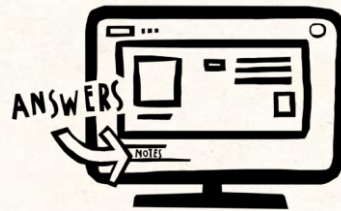


# HOW TO USE - NOTES FOR TEACHERS

These resources from Historic Royal Palaces are multi-purpose.  
They are ready for you to tweak and use in your lessons.



For the best experience,  
download and open the  
file in the PowerPoint  
desktop app.



Answers are found  
under the slide. Click  
on the notes symbol at  
the bottom of the screen.



Delete text and images  
to make your own  
worksheets.

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## WILLIAM III AND MARY II

The only British monarchs to have ruled together

Mary was the daughter of James II. William was the grandson of Charles I.

They were both **Protestants** and got married in 1677.

As part of the **Glorious Revolution** 1688-1689:

- **Catholic** King James II was unpopular.
- William and Mary were invited to become rulers instead.
- They became joint **monarchs**.

It was called the **Glorious Revolution** because it did not involve violence in England, however it did lead to violence in Ireland.

As monarchs, they hired the **architect** Sir Christopher Wren to transform Nottingham House into Kensington Palace. This included new **State Apartments**, accommodation for **courtiers** and kitchens and stables.

Mary died of smallpox and a few years later William died after a riding accident.

**William:** 1689-1702, Netherlands  
**Mary:** 1689-1694, London

**Reigned:** 1689 – 1694 & 1702

William was devastated when Mary died and did not remarry.



## QUEEN ANNE

A hard-working queen and the last Stuart monarch

Anne was the younger sister of Mary II. Anne became queen after Mary's husband William III died.

She was a dedicated, hard-working **monarch** and met her ministers every day.

- Shy but able to speak up when needed.
- Married Prince George of Denmark and had 18 pregnancies.
- Sadly, only one child, William, lived more than two years but he also died young, aged 11.

Anne improved the gardens at Kensington Palace including building the **Orangery**.

Anne started to suffer from poor health and died at Kensington Palace in 1714.

**Lived:** 1665 - 1714  
**Birthplace:** London

**Reigned:** 1702 -1714

She used the King's **State Apartments** at Kensington Palace, not the Queen's.

**Q:** What evidence is there that Anne was a hardworking monarch?



© National Portrait Gallery, London

**Lived:** 1660 - 1727

**Birthplace:** Hanover, Germany

**Reigned:** 1714 - 1727

# GEORGE I

The first Georgian King

George was from Hanover in Germany. He became king when Queen Anne died without an **heir**. He was next in line to be king partly because he was **Protestant**.

He visited Kensington Palace for the first time when he came to England in 1714.

- Spoke German and French but only a few words of English.
- Spent little time in England and made regular visits back to Hanover.
- Left the running of the country to his trusted **ministers**.

George I made improvements at Kensington Palace including creating new **State Apartments**.

Brought 18 cooks with him to England.

**Q:** What objects in the portrait tell us that George I is a king?



Royal Collection Trust  
© His Majesty King Charles III 2024

**Lived:** ? - 1726

**Birthplace:** Unknown

# MEHEMET

Turkish valet to George I who rose to an important position

Mehemet was possibly born in the area of modern-day Greece. He and another man (Mustafa) were taken as prisoners during wars between Hapsburg and the **Ottoman Empire**.

In 1714, George I brought Mehemet and Mustafa to England as his **valets**. They are both are pictured in the murals on the King's staircase at Kensington Palace.

- Was Muslim but was baptised as a Christian in Hanover.
- Became George I's closest personal servant for over 40 years.
- In 1706, married Marie Hedwig Wedekind. Their mixed-race marriage was uncommon for the time, but successful.
- Owned a house in Hanover.
- Died at Kensington Palace.

George I gave him the title: 'Mehmet von Koenigstreu' (True to the King).

**Q:** What can you tell about Mehemet from his portrait?



© Historic Royal Palaces

**Lived:** unknown  
**Birthplace:** Morea

He married Magdalena Catharina Homeyer in Hanover in 1708.

## MUSTAPHA

Turkish valet to George I

Mustapha was born in modern-day Greece but was captured by Hanoverians during a wars between Hapsburg and the **Ottoman Empire**.

He eventually went on to serve the army and converted to Christianity.

In 1714, Mustapha was one of two men brought to England by George I to be **valets**.

They are both are pictured in the murals on the King's staircase at Kensington Palace.

Some historians believe that Mustapha is the person on the right of the image.

