

# ● The Last Steps to the Scaffold

How did Anne Boleyn become an iconic figure?



1

## Anne's downfall



A. Look at the still from the series *The Tudors*. What problems might have led the couple to an end?

B. Groupwork.

- Group A reads Text 1. Check your hypotheses and make a list of the problems mentioned.

- Group B reads Text 2. Focus on dates, places, names, and reasons for Anne's downfall.

C. Together, say how the still illustrates both texts.

### Text 1

Despite all the years of waiting and longing, there had been "much coldness and grumbling" between the couple since their marriage, for Anne, once won, had perhaps been a disappointment. She had not been born to be a queen, nor educated to that end. She had found it difficult, if not impossible, to make the transition from a mistress with the upper hand to a compliant and deferential wife, which was what the King, once married, now expected of her. Years of frustration, of holding Henry off while waiting for a favorable papal decision that never came [...], had taken their toll on her as well as the King, and made her haughty<sup>1</sup>, overbearing, shrewish<sup>2</sup>, and volatile, qualities that were then frowned upon<sup>3</sup> in wives, who were expected to be meek<sup>4</sup> and submissive, not defiant and outspoken. And Henry VIII was nothing if not a conventional husband.

1 hautaine • 2 acariâtre •  
3 voir d'un mauvais œil • 4 douce, docile

*The Lady in the Tower*,  
Alison Weir, 2010



### Text 2

Henry and Anne's daughter Elizabeth (the future Queen Elizabeth I) was born in September 1533. Two more pregnancies ended in miscarriage<sup>1</sup> [...]. When Henry discovered the second baby had been a boy, he became convinced the marriage was cursed. Henry was still desperate for a male heir and he blamed Anne for<sup>2</sup> this misfortune. He took on Anne's lady-in-waiting<sup>3</sup> Jane Seymour as his mistress and looked for a way to end his marriage. In April 1536, Sir Francis Weston, William Brereton, Mark Smeaton, Sir Henry Norris and Anne's brother Lord Rochford were arrested on suspicion of having had relations with the Queen. Anne was investigated by a secret commission which included her father, her uncle the Duke of Norfolk and Thomas Cromwell. On 2 May 1536 Anne was arrested on charges<sup>4</sup> of adultery with five men including her own brother, Lord George Rochford. At the trial<sup>5</sup>, presided over by the Duke of Norfolk, Anne was accused of adultery<sup>6</sup> [...]. She was convicted<sup>7</sup> and imprisoned in the Tower of London.

1 fausse-couche • 2 reprocher qqch à qqu •  
3 dame de compagnie • 4 accusations • 5 procès •  
6 adultère • 7 déclarée coupable

HELP!

#### Adjectives

- doomed /du:md/ = ill-fated
- unfair: *injuste*
- biased: *partial*
- scared = afraid

#### Verbs

- argue /'a:gju:/ = quarrel /'kwɔ:rl/
- condemn
- sacrifice /'sækrifis/

#### Expressions

- even if = although = despite the fact that...
- go to great lengths to do sth
- desperate for a male heir /ea/
- star-crossed lovers
- the end justifies the means

## 2 “O death, rock me asleep”



- A. Focus on the title. Explain its meaning.  
 B. Read the stanza and listen to [MP3 n°79](#).  
 What is the atmosphere of the poem?  
 C. What is Anne's feeling in this poem?  
 Is the painting a good illustration for it?  
 Justify.

*According to legend, Anne Boleyn wrote this poem on the eve of her execution. We will never know for certain!*



*O death, rock me asleep,  
 Bring me to quiet rest,  
 Let pass my weary guiltless ghost  
 Out of my careful breast.  
 Toll on<sup>1</sup>, thou<sup>2</sup> passing bell;  
 Ring out my doleful knell<sup>3</sup>;  
 Let thy<sup>4</sup> sound my death tell.  
 Death doth<sup>5</sup> draw nigh<sup>6</sup>;  
 [For I must die]  
 There is no remedy.*

1 sonner • 2 you • 3 triste glas • 4 your • 5 does • 6 proche



“Anne Boleyn in the Tower” by Édouard Cibot, 1835

## 3 Anne Boleyn’s last speech



- A. Look at the picture. Where and when does the scene take place? Imagine Anne’s feelings.

