

Kate and Wills to get servants

Prince William and his new wife Kate are to get servants. Originally the Royal couple said they could manage without them. In fact, they made a point of pledging to spend their early years of marriage servant free. It means they won't be cleaning the toilets or scrubbing the casserole dishes in the near future, so their 'down to earth' image has now gone out of the window. A source inside Buckingham Palace said, "William and Kate might have wanted to have a simple life and do everything themselves but it's just not possible."

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are now advertising for servants for their new pad at Kensington Palace. Notices for the jobs have been posted at Buckingham Palace advertising jobs as their housekeeper, butler, valet, and dresser. The servants will help them manage official engagements when they are in London. The newly wed couple are currently living in Anglesey in North Wales, where Prince William is based working as an RAF search and rescue pilot. Their Anglesey pad is rumoured to be servant free.

The Buckingham Palace source said, "The whole place is buzzing with excitement. Lots of people will want these prestigious jobs. The royals always like to promote existing staff rather than bring in people from outside." The source added, "This is a golden opportunity for someone to be in at the beginning of William and Kate's working and domestic lives. They will need to get on with the Duchess on a personal level and help her along the way, while not becoming too familiar. It is quite a balancing act."

The report said that Kate is keen to appoint a "dresser" – to help her manage all her dresses as well as her top position of style icon. The dresser will also assist on overseas visits. The butler will be useful for helping the Royal couple entertain. William, 28, is likely to need a valet to help with keeping him on schedule while attending to his personal needs and clothing.

Applicants for the job will have to be friendly, good at their jobs and dress-orientated. Kate, 29, will personally interview the applicants. She is hoping to find the right candidates before the couple fly off to Canada at the end of June on their first official overseas engagement.

Category: British Royal family / William and Kate / Servants
Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate

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EXERCISES

1. **The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge:** Briefly, what three things do you know about the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge? Go round the room swapping details.

2. **Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

3. **Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

4. **Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

5. **The article:** Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?

6. **Kate and Wills:** Think of five things you know about Wills since he got married. Then add five things you know about Kate since she became his wife. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these.

Five things about Wills	Five things about Kate
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

7. **Let's think!** In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge**. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

8. **Let's roleplay 1: The interview:** *In pairs/groups*. You are in Kensington Palace in London. One of you is the Duchess of Cambridge; the other student(s) is/are the applicant(s). You are here for one of the following positions at Kensington Palace; valet, butler, housekeeper or dresser. The Duchess is interviewing the candidates for the job. Good luck! Allow 2-5 minutes maximum per candidate. *5-10 minutes*.

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9. Let's roleplay 2: Radio London: In pairs/groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people who currently are employed as servants elsewhere. You are in the *Radio London* studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Kate and Wills getting servants*. The interviewer is keen to find out what you do in your current job. Would you like to work for the young Royals?

1	A housekeeper	3	A valet
2	A butler	4	A dresser

The teacher will choose some pairs to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

10. Let's do 'The Article Quiz': Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A

- 1) What is the official title of William and Kate?
- 2) What jobs have been advertised?
- 3) Where are the jobs for?
- 4) Where is Will's and Kate's other pad?
- 5) What happens at the end of June?

Student B

- 1) Who is interviewing the applicants?
- 2) How old is the Royal couple?
- 3) Sum up what the royal source said.
- 4) What won't the Royal couple be doing?
- 5) What did the Royal couple say originally?

11. Let's think! In pairs, think of five items a valet, butler, housekeeper and dresser do. Write them below. Discuss together.

Five things a valet does	Five things a butler does
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
Five things a housekeeper does	Five things a dresser does
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

12. Let's write an e-mail: Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher entitled: **British Royal couple to get servants**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

13. Sentence starters: Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) The British Royal couple _____
- b) Kate and Wills _____

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Where is Cambridge?
- 3) What advice would you give the Duke of Cambridge, from his point of view, about each the applicants his wife is choosing of butler, valet, housekeeper and dresser?
- 4) Would you like to visit Anglesey? Why? Why not?
- 5) Think of three things you know about Anglesey or Wales.
- 6) Do you think there will be a lot of competition from servants in Buckingham Palace for these jobs? Explain.
- 7) Should Kate and Wills have servants?
- 8) Would you like to have servants? Why? Why not?
- 9) Just how useful will these servants be for the Royal couple?
- 10) 'The Royal couple might want a simple life but it is just not possible.' Explain this sentence.