Mustafa was baptised as a Christian and was given the name Ernst August. He became one of the King's closest attendants.

**Q:** Why do you think we know so few details about Mustapha's life?



© National Portrait Gallery, London

**Lived:** 1683 - 1760  
**Birthplace:** Hanover, Germany

**Reigned:** 1727 - 1760

George II moved into Kensington Palace when he became king. He and his wife, Queen Caroline, made it their main home in London.

- Was dull and self-important.
- Often lost his temper.

**Q:** The Earl of Chesterfield wrote about George II "*little things...afflicted him more than great ones*". Can you explain the quote in your own words?

## GEORGE II

The last British monarch to lead his troops into battle

He was obsessed with facts and figures.

- Sometimes threw off his wig and kicked it round the room.
- Loved order and routine.
- Reportedly had his underwear numbered according to the day of the week.



© National Portrait Gallery, London

**Lived:** 1683 - 1737

**Birthplace:** Ansbach, Germany

**Reigned:** 1727 - 1737

Had all her children vaccinated against **smallpox**.

## QUEEN CAROLINE

An intelligent, sophisticated and forward-thinking queen

Caroline was born at the Palace of Ansbach in Germany.

- Married the future George II in 1705.
- Moved with him to England in 1714.
- Became **Queen Consort** in 1727.

Caroline brought glamour, intelligence and liveliness to court and made Kensington Palace a glittering centre of court life.

She invited **theologians, philosophers, scientists, artists, writers and gardeners** to her receptions.

She also hired William Kent to transform the gardens at Kensington Palace. The old gardens were replaced with more fashionable 'natural' ones.

**Q:** Can you give one example of Caroline being 'forward-thinking'?



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**Lived:** 1685 - 1748

**Birthplace:** Yorkshire

William started his working life painting signs and coaches. He studied art in Italy.

- Hired by George I to decorate new **State Apartments** at Kensington Palace.
- Employed by George II and Queen Caroline to improve the royal accommodation at Hampton Court Palace.

He was the first British designer to control all parts of **interior decoration**, from furniture to fireplaces.

## WILLIAM KENT

Architect, painter, interior designer and landscape gardener

He was charming and good at making powerful friends.

His style was dazzling. He used illusions that tricked the eye. He famously created wall and ceiling paintings plus gold statues.

**Q:** What impression do you have of William Kent?



© Historic Royal Palaces

**Lived:** ? - 1785  
**Birthplace:** Germany

## PETER FROM HANOVER

The boy who survived living alone in the woods

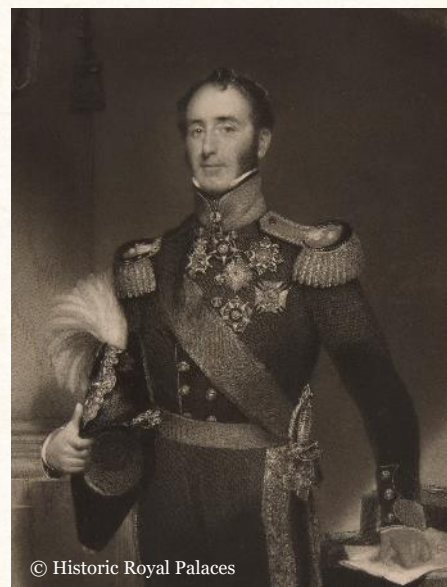
In 1725, Peter was found as a young boy living alone in the woods near Hanover, Germany. A description of him stated that he was 'walking on his hands and feet, climbing trees like a squirrel, and feeding on grass and moss.' He did not speak. Local villagers named him Peter.

- Caused great public interest due to his unusual behaviour.
- George I sent for Peter and he was displayed at court in England.
- Taught to bow and kiss the hands of ladies for their amusement.
- Featured in a painting on the King's Stairs at Kensington Palace.

He was sent to live on a farm in Hertfordshire. He wore a collar with his name and address on it, after he went missing one day.

**Q:** What do you think of the way Peter was treated?  
What does the fact that Peter was included in the painting on the King's Staircase tell you about him?

Today it's thought that Peter probably had a **genetic disorder** called Pitt-Hopkins Syndrome.



© Historic Royal Palaces

**Lived** 1786 - 1854  
**Birthplace** Caernarvonshire, Wales

## JOHN CONROY

Ambitious man at Kensington Palace during Queen Victoria's childhood

John was an officer in the Royal Household Artillery. He became assistant to Edward Duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father.

Edward died not long after Victoria's birth. John became **comptroller** of the royal household at Kensington Palace.

He had increasing power over the Victoria's mother. He devised set of rules known as the '**Kensington System**'. They were designed to isolate Victoria and keep her under his control.

