

RLS/SCRAN Resource pack – ‘The Quest’

Can you complete the King James I Quest?

You may need to do a little extra research:

- Visit the SCRAN website <http://www.scran.ac.uk/> and access the relevant records using the SCRAN ID numbers provided under each resource
- Visit [places of interest](#)
- Do your own research by following [links](#)
- Investigate the CD-ROM *The Scottish People 800-1450 – People of a kingdom*, Learning and Teaching Scotland www.ltscotland.org.uk, email: enquiries@LTScotland.com, tel: Customer Services +44 (0)8700 100 297



Cast of a seal impression of the 2nd Great Seal of James I, 1424.

SCRAN 000-180-001-790-C

James I (1394-1437)

- King of Scotland between 1406-1437
- Imprisoned in England for 18 years
- Introduced formal laws and taxation to Scotland
- Introduced Anglo-Norman culture to Scotland
- Assassinated by rebels in 1437

Fact Finding

1. In what year was James I captured and taken prisoner by Henry IV of England?
2. Who did James I marry?
3. Who ruled the kingdom of Scotland in James I's absence?

Looking at Evidence

4.



(a) This is a photograph of Doune Castle. It was built as a residence for the Duke of Albany.

SCRAN 000-000-488-597-C



(b) This illustration shows Linlithgow Palace, early modifications were started in 1425 by James I.

SCRAN 000-000-143-721-C

Look at these 2 images. What are the main differences between the 2 buildings? Why do you think they are so different? What does this say about their residents?

5.

*'And therewith kest I doun myn eye ageyne,
Quhare as I sawe, walking under the tour,
Full secretly, new cummyn hir to pleyne,
The fairest or the freschest yonge floure
That ever I sawe, me thocht, before that houre,
For quhich sodayn abate, anon astert
The blude of all my body to my hert.'*

www.scran.ac.uk

Listen* to this reading of 'The Kingis Quair' written by James I, describing the first sight of Lady Joan Beaufort.

Notice the style of the poem. Does it tell us anything about James I's character, and upbringing?

Interpretation

6. James I arranged many influential marriages for his children. Find out with which families he made marital alliances. Why do you think he chose them in particular?



Portrait of Margaret, eldest daughter of James I and Joan Beaufort.

SCRAN 000-000-202-714

7. James I was assassinated in 1437. Was he a popular monarch or was he just in the wrong place at the wrong time?

Links

<http://nms.ac.uk>

The National Museum of Scotland presents the history of Scotland – its land, its people and their achievements – through its rich collections built up over more than two centuries.

<http://www.scran.ac.uk/>

SCRAN is the award winning history and culture website providing instant access to images, sounds, movies and learning resources. It contains over one million records from museums, galleries and archives.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/scottishhistory/>

On this site you'll find in-depth articles, multimedia (like games, virtual tours and animations) as well as bite-size material like timelines and short biographies of historic figures. All is designed for you to get more out of your interest in History.

<http://www.nts.org.uk/>

This site contains useful information, whether you want to know more about the National Trust for Scotland's vital conservation work or are planning to visit some of the places of interest.

<http://www.ntseducation.org.uk/>

On this site there are sections which are intended to assist teachers with various topics in the school curriculum. They provide useful background material for teachers intending to explore these topics with their students.

<http://www.nationalgalleries.org/>

Education is at the heart of the work of the National Galleries of Scotland. Each of the Galleries provides a rich and lively learning resource. Our inclusive approach offers many different ways of learning to give everyone a chance to become actively engaged with art.

<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk>

Historic Scotland safeguards the nation's built heritage and promotes its understanding and enjoyment. You can find information on more than 300 properties and scheduled ancient monuments. We also have resources for schools and details on technical conservation and research.

<http://www.nls.ac.uk>

The National Library of Scotland – Scotland's largest library and the world centre for the study of Scotland and the Scots. A vast reference library, covering all subjects, from art to mountaineering, and from early times to the digital age.

<http://www.nas.gov.uk>

The National Archives of Scotland (or NAS) is the main archive for sources of the history of Scotland as a separate kingdom, her role in the British Isles and the links between Scotland and many other countries over the centuries.

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk>

Learning and Teaching Scotland is a national public body sponsored by the Scottish Executive Education Department. The Scottish Executive has charged Learning and Teaching Scotland with providing advice, support, resources and staff development that enhance the quality of educational experiences with a view to improving attainment and achievement and promoting lifelong learning.

Email: enquiries@LTScotland.com

Telephone: Customer Services +44 (0)8700 100 297

Places of Interest

Dunstaffnage Castle, Nr Oban, Argyll

Doune Castle, Crieff, Perthshire

Linlithgow Palace, West Lothian

Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh

Stirling Castle, Stirling

Answers

1. 1406

2. Joan Beaufort

3. His uncle, the Duke of Albany

4. Doune Castle is an example of a courtyard castle. Its main design features are defensive. It was built as a residence for the Duke of Albany. Linlithgow Palace is an example of a more modern, European style residence. Modifications were begun by James I in 1425. Less emphasis is placed on defences, more on decoration. James I wanted to portray himself as a confident European monarch, with little need for high defences. The palace was purposefully very different to Doune Castle, the stronghold of his rival.

5. The poem is an example of the English and French fashion for courtly love – such poetry and language was new to Scotland. James I spent 18 years in England, during this time he became well acquainted with Anglo-Norman culture. He brought about many changes when he became King of Scotland.

6. James I arranges marriages for his children into powerful European families. When his daughter Margaret was 4, she was betrothed to Louis, heir to the French throne. They were married when she was only 11. His other daughters, Isabella and Eleanora, were married to the royal houses of Brittany and Austria. These prestigious marriages linked the Scottish monarchy to important European dynasties, strengthening the bloodlines and creating opportunities for cultural and commercial contact.

7. James I's assassination has been viewed from various perspectives. Throughout his time on the throne, he introduced many reforms to Scotland, including official laws, new methods of administration and increased trade to Europe. As a result, Scotland's culture gradually began to resemble that of England and Europe.

Some of the Gaelic peoples of the west opposed James I's changes. There was also distrust within his own political community, many of whom believed him to be self-indulgent with profits from heavy taxation. James I reigned at a time of fierce ambition and had many competitors for his throne. His assassination could be linked to any of these points.