

Prince Philip to retire

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When someone said to the Duke, who is 95, "I'm sorry to hear you're standing down, sir," he replied, in his typically humorous way, "Well, I can't stand up much longer!"

The decision was made by Prince Philip himself. Her Majesty the Queen has given her husband her 'full support' to step down. He will be 96 in June.

The emergency announcement was made at a highly unusual meeting at Buckingham Palace, which was attended by staff and royals, including Princess Anne. Royal staff travelled from across the UK, including Sandringham and Balmoral, to London. Ahead of the announcement, they were on tenterhooks.

Rumours began flying around the world, about the health of the Queen and Prince Philip. Both are fine. An hour after the news was announced, Prince Philip was with the Queen, at an Order of Merit service, at St James Palace, in London.

The Duke of Edinburgh is Patron, President, or a member of over 780 organisations, with which he will continue to be associated, although he will no longer play an active role by attending engagements.

Her Majesty, who is now 91, will continue to carry out a full programme of events, with the support of members of the Royal Family.

The Duke of Edinburgh has supported The Queen for 70 years, since they married at Westminster Abbey, in November 1947. He was born into the Greek and Danish Royal Families.

Prince Philip's retirement means that other members of the Royal family, like Prince Charles, Prince William, and Prince Harry, will need to step up their royal duties.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Who is Prince Philip? Think of three things about him. 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) Where is Buckingham Palace?
- 2) Where is Sandringham and Balmoral?
- 3) How old is Prince Philip?
- 4) When did Prince Philip and the Queen get married?
- 5) How old is the Queen?

Student B questions

- 1) Why is the prince retiring?
- 2) Who will now do Prince Philip's royal duties?
- 3) Who is Prince Harry?
- 4) Who is next in line to be King?
- 5) What does 'tenterhooks' mean?

Note: Yesterday, also, a new £5 coin was issued in the UK, to commemorate a century of the House of Windsor. It was changed from its German name of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, in 1917, because of anti-German feeling during WWI.

Category: UK/ London / Royal Family
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

Prince Philip to retire – 05th May 2017

WRITING / SPEAKING

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Think of three about Prince Philip that was in the article. Write them below and discuss.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

SPEAKING – 1 – GARDEN PARTY

In groups/pairs – You have been invited to a garden party at Buckingham Palace this summer. What will you wear? How will you get there? What preparations must you now make? What will you say, if you meet the Queen? *5 mins.*

SPEAKING – 2 – PRINCE PHILIP

In groups/pairs - Prepare a one minute speech about **Prince Philip**. Stand up and deliver it. *Allow 2-3 mins to prepare some notes.*

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What age do you retire in your country? Is 95 a bit old to retire?
- 3) Should Prince Philip have retired at 65? Explain more.
- 4) Should the Queen retire? Explain.
- 5) Has Prince Philip visited your country? If yes, when? What was the occasion?
- 6) Would you like to swap shoes with Prince Philip?
- 7) Is being a member of the British Royal family hard work?
- 8) Will we see Prince William and Prince Charles taking on more responsibility now?
- 9) Who is your favourite member of the royal family?
- 10) Have you learn anything today?

SPEAKING – 3 - ROLEPLAY

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Prince Philip to retire.*

- 1) Someone who loves the British royal family.
- 2) A tourist visiting London.
- 3) A tour guide in London.
- 4) A BBC royal correspondent.

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

SPEAKING – 4 - ROLEPLAY

Student A is a tourist outside Buckingham Palace. *Student B* is a journalist. Start a conversation about Prince Philip retiring. *2 mins.*

SPEAKING – 5 - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

The British Royal Family – Who are they? Name as many of them, as you can. Why are they so popular? The future of the British Royal Family?

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Do you have a royal family in your country? Why? Why not?
- 3) What benefits does the British Royal Family bring the UK?
- 4) When you visit London, do you like to visit Buckingham Palace?
- 5) Have you been inside Buckingham Palace?
- 6) What advice would you give Prince Philip?
- 7) Do you know any of Prince Philip's famous quips?
- 8) When will Prince William be King?
- 9) When were you last on tenterhooks? Why?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Prince Philip to retire

Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, is to (1)___ from public engagements from the (2)___ of this year. The announcement was made at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

When someone said to the Duke, who is 95, "I'm sorry to hear you're standing down, sir," he replied, in his (3)___ (4)___ way, "Well, I can't stand up much longer!"

The decision was made by Prince Philip himself. Her Majesty the Queen has given her husband her 'full support' to step down. He will be 96 in June.

