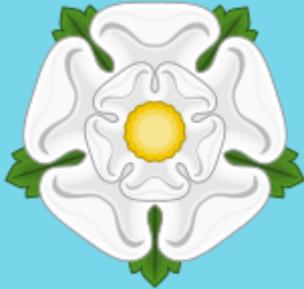


Wars of the Roses

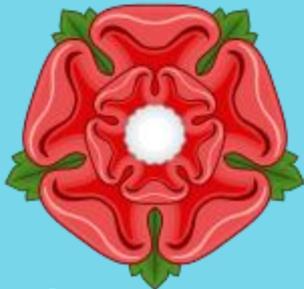
By: Leah Marrari

Background

- ▶ House of York



- ▶ House of Lancaster



- ▶ Both houses claimed the throne through descents of the sons of Edward III

Edward III

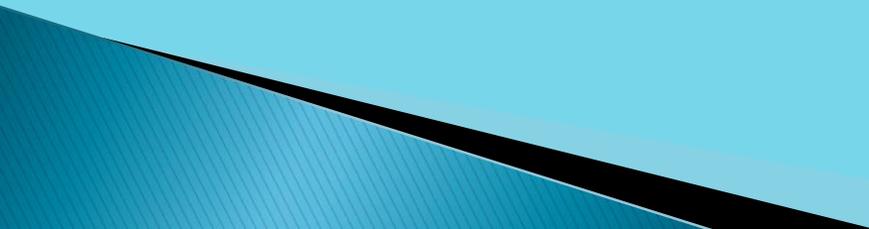
Edward the
Black Prince

Lionel of
Antwerp

John of
Gaunt

Edmund of
Langley

Richard II



The Start of Conflict

- ▶ When John of Gaunt died (1399) Richard II confiscated his land and exiled Gaunt's son Henry IV
- ▶ Henry IV returned from exile with an army and captured Richard II
- ▶ He then removed Richard through act of Parliament and claimed the throne through right of descent, conquest, and because of Richard's faulty government
- ▶ Henry prevailed in removing Richard because Richard was universally hated

Henry IV

- ▶ Was of Lancaster decent
- ▶ Was a good military leader
- ▶ Had many plots against him due to his uncertain title to the crown
- ▶ His lack of money led to dependence on Parliament
 - Gave Parliament an opportunity
 - House of commons grew
- ▶ The House of Commons refused taxes unless Henry agreed to select his councilors from Parliament, to govern with their advice, and to allow Commons to appoint auditors to oversea the crown's expenditures.