*She must have felt + adj... Maybe she was...*

- B. Listen to her last speech on [MP3 n°80](#). Focus on her feelings. Then report what she said.

### HELP!

#### Nouns

- scaffold /skæfəuld/: échafaud

#### Adverb

- heartily /ha:tɪlɪ/ = with all my heart

#### Adjectives

- brave
- broken down: effondré(e)

- ghostly = like a ghost = lifeless

- merciful: clément(e)

- overwhelmed:

- bouleversé(e)

- resilient /rɪzɪlɪənt/ = able to be strong during and after problems

#### Expressions

- take one’s leave: prendre congé



Still from the BBC TV show *Wolf Hall* (2015)

## YOUR PROJECT

Write each other a love letter!

- Pupil A: you are Anne Boleyn.
- Pupil B: you are Henry.
- Look at your role on [Worksheet n°44](#).



## 4 Class conversation!

Focus on all the documents (p. 142-147).  
 Why is Anne Boleyn such a fascinating character?

# RULE THE GRAMMAR!

## LE DISCOURS INDIRECT

- Discours direct : **"I want to be Queen or nothing!"**
- Discours indirect : **Anne said (that) she wanted to be Queen or nothing.**
- Pour rapporter le propos de quelqu'un, on utilise des verbes rapporteurs (*reporting verbs*), comme par exemple : **tell • advise (someone to) • promise (to) • announce • explain • state • declare • ask • answer • reply.**
- En passant du discours direct au discours indirect, il faut appliquer la concordance des temps.

DISCOURS DIRECT	DISCOURS INDIRECT
<b>Présent</b> "I love you Anne!"	→ <b>Prétérit</b> <i>Henry told Anne (that) he loved her.</i>
<b>Present perfect</b> "I have loved you for so long Henry!"	→ <b>Pluperfect</b> <i>She stated that she had loved him for so long.</i>
<b>Modal au présent (can)</b> "I can organise a secret wedding!"	→ <b>Modal au prétrépit (could)</b> <i>He declared he could organise a secret wedding.</i>
<b>Question au présent</b> "Do you think I'm guilty?"	→ <b>Prétérit + if</b> <i>She asked him if he thought she was guilty.</i>
<b>Présent be + ing</b> "I'm trying to believe you."	→ <b>Prétérit be + ing</b> <i>He replied that he was trying to believe her.</i>
<b>Prétrépit</b> "You wrote your last letter."	→ <b>Prétérit / prétrépit + pluperfect</b> <i>She said he wrote / had written his last letter.</i>
<b>Phrase négative</b> "I don't love you anymore."	→ <b>Prétrépit</b> <i>He said he didn't love her anymore.</i>

+ P.305

## LES ADVERBES

- Formation et emploi
  - Les adverbes apportent une indication sur la façon dont les actions sont accomplies.
  - Pour les former, il faut ajouter *-ly* à la fin de l'adjectif.

*Anne and Henry didn't live happily ever after.*  
Anne et Henry ne vécurent pas heureux.

*The story dismally ended for Anne Boleyn!*  
L'histoire d'Anne Boleyn s'acheva tristement.

- Quelques règles :

*happy* → *happily* (le y devient i)  
*shy* → *shyly* (exception)  
*terrible* → *terribly* (le → ly)  
*tragic* → *tragically* (ic → ally)

Certains adjectifs ne changent pas : *fast*, *hard* et *early*.

Attention : certains adjectifs en *-ly* ne sont pas des adverbes : *friendly*, *silly* et *lonely*.

