

Queen Elizabeth II and the British Monarchy

1. How much do you know about The Queen and the Monarchy of the United Kingdom? Try to answer the questions.

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| a. When was Queen Elizabeth II crowned? | h. What is flag of Britain called and what is the Royal Standard? |
| b. Who is The Queen married to? | i. What is the Commonwealth? |
| c. Who are her children and grandchildren? | j. How is succession to the throne decided? |
| d. What are her Official Residences? | k. What is Queen Elizabeth's full name? |
| e. What is The Queen's role as Monarch? | l. Why does The Queen have two birthdays? |
| f. What are the Crown Jewels? | |
| g. What is the British National Anthem called? | |

2. Match the questions in 1 with the answers below. The first one has been done for you.

Q: What is Queen Elizabeth's full name?

A: Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor. She belongs to Britain's Royal House (Family) of Windsor. Her official title is: "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith."

Q:

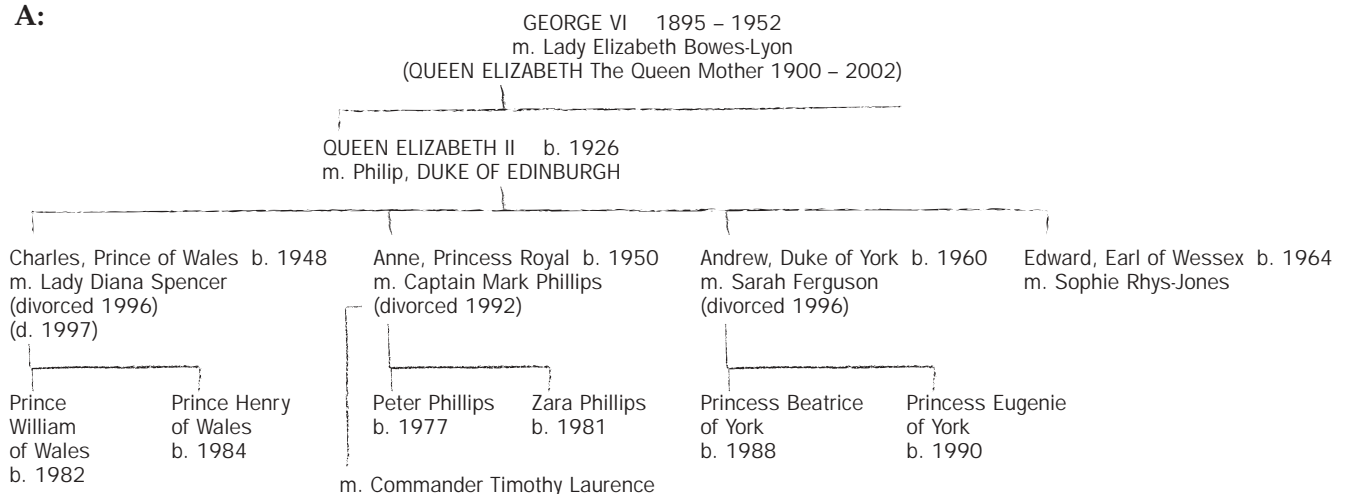
A: It's because of the British weather! The Monarch's official birthday is always celebrated in June when there is less chance of rain. The Queen was born on April 21, 1926 in London.

Q:

A: The Queen was married to Philip Mountbatten, the son of Prince Andrew of Greece, on November 20, 1947. He is known as Prince Philip, not King Philip, because the husband of a female monarch does not have any special status. The wife of a male monarch, however, does take the title of Queen.

Q:

A:



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Q: _____

A: The oldest son of the reigning monarch will become the next king. If there are no sons, the oldest daughter becomes queen. The following list is the current order of succession to the throne: 1. Prince Charles 2. Prince William 3. Prince Henry 4. Prince Andrew 5. Princess Beatrice 6. Princess Eugenie 7. Prince Edward 8. Princess Anne 9. Peter Phillips 10. Zara Phillips.

Q: _____

A: The Queen's coronation was on June 2, 1953 in Westminster Abbey in London. She is currently the world's second longest reigning monarch.

Q: _____

A: The Queen is the highest power of Parliament, the government and the law. In reality, she simply acts on the advice of her ministers. She has a meeting with the Prime Minister every week. The Queen is also the head of the Church of England and the Commander in Chief of the armed forces. She has many ceremonial functions and she is patron of over 700 organisations. She has about 300 official engagements each year.

