

- 8 Work in small groups. Read quickly through the story of Richard III. What do these dates refer to: 1452, 1483, 1485, 2012, 2014?
- 9 Read it again more carefully. Discuss these questions.
- 1 Is it certain or probable that Richard had the two princes murdered? How do you know?
 - 2 Who had the biggest army? Why do you think they lost the battle?
 - 3 Who were the three monarchs after Richard III?
 - 4 Why do you think Richard's first burial was without a coffin?
 - 5 What were the signs that the skeleton was Richard III? What was the final proof?
 - 6 How did Shakespeare fall victim to 'fake news'?

Richard III

The Princes in the Tower

Richard III was born in 1452. He became king in 1483 after the death of his elder brother, Edward IV, having seized the throne from Edward's two young sons. He imprisoned the boys in the Tower of London, where he allegedly had them murdered. The scandal of 'The Princes in the Tower' caused Henry Tudor to challenge him for the throne. Richard amassed an army of 12,000 men near the town of Leicester. Henry marched towards him with his army of 5,000. They met and fought in the Battle of Bosworth Field. The year was 1485, the *last* time any English King actually fought in battle with his men. Richard, aged just 32, was killed, and Henry Tudor took the throne as Henry VII. He was the father of Henry VIII and grandfather of Elizabeth I.



Richard's first burial

According to historical records, Richard's body was taken to Leicester and buried without a coffin in a friary graveyard. This was subsequently destroyed in the 16th century. It wasn't until 500 years after his death that a team from Leicester University set out to find the site of Richard's burial. In August 2012 they began excavating in a car park in the city centre, and soon discovered a skeleton, which was found in good condition but with its feet missing. It also had a badly curved spine and ten battle-related injuries. It was subjected to months of DNA tests which linked it not only to the English actor, Benedict Cumberbatch, but also to descendants in Canada, who are genealogically linked to Richard's sister, Anne of York. This was final confirmation that the body was Richard III. A facial reconstruction of the skull was made, which looks remarkably like portraits of the King.



Shakespeare's Richard

Richard III was portrayed by Shakespeare as a hunchbacked tyrant with a withered arm, who murdered two innocent princes. However, modern historians argue that Richard was the victim of Henry VII's propaganda because archaeologists found no evidence of a withered arm.

His second burial

In 2014, the king was finally given a royal burial and his remains were laid to rest in Leicester Cathedral.



Practice

Discussing grammar

1 Underline the correct answers.

- 1 The two princes *had to be* / *must have been* terrified when imprisoned in the tower.
- 2 My knowledge of history is lamentable. I *had to study* / *should have studied* it more at school.
- 3 Sorry I'm late. I *should have gone* / *had to go* to the post office.
- 4 I looked everywhere for my glasses, but I *couldn't find* / *couldn't have found* them anywhere.
- 5 You *needn't have said* / *shouldn't have said* anything to anybody about it. It was a secret.
- 6 You *can't have bought* / *needn't have bought* a new kettle. I managed to fix the old one.
- 7 You *should have asked* / *must have asked* me. I *might have given* / *would have given* you a lift.
- 8 You *can't have done* / *needn't have done* your homework already!
- 9 You *could have told* / *must have told* me the lesson had been cancelled! I *shouldn't have got up* / *wouldn't have got up* so early.
- 10 Harry wasn't in class today – you *couldn't have seen* / *wouldn't have seen* him.

2 Complete the sentences with a past modal.

- 1 I *did* tell you about Joe's party. You _____ listening.
- 2 Thanks so much for all your help. I _____ managed without you.
- 3 Chocolates, for me! Oh, that's so kind, but really you _____.
- 4 Come on! We're only five minutes late. The film _____ started yet.
- 5 I don't believe that Kathy's going out with Mark. She _____ told me. I know she would.
- 6 We raced to the airport, but we _____ worried. The flight was delayed.
- 7 We've got a parcel here that isn't for us. It _____ delivered by mistake.
- 8 You _____ gone swimming in that river. You _____ drowned!

🔊 10.4 Listen and check. Practise the sentences with a partner.

➔ Writing p140 Adding emphasis in writing – People of influence