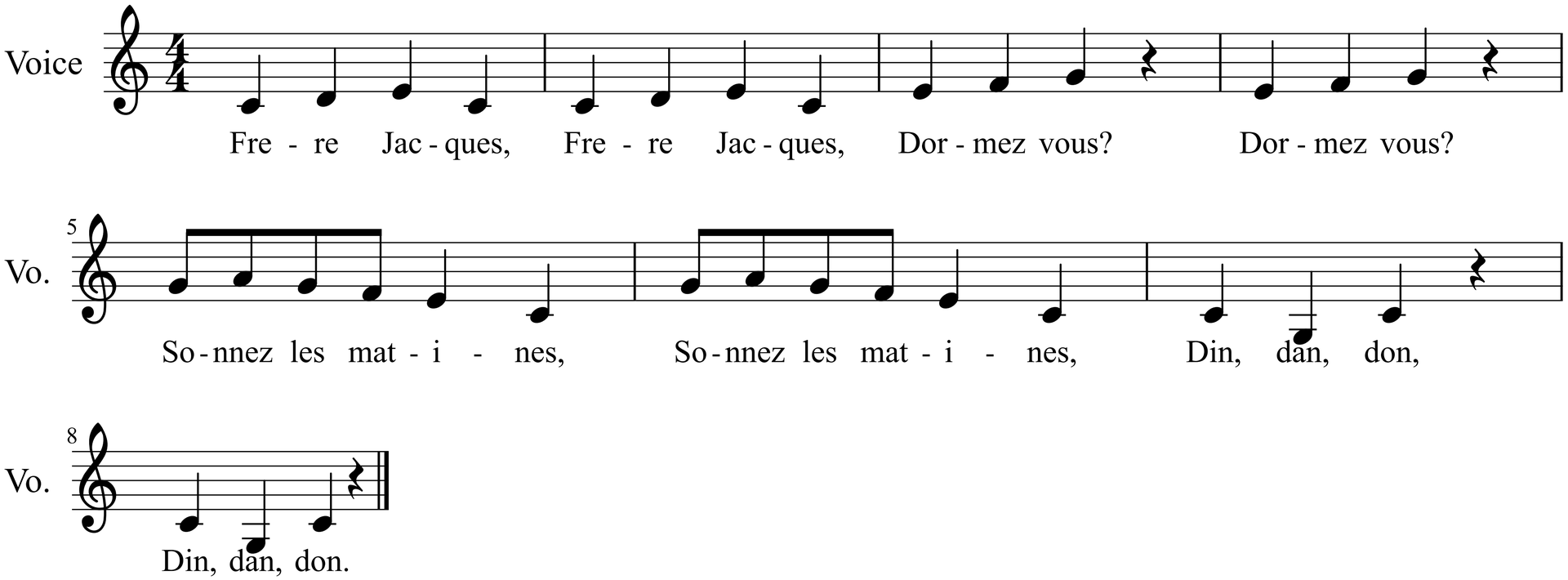
Frère Jacques



Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques,
Dormez vous? Dormez vous?
Sonnez les matines!
Sonnez les matines!
Din, dan, don. Din, dan, don.

English translation:
Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping?
Brother John, Brother John,
Morning bells are ringing! Morning bells are ringing!
Ding, dang, dong. Ding, dang, dong.

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Do you know what
it means to sing a song
as a ROUND?



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All the three songs we have just looked at can be sung as a round. A round is when two or more people sing exactly the same tune but that they will start the tune at different times. This means that parts of the same song are being sung at different times. Rounds are usually sung in two or four parts and singers keep on singing the song round and round. Singing as a round can sound very impressive if everyone sings in the right places!



Today we will be singing these tunes as rounds but changing the lyrics so that the songs are about the Tudors!

