

# THE HISTORY OF READING

Paul Thompson

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## Part 1

1. Who were the Tudors and Stuarts?
2. What influenced the development of Reading in its current position?
3. Which town and city are joined by the Kennet and Avon Canal?

## Part 2

4. What did the Vikings do when they came to England?
5. What is the origin of the name 'Reading'?
6. How did Battle Hospital get its name?

## Part 3

7. What impact did the building of the Abbey in 1121 have on Reading?
8. Why did Henry VIII decide break away from the Catholic Church?
9. What was 'Peter's pence'?

## Part 4

10. Why was Reading Abbey closed in 1539?
11. What did Queen Elizabeth I do for Reading?
12. Why was there a lot of poverty in Reading at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century?

## Part 5

13. Why was there a civil war between the Parliament and the King?
14. Why was it an advantage for Reading when it became popular for people to go to the town of Bath for their health?
15. From which date was it possible to travel by canal all the way from London to Bristol?

## Part 6

16. Why did the use of canals decrease?
17. Which three industries developed in Reading with the arrival of the trains?
18. Why was the biscuit company, Huntley and Palmer, so successful?

#### Part 7

19. When Oxford closed in 1355, why were the monks who went to Cambridge successful, and the monks who came to Reading not successful in setting up a university?
20. When was Reading University actually set up?

#### Part 8

21. What are some of the more recent developments in terms of industry in Reading?
22. What is the current population of Reading?

## Key

1. They were royal families
2. The meeting of two rivers
3. Reading and Bristol
4. They came in ships to the north of England, and destroyed villages, stealing gold and silver and killing people.
5. The name is from 'Readda', the name of the chief of the first people who settled in Reading
6. It owes its name to the Battle of Hastings, 1066.
7. It meant many people would come to pray, and markets grew up beside the abbey where people came to buy and sell.
8. In order to divorce his wife and also to have more money for fighting wars.
9. It was a tax which the king had to pay to the church.
10. Because Henry VIII wanted the wealth of the Abbey; the abbot of the Abbey was against Henry, and Henry put him in prison then had him executed, and closed the Abbey.
11. She made a law (charter) to allow Reading to be ruled by a mayor, not someone from the Church
12. Because there were not enough jobs for people in wool and leather; trade from the Netherlands had a negative impact.

13. Parliament felt the king was wasting money on things and they challenged his power.
14. Because if they were travelling from London, people would stop in Reading to get food and shelter, which was good business for Reading.
15. From 1810
16. Because trains were invented, and were faster and more efficient for moving goods.
17. Beer, bulbs and biscuits.
18. Because they were the first company to use a tin to keep biscuits fresh.
19. Because the people of Reading had no interest at all in academic study; they had more interest in making money.
20. An Agricultural College belonging to Oxford was set up in 1892, but became an independent University of Reading in 1926.
21. Service industries like insurance and computers as well as a shopping centre.
22. About 200,000 people.