- La place de l'adverbe dans la phrase
 

Les adverbes qui finissent par *-ly*, comme *awfully* (terriblement), *suddenly* (tout à coup) etc. se placent d'ordinaire :

- aux temps simples, avant le verbe ou après le COD :  
*They generally have dinner at 8.00pm.*  
(Ils dînent d'habitude à 20 heures.)

- aux temps composés, entre l'auxiliaire et le verbe :  
*They are finally going to Spain.*  
(Finalement, ils vont en Espagne.)

# LANGUAGE LAB



- Unit's vocabulary
- Audio words
- MP3
- Interactive Test

**★ 1. Fill in these sentences with the following words.**

Reformation • mistress • wedding • courtly  
beheaded • imprisoned

- A. Anne knew the art of ... love and became the King's ....  
 B. They arranged a secret .... It was the beginning of the ... in England.  
 C. Anne Boleyn was ... in the tower of London and ... in 1536.

**★★ 2. Choose the right word or expression derived from the word love to fill in the sentences.**

**Love at first sight** (coup de foudre) • **to be lovestruck** (épris) • **not for love or money** (pour rien au monde) • **a love match** (mariage d'amour) • **lady-love** (dulcinée) • **a love affair** (liaison).

- A. King Henry considered Anne as his ..., he wrote her 17 letters! But we don't know if it was ... for her.  
 B. They began a ... and had .... They truly seemed to be ....!  
 C. Anne wouldn't give up on her daughter, ...!

**★ 3. Report the following sentences in the present using the appropriate tenses and the reporting verbs given.**

- A. Henry: "I will love you till death do us part." / **say**  
 B. Anne: "You are my one true love." / **declare**  
 C. Henry: "I will never hurt you." / **promise**

**★★ 4. Put the adverbs in the appropriate place.**

- A. She ... met the king ... to talk about the affairs of the State. (**seldom**)  
 B. "Do you ... come here ...?", the king asked. (**often**)  
 C. "I ... have ... seen such a beauty", he exclaimed. (**never**)  
 D. The king ... has ... asked her for his wife. (**officially**)  
 E. Have you ... seen such a beautiful castle...? (**ever**)

**★★ 5. Read this dialogue between Anne and her sister Mary and report it using the appropriate past tenses and different reporting verbs.**

Anne: "I haven't seen you for a while Mary."  
 Mary: "I'm so pleased to see you my dear sister!"  
 Anne: "I learnt that you are close to the King..."  
 Mary: "Indeed, I became one of his mistresses. I believe he loves me deeply".  
 Anne: "Er... . The King seems to like me too..."

**6. Interactive test! What is your score?**

## OPEN YOUR EARS!



### PHONOLOGY

L'« iambe »

- L'« iambe » est la succession d'une voyelle non accentuée et d'une voyelle accentuée.

- Écoutez et répétez ces deux phrases.

MP3 n°81



"To / be or / not to / be?"

Hamlet, Shakespeare

"I / come here to / bury / Caesar, / not to / praise him."

Julius Caesar, Shakespeare

**Did you know?** On retrouve ce rythme partout en anglais : *Mind the gap! Yes we can!*

- Écoutez les 4 premières phrases de la chanson *Greensleeves* et repérez les iambes.



### SHOW TIME

MP3 n°83



"Greensleeves was all my joy,  
 Greensleeves was my delight  
 Greensleeves was my heart of gold  
 And who but my lady greensleeves  
 Your vows you've broken, like my heart,  
 Oh, why did you so enrapture me?"

Écoutez et répétez cet extrait de la chanson populaire *Greensleeves* – dont la légende raconte qu'elle a été écrite par Henry VIII en l'honneur d'Anne Boleyn – en prêtant attention aux syllabes inaccentuées (soulignées) et accentuées (en gras).

### AUDIO MYSTERY

Listen and solve the mystery!

MP3 n°84