Edward III

Edward the
Black Prince

Lionel of
Antwerp

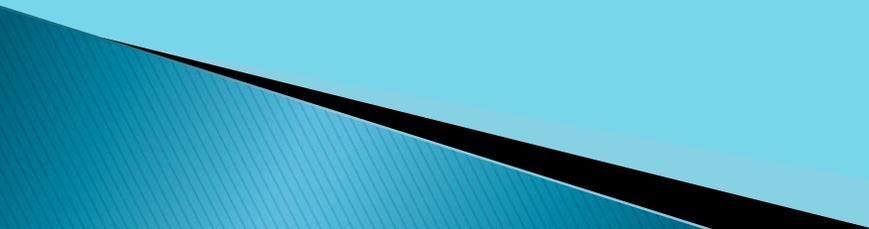
John of
Gaunt

Edmund of
Langley

Richard II

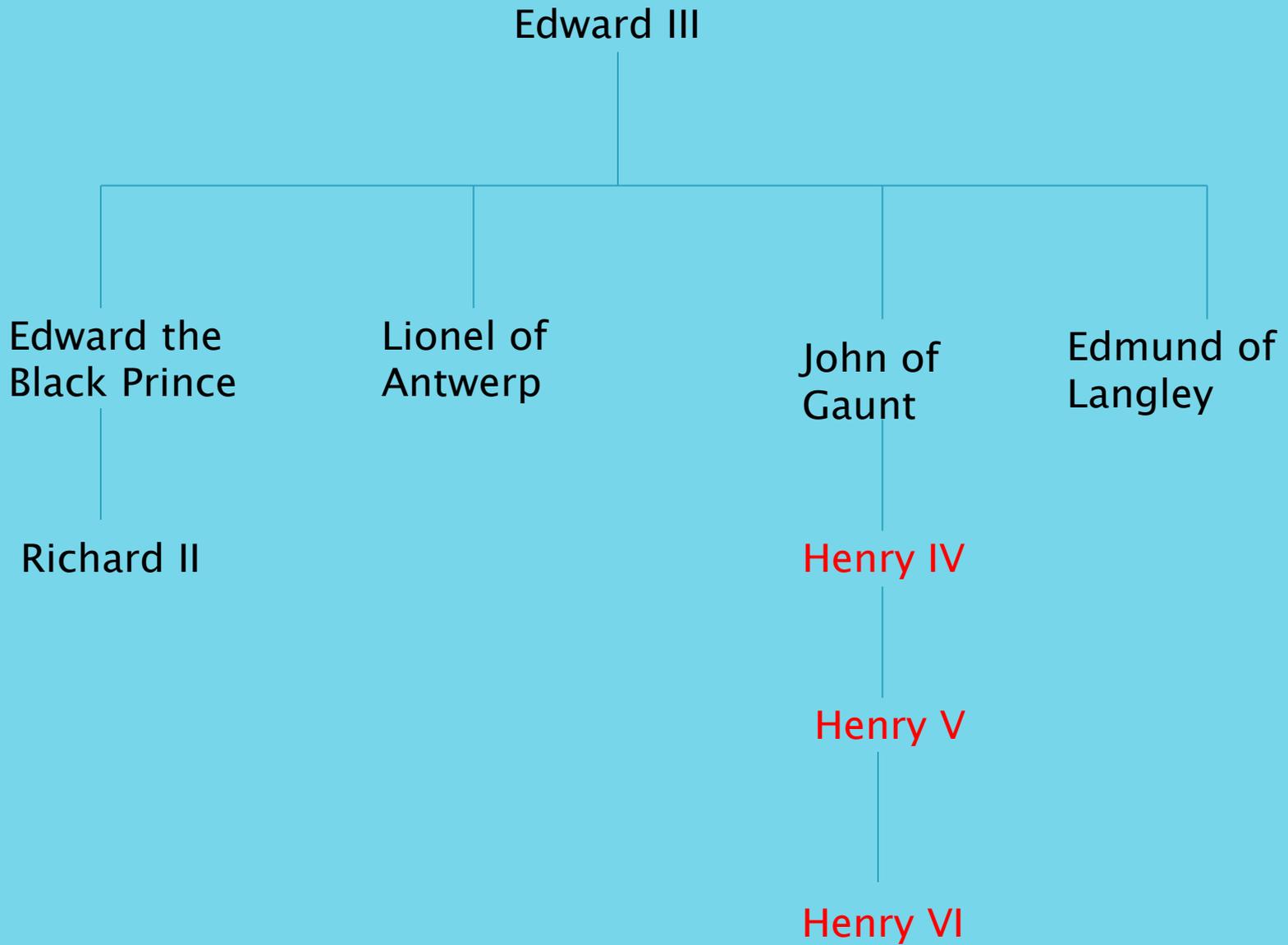
Henry IV

Henry V



Henry V

- ▶ Came to the throne at age 25 in 1413 after Henry IV died
- ▶ He ruled with firmness and justice and with the advice and consent of Parliament
- ▶ Henry V invaded France in 1415 to regain territory that his ancestors had lost
 - Battle of Agincourt
 - English were outnumbered by French
 - English defeated the French
- ▶ Henry also married the French King's daughter, making his son Henry VI heir to the throne of France



Henry VI

- ▶ Power of the monarchy reached its lowest point under Henry VI
- ▶ He had little capacity for politics or governing
- ▶ Henry VI married Margaret of Anjou
- ▶ Had bouts of insanity which would later affect his ability to rule