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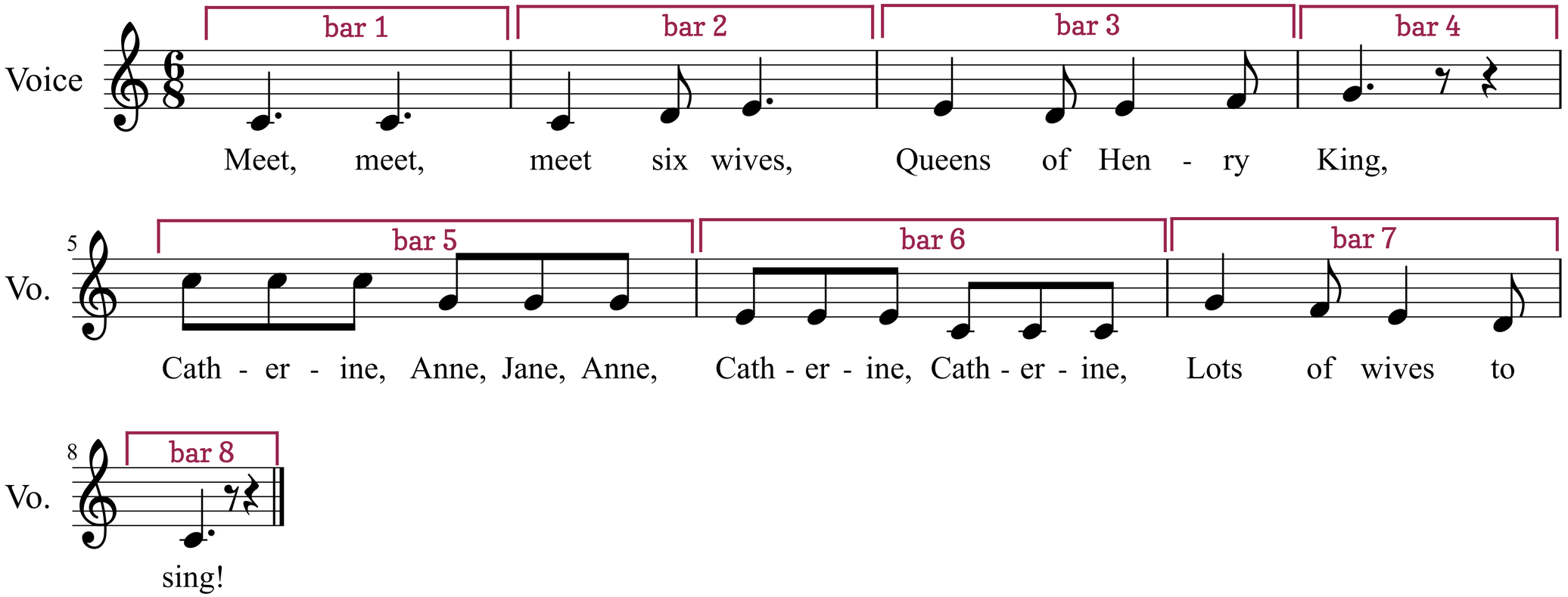
Sheet music is split up into bars. Every time you see a vertical line, it means the end of one bar and the beginning of another. Each of the songs we will be singing has eight bars. Each bar has the same number of beats in it. If you are singing the round in two parts, the second group will come in at the end of bar four (halfway through the song). If you are singing the round in four parts, the groups come in after two bars each.



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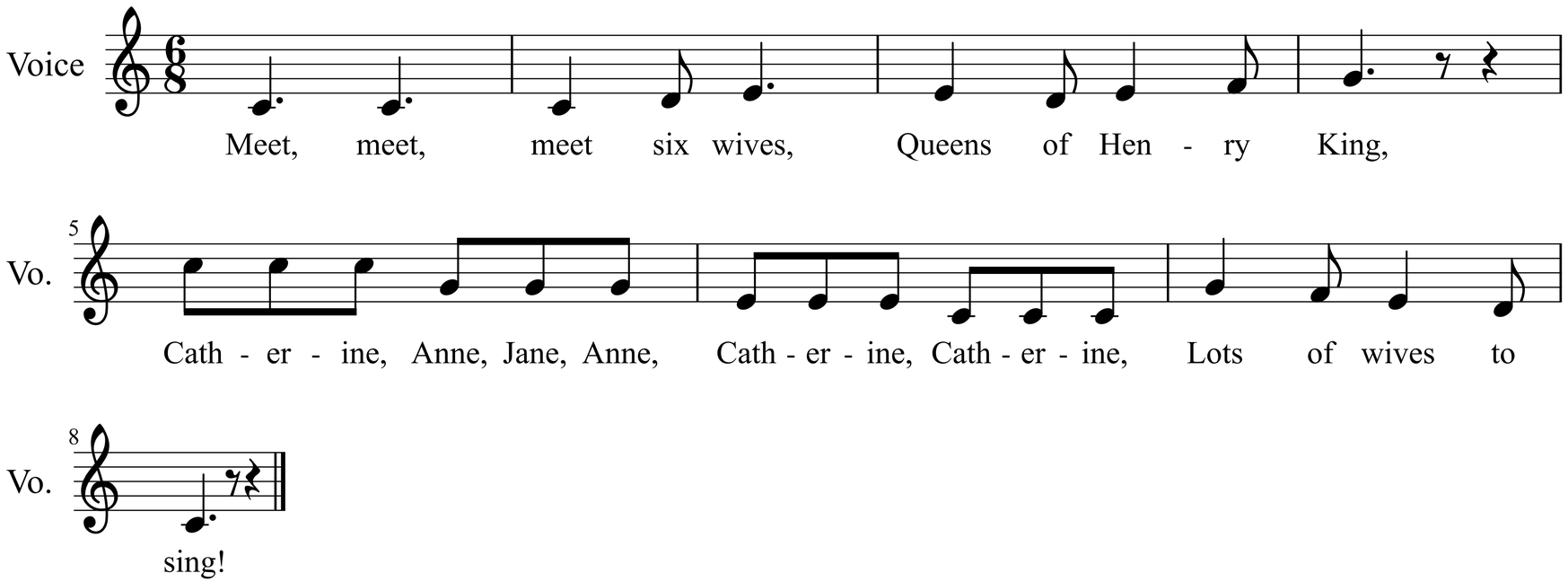
Six Wives