If Victoria inherited the throne before she was 18 her mother would be appointed **regent**. John Conroy planned to be 'the power behind the throne'.

His plan failed as Victoria became queen two months after her 18th birthday.

He claimed to be descended from an ancient line of Irish Kings.

**Q:** What does the phrase 'the power behind the throne' mean?  
How would you describe Conroy's character?



Royal Collection Trust  
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# PRINCESS VICTOIRE

German princess and Queen Victoria's mother

- Born 'Marie Luise Victoire'.
- Had two children by her first marriage to a German Prince.
- Second marriage was to Edward, Duke of Kent, in 1818.
- Gave birth to Victoria at Kensington Palace in 1819.

Edward died a few months after Victoria was born and Victoire became responsible for his huge debt. She was lonely and isolated, but she adored her daughter.

However, Victoire started to be controlled by John Conroy. This led to her daughter resenting her. When Victoria became queen, she moved to Buckingham Palace without her mother.

Victoire reconnected with Victoria after Victoria had her first baby. Victoria was heart-broken when Victoire died.

**Q:** The portrait is of Victoire with baby Victoria. What evidence is there in it that she is a widow?



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# QUEEN VICTORIA

The second longest reigning monarch in British history

Victoria was born in Kensington Palace, but her father died suddenly eight months later. Her mother started to rely on John Conroy who had been her father's assistant.

- John Conroy kept Victoria isolated at Kensington Palace under close watch.
- She became queen aged 18 when her uncle William IV died.
- Married her cousin, Prince Albert, in 1840.
- They had a very successful partnership and had nine children.

She was crowned **Empress** of India in 1876.

Albert suddenly died in 1861 and she withdrew from public life for many years. She celebrated her **Golden Jubilee** in 1887 and **Diamond Jubilee** in 1897.

**Lived:** 1819 - 1901  
**Birthplace:** London

**Reigned:** 1837 - 1901

She kept a diary from age 13 to a few days before she died, aged 81.

**Q:** Describe how Victoria is portrayed in her Coronation portrait. What impression of her do you think this creates?

Queen Victoria later blamed Conroy for 'wickedly' distancing her from her mother.

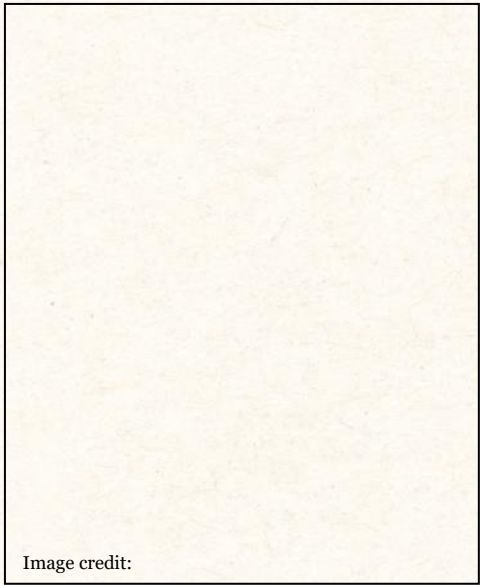
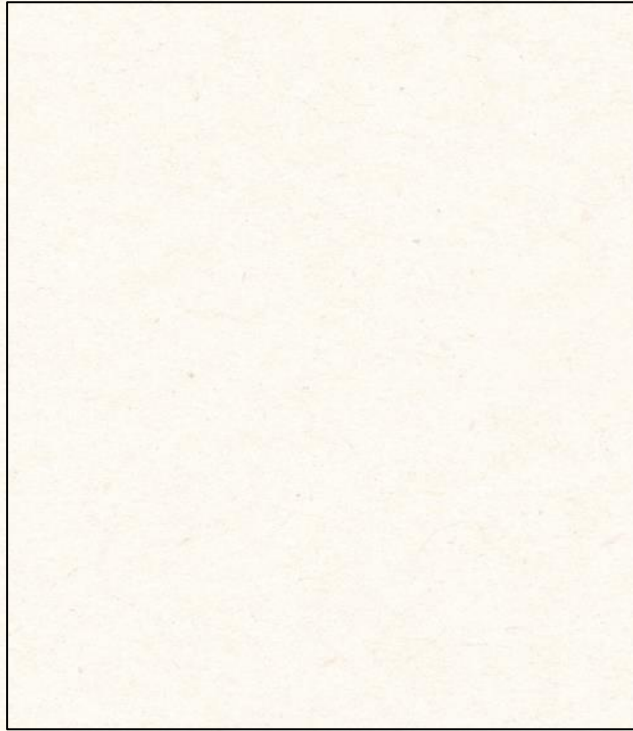
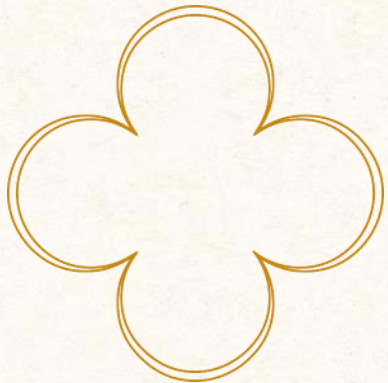
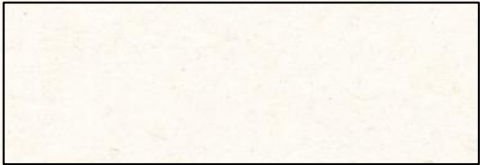


