



Her Majesty The Queen

At 2.40am on 21st April 1926, a princess was born at 17 Bruton Road in Mayfair, London. She was the first child of her proud parents, the Duke and Duchess of York. Shortly afterwards, the baby princess was christened Elizabeth Alexandra Mary in the private chapel at Buckingham Palace. At that time, few people thought that the baby Elizabeth would become Queen. Nobody would have guessed that she would in fact become the longest reigning monarch in British history. But that is exactly what she has done!

Marriage

In 1947, Princess Elizabeth married Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten in ceremony at Westminster Abbey. The wedding was simple in comparison to modern royal weddings, as the UK was still recovering from the war. In 1948, the couple had their first child, Prince Charles. Two years later, they had a daughter, Princess Anne.

Becoming Queen

Elizabeth's father, the Duke of York, became King George VI in 1936, but his reign didn't last long. In 1952, after a period of ill health, he died at the young age of 57. Princess Elizabeth received the news of her father's death whilst on royal duties in Kenya. As she was next in line to the throne, the princess had become a Queen. On 2nd June 1953, Elizabeth was officially crowned as Queen at Westminster Abbey. Despite heavy rain, tens of thousands of people turned out to catch a glimpse of the new queen, and they were celebrations across The Commonwealth.



A growing family

With Elizabeth becoming Queen, the members of her family also received new titles. Her husband, Prince Philip, became the Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Charles became the Prince of Wales, whilst Princess Anne was given the title of the Princess Royal. In 1960, their third child arrived – Prince Andrew. Four years later, Prince Edward was born. Today, The Queen also has eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

A day in the life of The Queen

The Queen performs many duties each day. Some are public duties, ceremonies or visits from kings and queens from other countries. She often travels abroad, and must always look her best as the cameras of the world's media are always centred on her. But she also has duties away from the spotlight, such as reading letters from the public and meeting political leaders like the Prime Minister. When she has some time to herself, she takes a keen interest in horses and dogs. Not a lot of people know this, but she also enjoys Scottish country dancing while staying at Balmoral Castle, her holiday home in Scotland.

The longest serving British monarch

On 9th September 2015, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest serving British monarch of all time, spending 63 years and 217 days on the throne. The previous holder of that record was Queen Victoria. On April 21st, 2016, the Queen celebrated her 90th birthday – another milestone in the life of this remarkable lady.



Questions – Her Majesty The Queen

1) Match the following years to the event in The Queen's life. One has been done for you. (6)

| | |
|------|--|
| 1947 | 90 th birthday of The Queen |
| 1926 | Elizabeth crowned as Queen |
| 1948 | Birth of The Queen |
| 1960 | George VI crowned king |
| 1952 | The Queen's wedding |
| 2016 | Prince Charles is born |
| 1953 | Prince Andrew is born |
| 1936 | Death of King George VI |

2) Why is it surprising to find out where The Queen was born? (1)

3) Which two significant events occurred at Westminster Abbey? (2)

4) Why must The Queen have had mixed feelings on her coronation day? (2)

5) From the text, who do the following titles belong to? (4)

Duke of York _____

Duke of Edinburgh _____

Prince of Wales _____

Princess Royal _____

6) What do not a lot of people know about The Queen? (1)

7) Who was previously the longest reigning UK monarch? (1)

Answers – Her Majesty The Queen

1) Match the following years to the event in The Queen's life. One has been done for you. (6)

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|------|--|
| 1947 | 90th birthday of The Queen |
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| 1960 | George VI crowned king |
| 1952 | The Queen's wedding |
| 2016 | Prince Charles is born |
| 1953 | Prince Andrew is born |
| 1936 | Death of King George VI |

2) Why is it surprising to find out where The Queen was born? (1)

Provide marks for answers that refer to her being born in a private house rather than a palace or a hospital.

3) Which two significant events occurred at Westminster Abbey? (2)

The Queen's wedding.

The Queen's coronation.

4) Why must The Queen have had mixed feelings when she was told she was queen? (2)

Provide marks for answers that refer to her finding out that her father had died, which meant she had become queen.

5) From the text, who do the following titles belong to? (4)

Duke of York *King George VI*

Duke of Edinburgh *Prince Philip*

Prince of Wales *Prince Charles*

Princess Royal *Princess Anne*

6) What do not a lot of people know about The Queen? (1)

She enjoys country dancing whilst staying at Balmoral Castle.

7) Who was previously the longest reigning UK monarch? (1)

Queen Victoria

Her Majesty The Queen Part 2



Two birthdays

The Queen is in the very fortunate position of having two birthdays! Her actual birthday is on the 21st April, but she has her official birthday in June. On this day, the spectacular 'Trooping the Colour' parade takes place. During this, the Household Division of Foot Guards and Cavalry march on Horse Guards Parade in London in front of members of the Royal Family, invited guests and members of the public. This tradition has taken place since 1748, and a date in June was chosen as the weather was more likely to be warm and sunny. That's why The Queen has two birthdays!

The Queen spends her actual birthday privately, but there are gun salutes in central London at Midday to mark the occasion.

The Queen's wardrobe

The Queen has worn more than 10,000 outfits on her royal engagements, so her wardrobe must be huge! Each dress and hat is tailored by a team of twelve highly skilled seamstresses, dressmakers and milliners, headed up by her senior dresser, Angela Kelly. She is well known for favouring bright colours. At Prince William's wedding, she wore yellow, whilst at her Diamond Jubilee, she wore blue.

The Christmas Message

In 1932, King George V delivered a Christmas message to citizens of the British Empire over the radio. Since then, this has become an annual tradition enjoyed by millions of people throughout the world on the afternoon of Christmas Day.

