
A royal celebration

WORKSHEET A

In Britain this year there have already been lots of events to celebrate the ‘Diamond Jubilee’ – the fact that the country’s monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, has been on the throne for 60 years.

But the (1)_____ celebrations are going to take place in early June. On Sunday 3rd June, for example, there will be a parade of hundreds of (2)_____ along the River Thames in London; while all around the country there will be street parties, when people living in the same neighbourhood or (3)_____ will get together to have food and drink together outside. On Monday 4th June there will be a big concert outside Buckingham Palace, the Queen’s London residence, with lots of famous singers and bands, and Tuesday 5th June will be an extra public (4)_____ to celebrate the Jubilee.

Elizabeth, who is now 86, became queen on 6th February 1952, at the age of 26. The British prime minister, David Cameron, was not even (5)_____ then (he is 45). She has been on the throne for (6)_____ than any other monarch in British history apart from Queen Victoria, who reigned for 64 years (1837–1901).

For almost all the Queen’s life there has been a waxwork model of her at Madame Tussauds in London, and obviously it is necessary to (7)_____ the models as she gets older; the latest model is the twenty-third.

When the Queen dies the (8)_____ monarch could be her oldest son, Prince Charles, who is 63, or it could be his oldest son, Prince William, 29, who got married to Kate Middleton in 2011. (William’s mother was the famous Princess Diana, who died in 1998.)

Not everyone in (9)_____ is a strong supporter of the monarchy, but only a minority of people want to replace the Queen, or whoever comes after her, with an elected president. In a recent opinion poll 69% of the people said Britain would be worse without the monarchy; only 22% said it would be (10)_____.

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WORKSHEET B

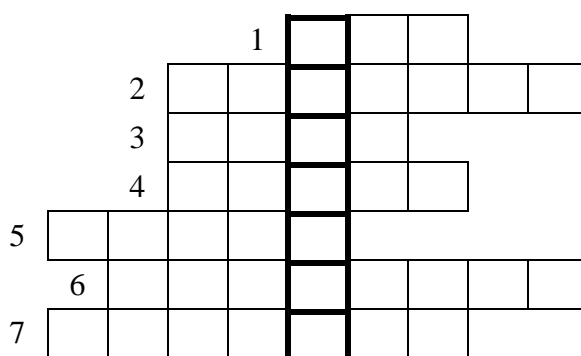
Exercise 1

Try to fill the ten gaps in the text on Worksheet A with the correct words from the box below. There are two words that you will not need to use.

longer	next	better	cars
village	clean	biggest	holiday
born	boats	Britain	change

Exercise 2

Complete the crossword below. If all the words are correct, the family name of Queen Elizabeth II (and, therefore, Prince Charles and Prince William too) will read from top to bottom. It is also the name of a castle, close to London, where the Queen spends many days every year.



1. The model of Queen Elizabeth II at Madame Tussauds is made of _____.
2. Queen Elizabeth has _____ for 60 years.
3. Either Prince Charles or Prince William could become _____ when Queen Elizabeth dies.
4. Queen Elizabeth is 41 years _____ than the British prime minister.
5. Buckingham Palace is where the Queen _____ when she is in London.
6. In a recent opinion poll, only a _____ of British people said the country would be better without the monarchy.
7. Only one other British _____ was on the throne for longer than Queen Elizabeth II has been.