Image credit:

**Lived:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Birthplace:** \_\_\_\_\_

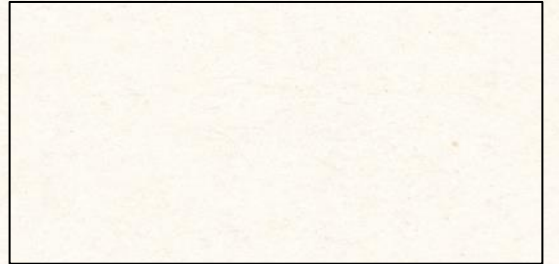
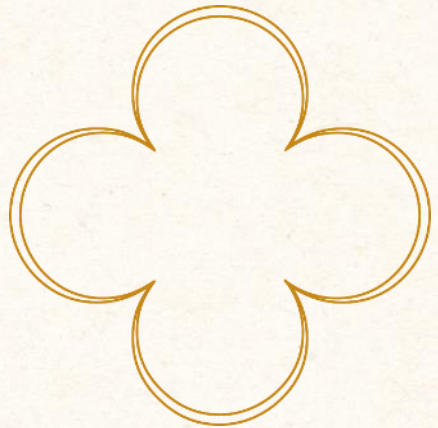


**Q:**



Image credit:

**Lived:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Birthplace:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Q:**



# VOCABULARY LIST



**afflicted** | caused pain or trouble by

**architect** | person who designs buildings and plans and supervises them being built

**Catholic** | member of the Roman Catholic Church. A type of Christianity that follows the teachings of the Pope

**courtiers** | nobleman or noblewoman who spends a lot of time at the royal court

**comptroller** | royal household official in charge of finances

**Diamond Jubilee** | celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of an event, such as someone becoming king or queen

**empire** | large group of countries or regions that are controlled by one ruler or government

**empress** | woman who rules over an empire

**genetic disorder** | health problem or condition sometimes passed from parents to children

**Georgian** | the time from 1714 to 1830 when Britain and Ireland were ruled by George I-George IV

**Glorious Revolution** | events of 1688-89 when the Catholic King James II was replaced by the Protestant William III and Mary II

**Golden Jubilee** | celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of an event, such as someone becoming king or queen

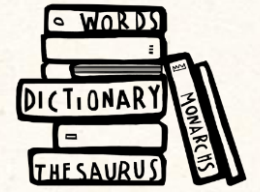
**government** | group of people that have the authority to rule a country

**heir** | person who will become the next king or queen

**interior decoration** | decoration inside a building

**Kensington System** | set of rules devised to keep Victoria under strict control at Kensington Palace as a child

# VOCABULARY LIST



**minister** | someone with a lot of power and responsibility in government

**monarch** | ruler of a kingdom or empire, such as a king or queen

**monarchy** | system of government with a king or queen as its head

**mourning** | a sign of the deep sadness and loss felt when someone dies (such as wearing black clothes)

**nobleman/woman** | someone of high rank in society

**orangery** | brick building with large windows used for growing exotic fruits and plants

**Ottoman Empire** | powerful state created by Turkish tribes

**philosopher** | someone who studies human life and the world, for example how we think and what we value

**Protestant** | a type of Christianity that believes people do not need officials (such as the Pope or Bishops) to communicate with God

**Queen Consort** | wife of the reigning king

**regent** | person who rules when the king or queen is unable to

**smallpox** | serious and often deadly infectious disease in the past

**State Apartments** | grand public rooms where official visitors are hosted

**theologian** | someone who studies religious belief

**valet** | personal assistant responsible for a man's clothes and appearance

**wealthy** | having a large amount of money, property, land and valuable possessions