

### Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch

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The Queen, who is 89, spent today on official duties in Scotland. It is a normal working day for her with no special celebration. Originally though it was to have been a 'no-fuss day' spent at Balmoral, but after caving in to demands that she should be seen on such a momentous day, she agreed to undertake an engagement.

The Queen and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh spent the day opening the new Scottish Borders Railway at Tweedbank in Scotland where she made a steam train journey with Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

Princess Elizabeth became The Queen when her father, George VI, passed away in the early hours of 6 February 1952. She was 25. In comparison Princess Victoria was 18 when she became Queen.

Victoria ruled for 63 years, seven months and 2 days. She met 10 prime ministers. So far, Queen Elizabeth II has met 12, including Margaret Thatcher who was the longest running. Queen Victoria was Empress of the British Empire. Today the Queen is Head of the Commonwealth.

Princess Elizabeth was never destined to be Queen. Her life was meant to be lived in relative privacy. It was only when her uncle Edward VIII abdicated in 1936, after a reign of 325 days that the course of history changed. The Queen is only the sixth queen since William the Conqueror over a thousand years ago. She is also the most travelled monarch in history, having visited 116 countries.

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about Queen Elizabeth II. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

### Student A questions

- 1) Name the Queens.
- 2) What was the British Empire?
- 3) Name the Kings.
- 4) How many countries has the Queen visited?
- 5) How old was Princess Elizabeth when she became Queen?

### Student B questions

- 1) Who is the husband of Queen Elizabeth II?
- 2) What does 'no-fuss' mean?
- 3) What is 'The Commonwealth'?
- 4) Who is Nicola Sturgeon?
- 5) What did the Queen do today?

## Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can about '**Queen Elizabeth II**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – Write down three members of the British Royal family. Together think of three things you know about each of them. Who is the most popular royal today? Discuss together!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**The five other Queens.** Name them. When were they on the throne? Can you think of three things you know about each of them? (Google it!) Discuss together.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_

*The teacher* will choose some pairs to hear their findings.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Have you seen the Queen in person?
- 3) Does your country have a monarchy? If not, why not?
- 4) Will the Queen be monarch longer than Louis XIV was of France? (He was monarch for 72 years 110 days)
- 5) When will Prince William become King?
- 6) Would you like to meet the Queen?
- 7) What do you think of the Queen being Head of the Commonwealth?
- 8) Should the Commonwealth be abolished? Explain.
- 9) How do you think the Queen feels about being the longest reigning monarch?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are outside Buckingham Palace in London in the *Discussion FM* 'on the road' radio studio. Today's interview is: *Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch.*

- 1) A royal fan.
- 2) The Duke or Duchess of Cambridge.
- 3) A London taxi driver.
- 4) A tourist in London.

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

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs* - *Student A* is a news reporter in London. *Student B* is a Royal correspondent. *Student A* interviews *Student B*. 3 mins.

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

*Discuss the following...*

Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch. Should she now abdicate?

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Which are your two favourite members of the British Royal Family? Why?
- 3) Can you name three British prime ministers who visited Queen Elizabeth II?
- 4) When will Charles become King?
- 5) Have you ever visited Buckingham Palace?
- 6) What do you know about Sandringham and Balmoral? Where and what are they?
- 7) Could we see a Platinum Jubilee for Queen Elizabeth II?
- 8) Can you name the Queen's grandfather?
- 9) What do you like about the Queen?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015

### **GAP FILL: READING**

#### **Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch**

Today, Queen Elizabeth II became Britain's longest-reigning (1)\_\_\_ when she passed the (2)\_\_\_ set by her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria. The Queen has reigned now for more than 63 years seven months.

The Queen, who is 89, spent today on official duties in Scotland. It is a normal working day for her with no special celebration. (3)\_\_\_ though it was to have been a '(4)\_\_\_ day' spent at Balmoral, but after caving in to demands that she should be seen on such a (5)\_\_\_ day, she agreed to (6)\_\_\_ an (7)\_\_\_ . The Queen and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh spent the day opening the new Scottish Borders Railway at Tweedbank in Scotland where she made a steam train (8)\_\_\_ with Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

***momentous / engagement / no-fuss / journey / record / monarch / originally / undertake***

Princess Elizabeth became The Queen when her father, George VI, passed away in the early hours of 6 February 1952. She was 25. In (1)\_\_\_ Princess Victoria was 18 when she became Queen.

Victoria ruled for 63 years, seven months and 2 days. She met 10 prime ministers. So far, Queen Elizabeth II has met 12, including Margaret Thatcher who was the longest running. Queen Victoria was Empress of the British Empire. Today the Queen is Head of the (2)\_\_\_.