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) Where is Anglesey?
- 3) Where is Kensington Palace? What do you know about it?
- 4) Would you like to apply for these jobs? Why? Why not?
- 5) What advice would you give the Duchess about each of the applicants for the jobs of butler, valet, housekeeper and dresser?
- 6) Would you like to visit Cambridge? Why? Why not?
- 7) Think of three things you know about Cambridge.
- 8) What do you know about RAF search and rescue pilots?
- 9) What do you think of Prince William being an air sea search and rescue pilot?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING

Let's discuss! The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge

Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1

Consider the following to discuss:

20 things you know about the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge

The teacher can moderate the session.

GAP FILL: READING:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Kate and Wills to get servants

Prince William and his new wife Kate are to get (1)____. Originally the Royal couple said they could manage without them. In fact, they made a point of pledging to spend their early years of marriage servant free. It means they won't be cleaning the toilets or scrubbing the (2)____ dishes in the near future, so their 'down to earth' image has now gone out of the window. A source inside Buckingham Palace said, "William and Kate might have wanted to have a (3)____ life and do everything themselves but it's just not possible."

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are now advertising for servants for their new (4)____ at Kensington Palace. Notices for the jobs have been posted at Buckingham Palace advertising (5)____ as their housekeeper, (6)____, valet, and (7)____. The servants will help them manage official engagements when they are in London. The newly wed couple are currently living in Anglesey in North Wales, where Prince William is based working as an RAF search and rescue (8)____. Their Anglesey pad is rumoured to be servant free.

The Buckingham Palace source said, "The whole place is buzzing with excitement. Lots of people will want these (1)____ jobs. The royals always like to (2)____ existing staff rather than bring in people from outside." The source added, "This is a golden opportunity for someone to be in at the beginning of William and Kate's working and (3)____ lives. They will need to get on with the Duchess on a personal level and help her along the way, while not becoming too (4)____. It is quite a balancing act."

The report said that Kate is keen to appoint a "dresser" – to help her (5)____ all her dresses as well as her top position of style icon. The dresser will also assist on overseas visits. The butler will be useful for helping the royal (6)____ entertain. William, 28, is likely to need a (7)____ to help with keeping him on (8)____ while attending to his personal needs and clothing.

pilot

dresser

butler

jobs

casserole

pad

simple

servants

familiar

manage

couple

schedule

domestic

prestigious

promote

valet

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Kate and Wills to get servants

Prince William _____ are to get servants. Originally the Royal couple said they could manage without them. In fact, they made a point of pledging to spend their early years of marriage servant free. It means they won't be cleaning the toilets or scrubbing _____ in the near future, so their 'down to earth' image has now gone out of the window. A source inside Buckingham Palace said, "William and Kate might have wanted to have a simple life and do everything themselves but _____."

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are now advertising for servants for their new pad at Kensington Palace. _____ have been posted at Buckingham Palace advertising jobs as their housekeeper, butler, valet, and dresser. The servants will help them manage official engagements when they are in London. The _____ currently living in Anglesey in North Wales, where Prince William is based working as an RAF _____. Their Anglesey pad is rumoured to be servant free.

The Buckingham Palace source said, "The whole place is buzzing with excitement. Lots of people will want these _____. The royals always like to promote existing staff rather than bring in people from outside." The source added, "This is a _____ for someone to be in at the beginning of William and Kate's working and domestic lives. They will need to get on with the Duchess on a personal level and help her along the way, while not becoming too familiar. It is _____."

The report said that Kate is keen to appoint a "dresser" – to help her manage _____ well as her top position of style icon. The dresser will also assist on overseas visits. The butler _____ helping the Royal couple entertain. William, 28, is likely to need a valet to help with keeping him on schedule while attending to his _____ clothing.

