The Tudors

Learning Objective:
To be able to use the internet to check information for accuracy.

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All these facts about Henry VIII have been found on the internet. How do we know if these facts are correct? How can we check?





Henry VIII became King in 1509.

Henry VIII was born at Greenwich Palace.

Henry VIII died in February 1547.

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Henry VIII became King in 1509.

Henry VIII was born at Greenwich Palace.

Henry VIII died in February 1547.



One of these facts was wrong! He was born at Greenwich Palace, he did become King in 1509, but he died in January 1547, not February.

Anyone can create a website and put whatever information they want onto it. This means that facts are not always checked before they are put online for other people to see. If you were researching the Tudors and you wanted to find out if a fact was true or not, how could you do this?



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The best way to check if a fact is accurate or not is to check in several places. If you are doing research online, you could check several different websites. If the fact is the same on each of the websites you check, then the fact is probably correct. You can also check in books. Books are checked by historians and editors before they are printed so are often more accurate than the internet.



Catherine of Aragon was born in 1485.

If you were going to check this fact online, what would you do exactly?

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When was Catherine of Aragon born?

Catherine of Aragon, (born December 16, 1485, Alcalá de Henares, Spain—died January 7, 1536, Kimbolton, Huntingdon, England), first wife of King Henry VIII of England (reigned 1509–47). The refusal of Pope Clement VII to annul Henry's marriage to Catherine triggered the break between Henry and Rome and led to the English Reformation.

https://www.britannica.com/biography/Catherine-of-Aragon

Catherine of Aragon (Spanish: *Catalina*; 16 December 1485 – 7 January 1536) was Queen of England from June 1509 until May 1533 as the first wife of King Henry VIII; she was previously Princess of Wales as the wife of Henry's elder brother Arthur.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catherine_of_Aragon

Born in Spain on December 16, 1485, Catherine of Aragon was the daughter of Spanish monarchs King Ferdinand II and Queen Isabella. She married Henry VIII, but did not give birth to a male heir. Catherine refused to annul her marriage so that Henry could marry again, which led to the separation of the Church of England from the Catholic Church. Catherine died in England in 1536. Her only surviving child, Mary Tudor, became queen in 1553.

https://www.biography.com/royalty/catherine-of-aragon

These were the first three websites that came up for my search term. Do they all agree that Catherine of Aragon was born in 1485?



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Yes they do! This means we can be pretty sure that the information is accurate and the fact is true.



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Are you ready to go and do some fact-checking of your own?

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Plenary:

Find a partner who did the same work as you. Did you both get the same answers? Are all your facts the same?



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