

## Henry V abbreviated

Act 3, Scene 1

### Inspiration

**Situation: Henry V has moved his troops to the gates of Harfleur, a city in France to the south of Calais, the negotiations between the French and English kings having collapsed.**

HENRY: Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more, or close the wall up with our English dead.

#### Henry V to his troops

Nothing so becomes our men in peace than  
Modest stillness, but when war blows, each man  
Imitate the action of the tiger  
And disguise our fair nature with hard-walled  
Rage. Let each frightful eye pry as if 'twere  
Like a brass cannon and each brow a gulled  
Rock o'erhanging a wild and rough ocean.  
Noble men, whose fathers have fought and won  
In these parts, dishonor not your mothers.  
Show us now your mettle as we depart  
For Harfleur, doubting you not; as brothers  
We, straining like greyhounds upon the start.  
Follow your heart as we to battle forge,  
Crying, "For Harry, England and Saint George!"