Princess Elizabeth was never destined to be Queen. Her life was meant to be lived in (3)\_\_\_ (4)\_\_\_ . It was only when her (5)\_\_\_ Edward VIII abdicated in 1936, after a (6)\_\_\_ of 325 days that the (7)\_\_\_ of history changed. The Queen is only the sixth queen since William the Conqueror over a thousand years ago. She is also the most travelled monarch in (8)\_\_\_, having visited 116 countries.

***uncle / privacy / relative / comparison / reign / history / Commonwealth / course***

### **GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

#### **Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch**

Today, Queen Elizabeth II became Britain's longest-reigning monarch (1)\_\_\_ she passed the record set by her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria. The Queen has reigned now for (2)\_\_\_ than 63 years seven months.

The Queen, who is 89, spent today on official duties in Scotland. It is a normal working day for her with no special celebration. Originally (3)\_\_\_ it was to have been a 'no-fuss day' spent at Balmoral, but after caving in to demands (4)\_\_\_ she (5)\_\_\_ be seen on (6)\_\_\_ a momentous day, she agreed to undertake an engagement. The Queen and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh spent the day opening the new Scottish Borders Railway at Tweedbank in Scotland (7)\_\_\_ she made a steam train journey (8)\_\_\_ Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

***where / such / more / though / that / with / should / when***

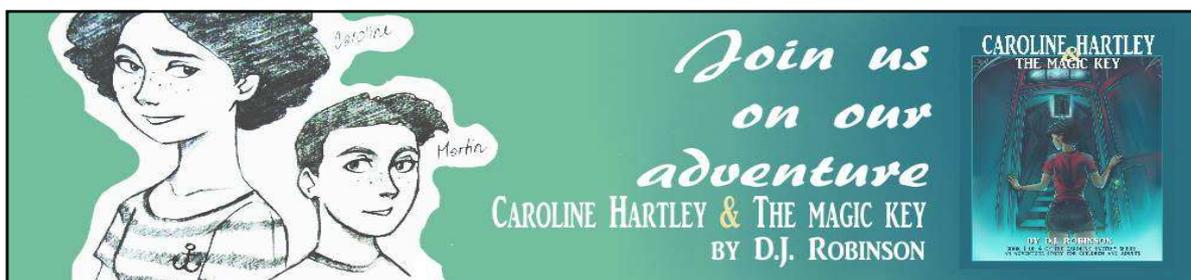
Princess Elizabeth became The Queen when (1)\_\_\_ father, George VI, passed away in the early hours of 6 February 1952. She was 25. (2)\_\_\_ comparison Princess Victoria was 18 when she became Queen.

Victoria ruled for 63 years, seven months and 2 days. She met 10 prime ministers. So far, Queen Elizabeth II has met 12, including Margaret Thatcher (3)\_\_\_ was the longest running. Queen Victoria was Empress (4)\_\_\_ the British Empire. Today the Queen is Head of the Commonwealth.

Princess Elizabeth was never destined to be Queen. Her life was meant to be lived in relative privacy. (5)\_\_\_ was only when her uncle Edward VIII abdicated in 1936, after (6)\_\_\_ reign of 325 days that the course of history changed. The Queen is only the sixth queen since William the Conqueror over a thousand years ago. (7)\_\_\_ is also (8)\_\_\_ most travelled monarch in history, having visited 116 countries.

***she / who / her / the / a / of / it / in***

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**GAP FILL: LISTENING**

**Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch**

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The Queen, who is 89, spent today on official duties in Scotland. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ for her with no special celebration. Originally though it was to have been a 'no-fuss day' spent at Balmoral, but after caving in to demands that \_\_\_\_\_ such a momentous day, she agreed to undertake an engagement.

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**WRITING/SPELLING**

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

**1) On the board** - *In pairs*, list 20 things you know about: **The life of Queen Elizabeth II**. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The Queen \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The British Royal Family \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Queen Victoria \_\_\_\_\_

**3) In class** - Write 50 words about: *Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch*. Your work can be read out in class.

**4) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: *Queen Elizabeth II is now Britain's longest serving monarch*. Your email can be read out in class.

**SPELLING**

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) celebration
- 2) monarch
- 3) reign
- 4) grandmother
- 5) duties
- 6) momentous
- 7) no-fuss
- 8) official
- 9) normal
- 10) though

**SPELLING**

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 11) originally
- 12) engagement
- 13) should
- 14) undertake
- 15) journey
- 16) comparison
- 17) Empress
- 18) privacy
- 19) relative
- 20) course

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