



What Happens Next?: *Henry V*

This activity is a good conclusion to the film.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Hypothesize about the events that follow the action of *Henry V*
- Interpret character
- Employ the basics of dramatic structure
- Compose an original plot based on the characters and situations in *Henry V*

MATERIALS

- Final Chorus Speech Handout (page 3)
- Final Chorus Speech Glossary (page 4)
- Dramatic Structure Handout (page 5)

INTRODUCTION

At the end of *Henry V*, the chorus hints at the events that are to come in *Henry VI*, the sequel to *Henry V*. In this activity, students will use the information they gained through their study of *Henry V* to create their own sequel to the play.

INSTRUCTIONS

Step One: Students hypothesize what will happen next given the final scene of the play, in which we see Henry woo Katherine and a peace deal brokered between England and France. Will Katherine and Henry be happy together? Will the peace treaty hold?

Step Two: Read the final chorus speech together. What does the chorus say is going to happen?

Step Three (Optional): In real life, Henry and Katherine were married in 1420. In December 1421, they had a son, who they named Henry after his father. Henry V died in September of 1422, and his 8-month-old son became king. The king of France died in October 1422, meaning that Henry VI became king of both countries at the age of 9 months! You can learn more about King Henry V and King Henry VI using the resources on page 2.

Step Four: Divide students into groups of three to four. Based on their predictions, have each group outline a plot for the next play in the series. They can choose to follow the history or their own imaginations. Remember that each plot should have a dramatic conflict and a clear beginning, middle and end. Students can use the Dramatic Structure handout to guide their plotting.

Step Five: Using a form of digital presentation (PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.), each group develops a storyboard-style presentation to share their plot with the class, choosing appropriate images to help tell the story.

Step Six: Students present their stories and discuss the similarities and differences between their approaches.

RESOURCES

“King Henry V.” Historic UK.
[historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/King-Henry-V](https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/King-Henry-V)



“King Henry VI.” Historic UK.
[historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/King-Henry-VI](https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/King-Henry-VI)



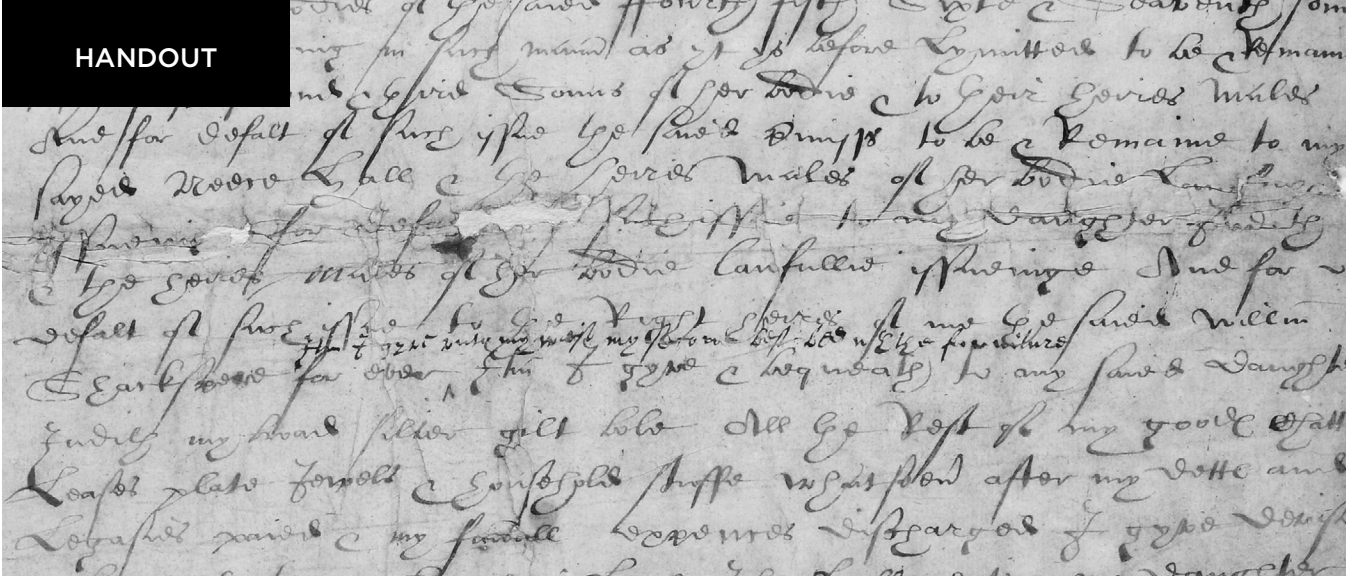


IMAGE: COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Final Chorus Speech

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?: *HENRY V*



ACT TWO, SCENE ONE

Chorus

Thus far with rough and all-unable pen
 Our bending author hath pursued the story,
 In little room confining mighty men,
 Mangling by starts the full course of their glory.
 Small time, but in that small most greatly lived
 This star of England. Fortune made his sword
 By which the world's best garden he achieved,
 And of it left his son imperial lord.
 Henry the Sixth, in infant bands crowned king
 Of France and England, did this king succeed,
 Whose state so many had the managing
 That they lost France and made his England bleed,
 Which oft our stage hath shown — and for their sake
 In your fair minds let this acceptance take.
 Ay, for a turtle, as he takes a buzzard.

Final Chorus Speech Glossary

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?: *HENRY V*



Terms are listed in the order they appear in the text.

Rough

Imperfect

All-unable

Wholly inadequate

Bending author

The humble writer

Mangling

Cutting; distorting

By starts

Sudden or abrupt parts

Star of England

Refers to Henry V

World's best garden

Refers to France, often referred to as one of the most fertile and prosperous countries in Europe at the time

Infant bands

Swaddling clothes; infant clothing

Oft

Often

Acceptance

The audience's willingness to accept the performance

Dramatic Structure



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?: *HENRY V*

Part One – Choose Your Protagonist

Who is going to bring main character energy?

Protagonist:

Part Two – Choose Your Dramatic Conflict

- Me against myself
- Me against other individual(s)
- Me against society
- Me against fate, the universe, nature or God

Dramatic Conflict:

Part Three – Plot It Out

The world of the play at the beginning:

Part Three - Plot It Out (continued)

The event that starts the action going:

The complicating events:

Part Three - Plot It Out (continued)

The big turning point:

The things that happen to resolve the conflict:

The ending moment: