













Writing the Tudor way

Many Tudors wrote in a style of hand writing known as secretary. Here are the capital letters and small letters in the secretary style.

You can use the capitals in sentences for the names of things as we do today but you can also use a capital letter to begin any word that you think is important. Note that capital F is a double f.

											
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I and J	K	L	M

											
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U and V	W	X	Y	Z

											
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i and j	k	l	m

												
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

Teacher's sheet

Based on pages 14 and 15 of *Rich and poor in Tudor times*

Writing the Tudor way

Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Outcomes

The students can:

- Write a letter in the style used by many Tudors.
- Read a letter written in the secretary style.

Resources

Copies of the worksheet.

Using the worksheet

This activity links to activity 6c 'Spell as you like'. You may like to remind the students of this when you issue the worksheet. You may introduce the worksheet after the students have read about the activities in the hall in the village and say that we know about some of these activities through written documents. These documents are written in a different style to the one we use today.

Younger students

Challenge the students to write their names in the secretary style. They could also write about the meal they plan to eat at lunchtime or the meal they have just eaten. They can pass their work among their friends and see if it can be read and understood by others. The students may spell as they like to make their work more like the Tudor style.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Write in the style used by many Tudors.
- Read words written in the secretary style.

Older students

You may tell the students that activities such as paying rents or recording punishments were written down and these written documents can be used as evidence in finding out about the past. Many Tudors used a style of writing called secretary and in this activity the students are going to write a letter in this style. They could date the letter as shown in activity 6c and spell as they like too. They can pass their work among their friends and see if it can be read and understood by others.