GRAMMAR

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Kate and Wills to get servants

Prince William and his new wife Kate are to get servants. Originally the Royal couple said they (1)___ manage without them. In fact, (2)___ made a point of pledging to spend their early years of marriage servant free. It means they won't be cleaning the toilets or scrubbing the casserole dishes in the near future, so their 'down to earth' image has now gone out of the window. A source inside Buckingham Palace said, "William and Kate (3)___ have wanted to have a simple life and do everything themselves but it's (4)___ not possible."

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are now advertising for servants for their new pad at Kensington Palace. Notices for the jobs have been posted at Buckingham Palace advertising jobs as their housekeeper, butler, valet, and dresser. The servants will help (5)___ manage official engagements (6)___ they are in London. The newly wed couple are currently living in Anglesey in North Wales, (7)___ Prince William is based working as an RAF search and rescue pilot. (8)___ Anglesey pad is rumoured to be servant free.

The Buckingham Palace source said, "The whole place is buzzing with excitement. Lots of people will want these prestigious jobs. The royals always like to promote existing staff rather than bring in people from outside." The source added, "This is (1)___ golden opportunity (2)___ someone to be in at the beginning of William (3)___ Kate's working and domestic lives. They will need to get on with the Duchess on a personal level and help her along the way, while not becoming (4)___ familiar. It is quite a balancing act."

The report said that Kate is keen to appoint a "dresser" – to help her manage all her dresses as well as (5)___ top position of style icon. The dresser will also assist on overseas visits. The butler will be useful for helping (6)___ Royal couple entertain. William, 28, is likely to need a valet to help with keeping (7)___ on schedule while attending to (8)___ personal needs and clothing.

them

their

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where

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SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	themselves	11	excitement
2	originally	12	familiar
3	casserole	13	official
4	pledging	14	prestigious
5	valet	15	domestic
6	schedule	16	beginning
7	dress-orientated	17	opportunity
8	candidates	18	housekeeper
9	engagement	19	Anglesey
10	rumoured	20	buzzing

LINKS

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2000005/Jobs-Jeeves-Kate-Wills-advertise-royal-servants-new-London-flat.html>

<http://www.aolnews.com/2010/12/29/butlers-wills-and-kate-wont-go-without-servants-for-long/>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/theroyalfamily/8207022/Well-manage-without-butlers-or-servants-say-Prince-William-and-Kate-Middleton.html>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/08/william-kate-servants_n_873059.html

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/jun/12/catherine-bennett-prince-william-royals-servants>

ANSWERS

GAP FILL: Kate and Wills to get servants: Prince William and his new wife Kate are to get **servants**. Originally the Royal couple said they could manage without them. In fact, they made a point of pledging to spend their early years of marriage servant free. It means they won't be cleaning the toilets or scrubbing the **casserole** dishes in the near future, so their 'down to earth' image has now gone out of the window. A source inside Buckingham Palace said, "William and Kate might have wanted to have a simple life and do everything themselves but it's just not possible." The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are now advertising for servants for their new **pad** at Kensington Palace. Notices for the jobs have been posted at Buckingham Palace advertising **jobs** as their housekeeper, **butler**, valet, and **dresser**. The servants will help them manage official engagements when they are in London. The newly wed couple are currently living in Anglesey in North Wales, where Prince William is based working as an RAF search and rescue **pilot**. Their Anglesey pad is rumoured to be servant free.

The Buckingham Palace source said, "The whole place is buzzing with excitement. Lots of people will want these **prestigious** jobs. The royals always like to **promote** existing staff rather than bring in people from outside." The source added, "This is a golden opportunity for someone to be in at the beginning of William and Kate's working and **domestic** lives. They will need to get on with the Duchess on a personal level and help her along the way, while not becoming too **familiar**. It is quite a balancing act." The report said that Kate is keen to appoint a "dresser" – to help her **manage** all her dresses as well as her top position of style icon. The dresser will also assist on overseas visits. The butler will be useful for helping the Royal couple entertain. William, 28, is likely to need a **valet** to help with keeping him on **schedule** while attending to his personal needs and clothing. (V1)

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