Edward III

Edward
the Black
Prince

Lionel of
Antwerp

John of
Gaunt

Edmund
of Langley

Richard II

Henry IV

Richard, Duke
of York

(descendent of
Edmund, not his son)

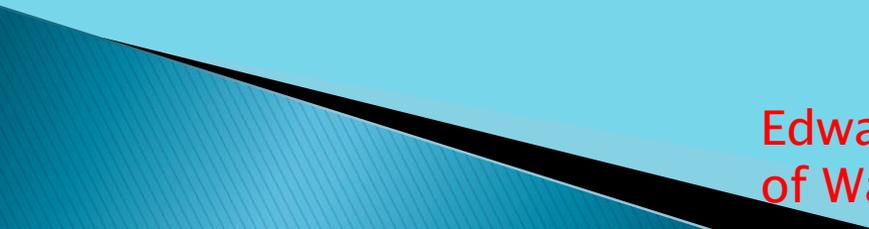
Henry V

Henry VI

Edward IV
(Edward Earl
of March)

Richard III

Edward, Prince
of Wales



First Battle of St Albans 1455

- ▶ Marks the beginning of the Wars of the Roses
- ▶ Henry VI was captured
- ▶ Richard, Duke of York and his ally Richard Neville defeated the Lancastrians
- ▶ Then Parliament appointed Richard, Duke of York, Lord Protector

Battle of Wakefield 1460

- ▶ York army was led by Richard, Duke of York and fought against Henry VI's army of nobles
- ▶ Richard died during battle
- ▶ Resulted in a Lancastrian victory
- ▶ Edward, Earl of March (Richard's son) became the leader of the York forces
- ▶ Richard's claim to the throne of England did not die with him, but instead was passed to his son Edward

Battle of Northampton 1460

- ▶ Yorkish forces captured Henry VI and held him as prisoner
- ▶ Edward defeated the Lancastrians

Battle of Towton 1461

- ▶ Yorkish forces were outnumbered by the Lancastrians forces but they were still able to defeat the Lancastrians
- ▶ This battle severely reduced the power of the House of Lancaster and Henry VI fled into exile in Scotland
- ▶ Edward was crowned Edward IV and ruled England without interruption for the next nine years

Edward IV

- ▶ Was proclaimed King of England in 1461
- ▶ Was the first Yorkish King of England
- ▶ His marriage to Elizabeth of Woodville infuriated Richard Neville so he turned against Edward
- ▶ Neville then aligned himself with Margaret of Anjou (Henry VI's wife) and forced Edward to flee England

Re-adoption of Henry VI

- ▶ Neville's best hope for regaining power in England was to restore Henry VI to the throne
- ▶ But Henry's re-adoption didn't last long
- ▶ Edward then raised a large army in the Netherlands and killed Neville, making this the Battle of Tewkesbury (1471)
 - House of Lancaster was completely defeated by the House of York
 - Tewkesbury restored political stability to England
- ▶ Henry VI died shortly after in 1471 and Edward IV resumed the crown and ruled until his death in 1483 without any further challenges to the crown

Richard III

- ▶ After Edward IV died, Parliament proclaimed Richard III King of England in 1483
- ▶ He was the last king of the House of York
- ▶ Richard was defeated in the Battle of Bosworth Field

