

THE HUNDRED YEARS WAR

HISTORY

The Hundred Years War was fought between England and France from 1337 to 1453. The war was a series of battles with long periods of peace in between. In 1337, King Edward III of England claimed he was the rightful king of France. This started the long war between the two countries.

FIGHTING

Disputes caused fighting to continue for over one hundred years. These arguments were over the control of the valuable wool trade, disputes over areas of land, and the support for Scotland by the French. King Edward III believed he was the rightful heir to the French crown through his mother, Isabella. He claimed the right to the throne when he was fifteen because King Charles IV of France died without a male heir. The French chose Philip to be their king instead. When Philip VI of France took control of Aquitaine from the English in 1337, King Edward III decided to fight back. He invaded France and claimed his right to the French throne.



EDWARD'S ARMY

Edward did not attempt to conquer and control the French land, but instead raided the land in something called chevauchees. He struck deep into the land burning crops, plundering cities, and creating havoc. King Edward III's army was led by his son, the valiant Edward the "Black Prince" during the 1350s. He was a famous hero to the English known for his chivalry. He led English troops to major victories over the French. During the battle of Poitiers, the Black Prince captured the current King of France, John II.

PEACE

King Edward agreed to release King John II for a ransom of three million crowns and more land. When King Edward died, the son of the Black Prince, Richard II, became king at only ten years old. A period of peace between England and France followed.

HENRY V

King Henry V became King of England in 1413 and laid claim to the throne of France. He invaded France and won a decisive battle at Agincourt, defeating a French force of around 25,000 with only around 6,000 English soldiers. The French eventually gave in and King Charles VI named Henry as the heir to the throne.

JOAN OF ARC

Many people in southern France did not accept English rule. In 1428, the English started invading. They began a siege of the city of Orleans. A young peasant girl by the name Joan of Arc took leadership of the French army, claiming to have seen a vision from God. She led the French to a victory at Orleans in 1429 and many more victories before she was captured and burned at the stake by the English.



END OF WAR

Inspired by Joan of Arc's leadership and sacrifice, the French continued to fight back. They pushed the English army out of France, taking Bordeaux in 1453. This signaled the end of the Hundred Years War, which actually lasted 116 years.

Name _____

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MATCHING: Match each term with its description.

1. _____ France	A. Claimed rights to the French throne in 1413
2. _____ Edward III	B. Named Henry V the ruler of the French
3. _____ chevauchees	C. England and this nation fought in the Hundred Years War
4. _____ Black Prince	D. Captured by the French in 1453
5. _____ Henry V	E. King who claimed rights to French throne, starting war
6. _____ Charles VI	F. Actual length of the Hundred Years War
7. _____ Joan of Arc	G. Led King Edward III's army
8. _____ Bordeaux	H. Method used by Edward's army
9. _____ 116 years	I. Became king at 10 years old
10. _____ Richard II	J. Peasant girl who led the French army

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.

11. Why was Edward the "Black Prince" famous?

- A. He led the siege of Orleans. B. He became king at age 10.
C. He led the French to several victories. D. He led the British to several victories.

12. Why was King Henry V's victory at Agincourt surprising?

- A. The French outnumbered the British. B. The British outnumbered the French.
C. The French were caught unprepared. D. The British were caught unprepared.

13. Why did Joan of Arc claim to lead the French army?

- A. Her father was the king.
B. Her father was in charge of the army, but died.
C. She claimed to see a vision from God.
D. She claimed she was the rightful heir to the throne.

14. How did Joan of Arc's death impact the French army?

- A. They were devastated and lost the war.
B. They were inspired and won the war.
C. They were inspired, but still lost the war.
D. They went into mourning for two years.

15. What sparked the Hundred Years War?

- A. Joan of Arc had a vision. B. The Black Prince was captured.
C. Henry V became the king. D. King Edward III invaded France.