To the tune of ‘Row, Row, Row your Boat’



Meet, meet, meet six wives,
Queens of Henry King,
Catherine, Anne, Jane, Anne, Catherine, Catherine,
Lots of wives to sing!

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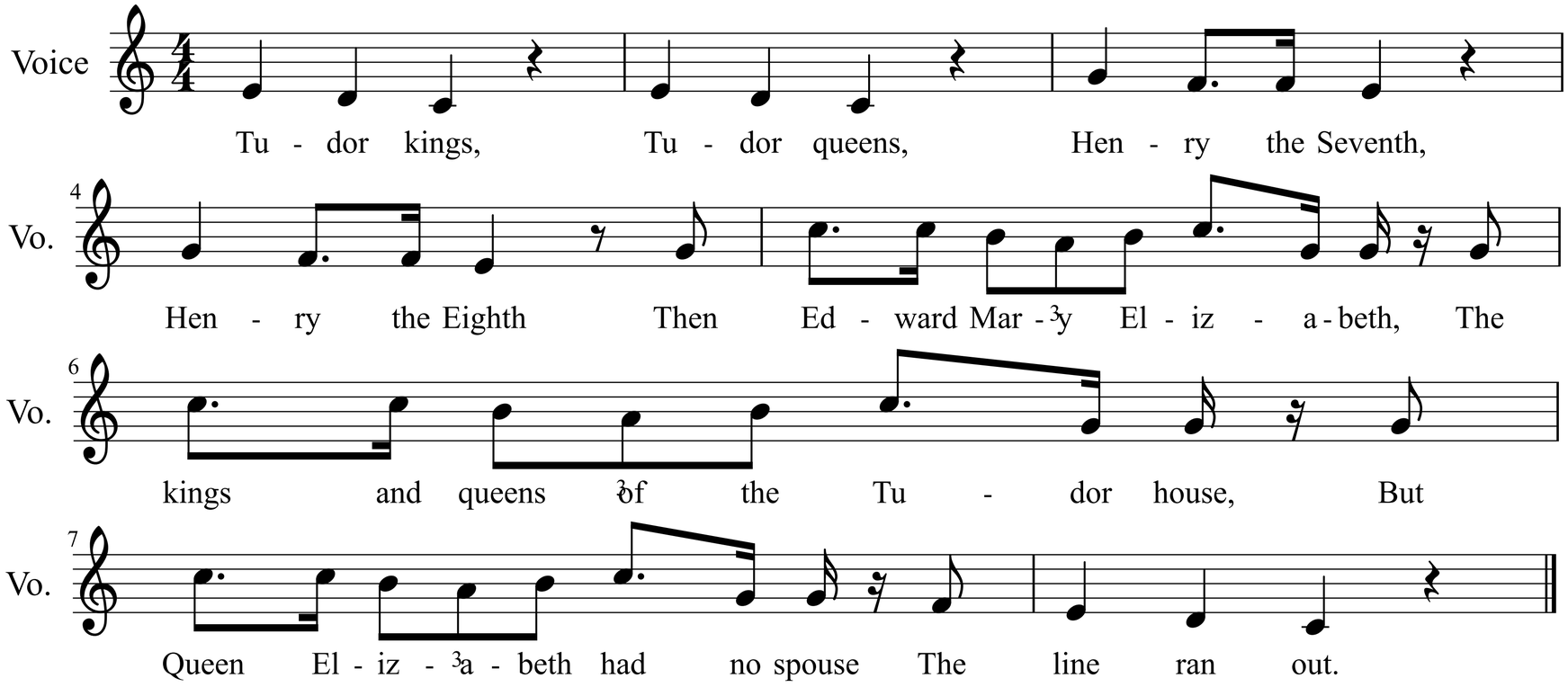
Tudor Kings