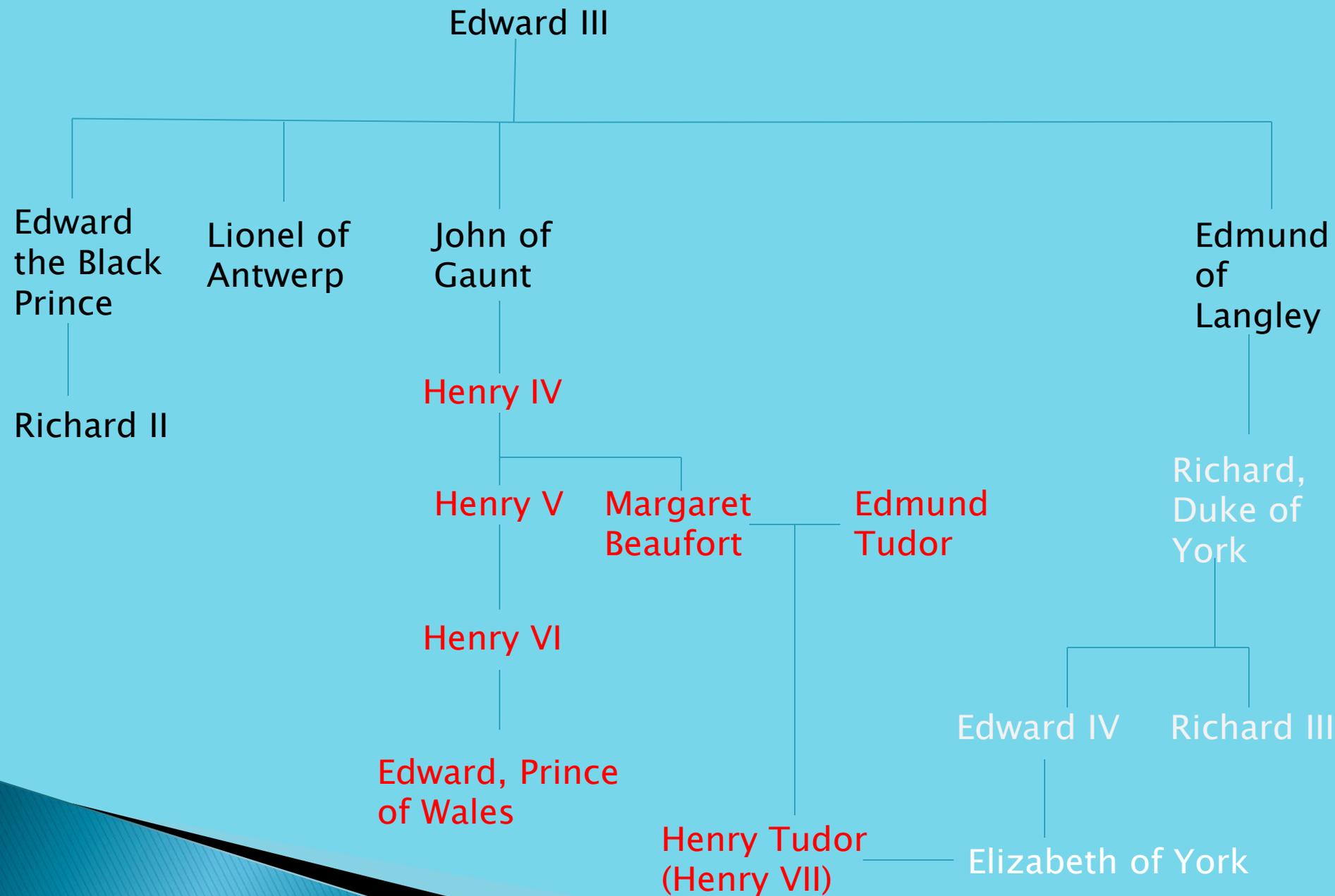
Battle of Bosworth Field

- ▶ It was the last significant battle of the Wars of the Roses
- ▶ Was fought between Richard III and the new leader of the Lancastrian forces, Henry Tudor
- ▶ Richard III was killed in battle
- ▶ After the battle, Henry was crowned king

Henry Tudor

- ▶ Henry claimed the throne through right of conquest, descent, and his marriage to Elizabeth of York
- ▶ By marrying Elizabeth of York, Henry was able to combine the two Houses and create the Tudor Rose
 - The Tudor Rose combined the Red Rose of the House of Lancaster and the White Rose of the House of York





Aftermath of the Wars of Roses

- ▶ There were heavy casualties among the nobility
 - Caused a weakening of the feudal power of the nobles
- ▶ Strengthened the merchant class
- ▶ Caused a growth of a strong centralized monarchy under the Tudors
- ▶ Helped England move into the Renaissance