

1. A royal celebration

This subject of this lesson is the Diamond Jubilee of the British monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, the main celebrations for which are taking place in the UK in early June.

Level

Pre-intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level A2–B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Brainstorm on the subject of the British royal family: which members have your students heard of, and what do they know about each one? More specifically, what do they know about Queen Elizabeth II? Do they know what celebration, connected to the Queen, is happening in the UK this year? (At this stage you could, if you want, elicit some of the vocabulary that appears in the main text: *monarchy, monarch, throne, reign*, etc.)
2. Divide the students into pairs and hand out Worksheet A. Give them sufficient time to read through the text, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Tell them that they are going to have to fill in the blanks with appropriate words. You could suggest that they guess what those words might be before starting the exercise.
3. When the time is up, hand out Worksheet B and give the students sufficient time to fill in the blanks using the correct words from the box. Make it clear that (a) there is only one possible word to fill each blank, and (b) there are twelve words in the box but only ten blanks in the text, meaning that two of the words should not be used.
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Ask the students to do Exercise 2, the crossword.
6. Check answers in open class.

Answers:

Exercise 1

1. biggest 2. boats 3. town 4. holiday 5. born
6. longer 7. change 8. next 9. UK 10. better

Words that should not be used: clean, cars

Exercise 2

1. wax 2. reigned 3. king 4. older 5. lives 6. minority 7. monarch

If the sentences have been completed correctly, *Windsor* will read from top to bottom.

2. Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.thediamondjubilee.org/>

The official Diamond Jubilee website, with games, quizzes, and interesting facts about the British monarchy and the celebrations. Challenging for Pre-intermediate level.

<http://www.royal.gov.uk/>

Everything you could wish to know about every member of the British royal family, past and present, is here on their official government website. Challenging for Pre-intermediate level.

<http://www.madametussauds.com/>

The international website of Madam Tussauds waxworks museums. Includes fun facts and images of the wax models at each museum. Accessible to Pre-intermediate level.