To the tune of 'Three Blind Mice'



Tudor kings, Tudor queens,
Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth,
Then Edward, Mary, Elizabeth,

The kings and queens of the Tudor house,
But Queen Elizabeth had no spouse,
The line ran out.

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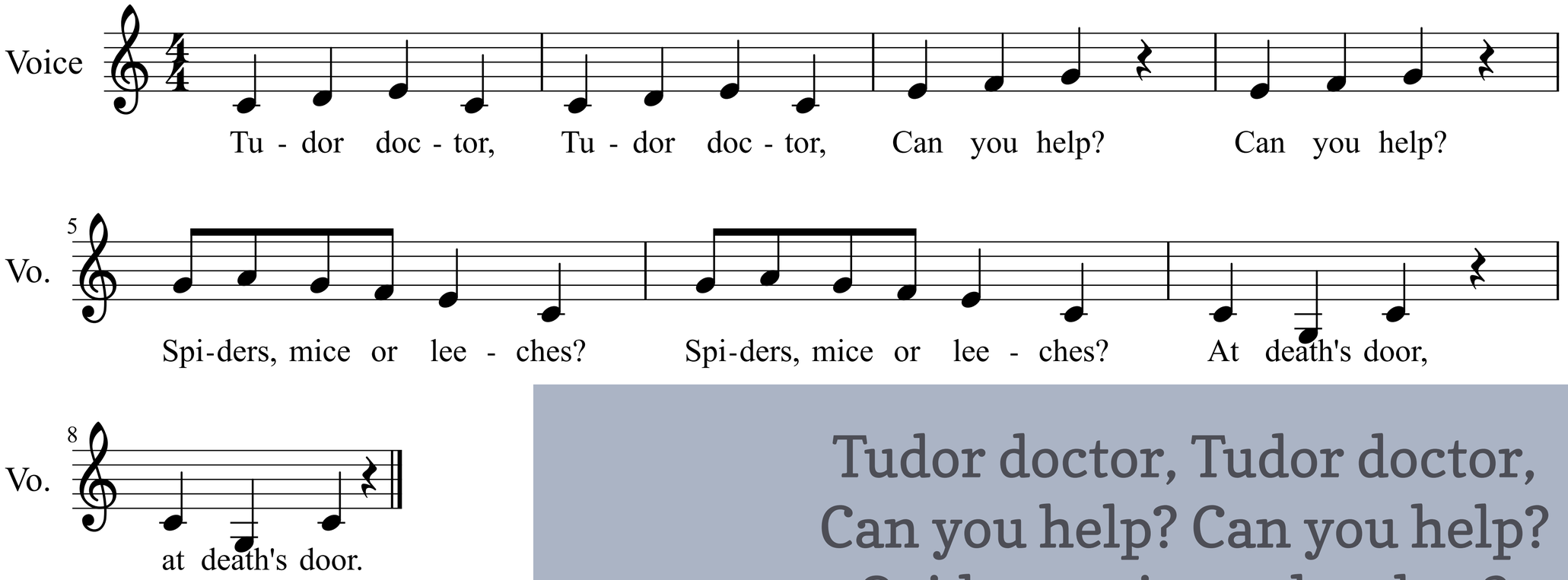
Tudor Doctor

To the tune of ‘Frère Jacques’



Tudor doctor, Tudor doctor,
Can you help? Can you help?
Spiders, mice or leeches?
Spiders, mice or leeches?
At death’s door. At death’s door.

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Great singing everybody!

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