The (5)___ (6)___ was made at a highly (7)___ meeting at Buckingham Palace, which was attended by staff and royals, including Princess Anne. Royal staff travelled from across the UK, including Sandringham and Balmoral, to London. Ahead of the announcement, they were on (8)___.

tenterhooks / announcement / emergency / humorous / typically / autumn / unusual / retire

(1)___ began flying around the world, about the health of the Queen and Prince Philip. Both are (2)___ . An hour after the news was announced, Prince Philip was with the Queen, at an Order of Merit (3)___ , at St James Palace, in London.

The Duke of Edinburgh is Patron, President, or a member of over 780 organisations, with which he will (4)___ to be associated, although he will no longer play an (5)___ (6)___ by attending (7)___ .

Her Majesty, who is now 91, will continue to carry out a full programme of events, with the (8)___ of members of the Royal Family.

The Duke of Edinburgh has supported The Queen for 70 years, since they married at Westminster Abbey, in November 1947. He was born into the Greek and Danish Royal Families.

service / rumours / engagements / role / fine / support / continue / active

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Prince Philip to retire

Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, is to retire from public engagements from the autumn of this year. The announcement was made at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

When someone said to the Duke, (1)___ is 95, "I'm sorry to hear you're standing down, sir," (2)___ replied, in (3)___ typically humorous way, "Well, (4)___ can't stand up much longer!"

The decision was made by Prince Philip himself. (5)___ Majesty the Queen has given her husband her 'full support' to step down. He will be 96 in June.

The emergency announcement was made at a highly unusual meeting (6)___ Buckingham Palace, which was attended (7)___ staff and royals, including Princess Anne. Royal staff travelled from across the UK, including Sandringham and Balmoral, to London. Ahead (8)___ the announcement, they were on tenterhooks.

of / at / by / his / her / I / who / he

Rumours began flying around the world, about (1)___ health of the Queen (2)___ Prince Philip. Both are fine. An hour after the news was announced, Prince Philip was (3)___ the Queen, at an Order of Merit service, at St James Palace, in London.

The Duke of Edinburgh is Patron, President, or a member of over 780 organisations, with (4)___ he will continue to be associated, (5)___ he will no longer play an active role by attending engagements.

Her Majesty, (6)___ is now 91, will continue to carry out a full programme of events, with the support of members of the Royal Family.

The Duke of Edinburgh has supported The Queen (7)___ 70 years, since they married at Westminster Abbey, in November 1947. He was born (8)___ the Greek and Danish Royal Families.

although / into / with / which / who / for / the / and

Prince Philip to retire – 05th May 2017



GAP FILL: LISTENING

Prince Philip to retire

Prince Philip, _____, is to retire from public engagements from the autumn of this year. The announcement was made at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

When someone said to the Duke, who is 95, "I'm sorry to hear you're standing down, sir," he replied, in his typically humorous way, "Well, _____ longer!"

The decision was made by Prince Philip himself. Her Majesty the Queen _____ her 'full support' to step down. He will be 96 in June.

The _____ was made at a highly unusual meeting at Buckingham Palace, which was attended by staff and royals, including Princess Anne. Royal staff travelled from across the UK, including Sandringham and Balmoral, to London. Ahead _____, they were on tenterhooks.

Rumours began flying around the world, about the health of the _____. Both are fine. An hour after the news was announced, Prince Philip was with the Queen, at an Order of Merit service, at St James Palace, in London.

The Duke of Edinburgh is Patron, President, or a member of over 780 organisations, with which he will continue to be associated, _____ longer play an active role by attending engagements.

Her Majesty, who is now 91, will continue to carry out a full programme of events, with the _____ the Royal Family.

The Duke of Edinburgh has supported The Queen for 70 years, since they married at Westminster Abbey, in November 1947. He was born into _____ Royal Families.

Prince Philip's retirement means that other members of the Royal family, like Prince Charles, Prince William, and Prince Harry, will need to _____ duties.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - *In pairs/As a class*, list 10 different things about Prince Philip. Add another ten different things about Queen Elizabeth II. *Five minutes. Talk briefly about each of them.*

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

1) Prince Philip _____

2) I think _____

3) The Queen _____

3) Write down 50 words about: *Prince Philip to retire.* Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***Prince Philip to retire.***

SPELLING

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

- 1) announcement
- 2) which
- 3) active
- 4) support
- 5) continue
- 6) duties
- 7) although
- 8) organisations
- 9) rumours
- 10) patron

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) engagements
- 12) Edinburgh
- 13) yesterday
- 14) typically
- 15) humorous
- 16) decision
- 17) tenterhooks
- 18) across
- 19) active
- 20) emergency

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