Q: _____

A: The Commonwealth consists of a number of states that once belonged to the British Empire. The Commonwealth includes Australia, Canada and New Zealand and a number of smaller states such as Jamaica, the Bahamas and Fiji. Queen Elizabeth is Head of the Commonwealth and is also Head of State of seventeen of the countries within the Commonwealth.

Q: _____

A: The Crown Jewels have been used by English kings and queens for many centuries. They include regalia (items used at a coronation), crowns, robes and medals. The original collection has been kept in the Tower of London since 1303.

Q: _____

A: The British National Anthem is *God Save The King*, which was first played in 1745 at the Theatre Royal in London. It was to show support for the King, who had just lost an important battle. The first verse of the National Anthem is:

*God save our gracious Queen,
 Long live our noble Queen,
 God save the Queen.
 Send her victorious,
 Happy and glorious,
 Long to reign over us,
 God save the Queen.*

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Q: _____

A: The Union Jack is the national flag of the United Kingdom. It is so called because it includes the flags of all the countries of the United Kingdom: England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

The Royal Standard is flown above the Royal Palaces when the Queen is in residence and on the Queen's cars, aircraft and boats.

Q: _____

A: Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. She also has private residences at Sandringham in Norfolk and Balmoral Castle in Scotland.

3. Who is the head of state of your country? How long has he/she been in power? How does he/she become head of state? What is his/her role as head of state? How much power does he/she have? What do you know about him/her and his/her family?

4. Find twelve more words or expressions connected with Queen Elizabeth II and the British Monarchy. All the words/expressions are in the reading text. The words go ↓, → and ↘.

C	Q	W	E	V	R	A	G	T	Y	L	I	P	K
O	C	G	W	B	U	C	K	I	N	G	H	A	M
M	E	R	Y	G	M	N	K	E	S	W	A	L	B
M	F	U	O	Z	B	C	I	X	Z	D	A	A	R
O	H	L	C	W	F	A	V	O	C	X	Y	C	N
N	A	T	I	O	N	A	L	A	N	T	H	E	M
W	Q	T	T	C	R	J	A	M	Y	J	R	A	N
E	D	W	H	D	Y	O	E	J	O	D	A	U	P
A	C	I	R	E	I	G	N	W	H	R	Y	C	H
L	B	L	O	P	H	Q	K	A	E	N	A	M	K
T	E	L	N	F	G	H	U	D	T	L	I	L	R
H	U	I	E	A	U	J	S	W	R	I	S	M	S
A	L	A	T	V	K	W	I	N	D	S	O	R	O
G	O	M	B	P	A	R	L	I	A	M	E	N	T

Teacher's Notes

Task

- To find out about Queen Elizabeth II and the British Monarchy by reading a text.
- To discuss the head of state of the student's own country.
- To complete a wordsearch, finding vocabulary from the text.

Preparation

Make one copy of worksheets A, B and C for each student.

Procedure

- Tell the students that April 21 is Queen Elizabeth's birthday. Elicit a few facts about The Queen.
- Give each student a copy of worksheets A, B and C and ask them, in pairs or small groups, to discuss the questions in 1. The students report their suggestions to the class.
- Ask the students to read the text to find the answers to the questions and match the questions to the appropriate sections of text as they do so. This can be done as a collective effort with the students working in pairs or small groups.
- Check the answers with the whole class and ask further questions to check comprehension and to encourage more detailed reading. For example,

How much power does The Queen actually have? What's the connection between The Queen and the Church of England? Where are the Crown Jewels? When is the Royal Standard flown?

(Alternatively, have the students ask each other questions: divide them into teams and allocate each team a section of text to prepare questions on.)

- Ask the students to discuss the questions in 3. Students then report to the class anything interesting from their discussions.
- Ask the students to do the wordsearch. All the words can be found in the text. This can be done individually, in pairs or groups, or can be set for homework.

Follow up

The students could prepare a poster or a presentation about their country's head of state.

Websites

For more information about The Queen and the British Monarchy, visit the following sites:

www.royalty.nu/worldlinks.html

www.royal.gov.uk/

Answers

Worksheet A Ex 2 (order of questions):
k, l, b, c, j, a, e, i, f, g, h, d

Worksheet C Wordsearch (words used):
Commonwealth, Balmoral, National Anthem, reign, Windsor, parliament, Union Jack, coronation, William, throne, Buckingham, palace.

