

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

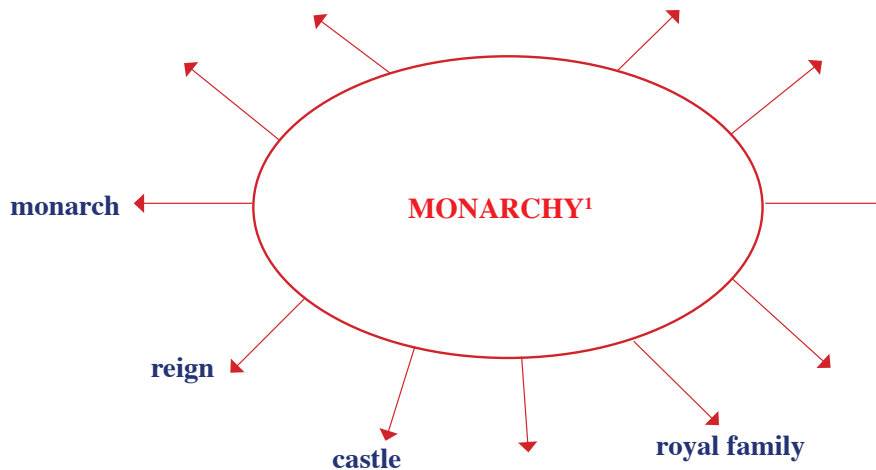
1926-2022



## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Which words can you think of when you see the word **monarchy**?

Look at the words below, find the meanings of those you don't know and add some of your own.



### 2. Read the following short biography about Queen Elizabeth II and answer the questions that follow:



Queen Elizabeth was born on April 21, 1926, and was the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York. She was educated at home with her younger sister Princess Margaret. During World War II, she served as a **junior** officer in the Auxiliary Territorial Service<sup>2</sup>, where she reached the **rank** of Junior Commander.

In 1947, she married a young **naval** officer, Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, a **distant** cousin she had met when she was just 13 and the son of Prince Andrew of Greece and a

1. monarchy / מלוכה 2. Auxiliary Territorial Service / כוחות עזר

great-great-grandson of Queen Victoria. Their first child, Prince Charles, was born in 1948, and his sister, Princess Anne, came along two years later. In the 1960s she gave birth to two more sons, Andrew and Edward.

When her father, King George VI, couldn't visit Australia and New Zealand as part of duties in 1952 because of his poor health, the Princess, **accompanied** by Prince Philip, **undertook** the journey in his place. On February 6, while in Kenya on the first stage of her trip, she received the news of her father's death and her own **succession** to the throne.

The **coronation** took place at Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953, and was **broadcast** on radio around the world. At the young Queen's request, it was also broadcast on TV, bringing the **splendor** of the event to hundreds of thousands of people in a way that was never before possible.

Throughout her reign, the Queen **maintained** close contact with the prime minister, with whom she had weekly meetings when in London, and acted as **host** to visiting heads of state. As part of her royal duties, she visited 117 countries, and both at home and abroad, she always impressed those she met, with her sense of humor, friendly demeanor and the ability to make small talk.

The Queen knew ups and downs during her lifetime, 1992 being one of the most difficult ones. The marriage break-ups of three of her four children, and a major fire at Windsor Castle which destroyed more than 100 rooms, led her to describe 1992 as a 'horrible year'. Recent years may have been **turbulent** for the royal family, but there is no doubt that its popularity has helped uphold the traditional image of the monarchy while **contributing** significantly to the creation of a modern role for it.



Two days before she died at the age of 96, after a long 70-year reign, the Queen **appointed** the new Prime Minister Liz Truss at Balmoral Palace in Scotland, as she was not able to return to London due to ill health. She died on Sept.8, 2022.

## GLOSSARY

junior / זוטר	broadcast / לשדר
rank / דרגה	request / בקשה
naval / של הצי	splendor / הוד, פאר
distant / רחוק	maintain / לשמור על, לשמר
accompany / ללוות	host (n) / מארח (ת)
undertake / לקחה על עצמיה	turbulent / סוער
succession (to the throne) / יורש העצר	appoint / למנות
coronation / הכתרה	contribute / לתרום

1. How did Queen Elizabeth become queen?
2. Name ONE characteristic that made Queen Elizabeth so admired?
3. Name TWO things you didn't know about Queen Elizabeth and learned from the biography above.

### 3. DID YOU KNOW?

#### A. Look at the following facts regarding the Queen's roles and duties:

1. She was not only the Head of England, but also the Head of the Commonwealth<sup>1</sup> (former colonies under the British Empire) including Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. She was also Head of the Church of England, Head of the Armed Forces and Patron of Charities<sup>2</sup>. The Queen was royal patron or president of more than 600 charities, and military associations.
2. Her calendar included events such as visiting charities, hosting visiting Heads of State and meeting foreign ambassadors.
3. As Head of Nation, she attended special events and gave national messages to her people.
4. Although she could not pass laws, her input into government matters was valuable. When a law is passed it must be formally approved by the monarch in order to become law. This is why she received daily updates from the government and documents which required her formal signature.
5. There were 15 UK Prime Ministers during Queen Elizabeth's reign, including Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, Boris Johnson and the current Prime Minister Liz Truss, whom Her Majesty welcomed to form a new government just two days before her death.

#### B. Surf the Internet and find THREE more interesting facts about the Queen and the Royal Family that didn't appear in the biography and facts above.

1. \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 4. A. Look at the following quotes taken from Queen Elizabeth's speeches or interviews. Choose one you identify with and explain why.

1. "It's worth remembering that it is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change."
2. "It has always been easy to hate and destroy. To build and to cherish is much more difficult."

1. the Commonwealth / חבר העמים הבריטי

2. patron / נותנת חסות, פטרונות

3. “Our modern world places such heavy demands on our time and attention that the need to remember our responsibilities to others is greater than ever.”
4. “We may hold different points of view, but it is in times of stress and difficulty that we most need to remember that we have much more in common than there is dividing us.”

**B.** Surf the Internet and find at least ONE quote that was said about Queen Elizabeth II by a world leader. How is this quote connected to what you have read about the Queen?

1. \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_.

## **5. SPEAK YOUR MIND**

Watch the following clip and answer the questions that follow:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UfiCa244XE>

- a. Describe the events in the clip.
- b. How did you expect the queen to react to Paddington?
- c. What did you find surprising in the clip? Name at least THREE things.
- d. Did watching the clip change your opinion about the Queen?
- e. If you were given the chance to become king or queen, would you like to be one? Explain why or why not.

## **6. TIME TO WRITE**

Read the following topic and write an essay of 80-120 words.

**Use new words you learned from this unit.**

Some people believe that in the 21st century there is no need for monarchies that cost taxpayers their hard-earned money, while others claim that long-time traditions give a country its strength.

Who do you agree with? Explain.