Since 1957, the message has been televised, and the Queen shares her memories of the year.

Greeting The Queen

If you are one of the thousands of people lucky enough to meet Her Majesty, it is advised to observe the traditional forms of greeting. For men, this is a neck bow (from the head only), whilst women do a small curtsy. On being presented to The Queen, a person should address her as Your Majesty at first, and after this, 'Ma'am.'

Parachuting into the Olympic Stadium!

The Queen displayed her sense of humour during the opening ceremony of the London Olympics in 2012 by appearing alongside fictional secret agent James Bond. Appearing on video link from Buckingham Palace, Bond invited The Queen to join him in a helicopter ride to the stadium. Above the stadium, a parachutist jumped from the helicopter, dressed as The Queen. The parachuted disappeared behind the stadium, and a moment later, The Queen emerged in the Royal Box. It was a splendid moment!



Questions – Her Majesty The Queen Part 2

1) Summarise in your own words what happened in each of the following years: (4)

1748 _____

2012 _____

1957 _____

1932 _____

2) Why is the Queen's official birthday in June? (2)

3) Who heads up The Queen's team of tailors? (1) _____

4) What are the differences between how a man and a woman should address The Queen? (2)

5) How has The Queen publicly shown that she has a sense of humour? (3)

6) Which sub-heading from the text goes with each of the following pictures? (3)







7) What does The Queen do to celebrate each of her birthdays? (4)

21st April _____

Official birthday in June _____

Answers – Her Majesty The Queen Part 2

1) Summarise in your own words what happened in each of the following years: (4)

1748 *Trooping the Colour first took place to mark The Queen's birthday.*

2012 *Someone dressed as The Queen parachutes into the Olympic Stadium.*

1957 *The Queen's Christmas message is televised for the first time.*

1932 *King George V delivers the first Christmas message.*

2) Why is the Queen's official birthday in June? (2)

Provide marks for answers that refer to the more favourable weather in June, allowing for the 'Trooping the Colour' parade to take place.

3) Who heads up The Queen's team of tailors? (1) *Angela Kelly*

4) What are the differences between how a man and a woman should address The Queen? (2)

A man should perform a neck bow (from the head only), whilst women do a small curtsy.

5) How has The Queen publicly shown that she has a sense of humour? (3)

Provide marks for fuller answers that refer to a stuntman pretending to be The Queen parachuting into the Olympic Stadium. To get all three marks, they need to state three things.

6) Which sub-heading from the text goes with each of the following pictures? (3)



*The
Christmas
Message*



*Parachuting
into the
Olympic
Stadium*



*Two
birthdays*

7) What does The Queen do to celebrate each of her birthdays? (4)

21st April

The Queen spends this privately but there are gun salutes across Central London.

Official birthday in June

The Queen watches the 'Trooping the Colour' parade with members of the Royal Family, invited guests and members of the public.

The Royal Family Tree

Key

- b. = born
- m. = married
- d. = divorced



Queen Elizabeth II

b. 1926
m. Philip 1947



Prince Charles

b. 1948
m. Diana 1981
div. 1996
m. Camilla 2005



Princess Anne

b. 1950
m. Mark 1973
div. 1992
m. Timothy 1992



Prince Andrew

b. 1960
m. Sarah 1986
div. 1996



Prince Edward

b. 1964
m. Sophie 1999

Peter Phillips b. 1977

Zara Phillips b. 1981

Princess Beatrice b. 1988

Princess Eugenie b. 1990

Lady Louise b. 2003

Viscount Severn b. 2007



Prince William

b. 1982
m. Catherine 2011



Prince Harry

b. 1984



Prince George b. 2013

Princess Charlotte b. 2015



The Royal Wedding

Prince William married his university sweetheart Kate Middleton in 2011 at Westminster Abbey. William's brother, Harry, was his best man. Almost two thousand guests were invited to the wedding, whilst 26 million watched on the TV in the UK. Around the world, millions more tuned in, with 72 million people watching a live stream on YouTube. The celebrations carried on throughout the day in the UK, which held a public holiday so people could celebrate the event. 5000 street parties took place across the nation, and a million people lined the route between Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace. This is likely to be the biggest Royal Wedding for a generation, as William and Kate will one day be king and queen.

Questions – The Royal Family Tree

1) When were the following members of the Royal Family born? (4)

Princess Anne _____

Princess Beatrice _____

Prince George _____

Lady Louise _____

2) What are the names of Princess Anne's children? (2)

3) Which of The Queen's children has had the most children? (1)

4) How many grand-children does the Queen have? (1) _____

5) Which of The Queen's children has been married more than once? (2)

6) How many divorces has there been in the Royal Family Tree? (1) _____

7) How many years were there between the birth of Prince Charles and Prince Edward? (1)

8) Which of The Queen's children was the first to get married? (1) _____

9) Who is The Queen's youngest grand-child? (1) _____

10) Provide three reasons how we know that the Royal Wedding was a very popular event. (3)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CHALLENGE In the space below, can you draw your family tree like the one you've looked at?

Answers – The Royal Family Tree

1) When were the following members of the Royal Family born? (4)

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Princess Anne | <i>1950</i> |
| Princess Beatrice | <i>1988</i> |
| Prince George | <i>2013</i> |
| Lady Louise | <i>2003</i> |

2) What are the names of Princess Anne's children? (2)

Zara and Peter

3) Which of The Queen's children has had the most children? (1)

All of her children have had two children each.

4) How many grand-children does the Queen have? (1) *8*

5) Which of The Queen's children has been married more than once? (2)

Prince Charles and Princess Anne

6) How many divorces has there been in the Royal Family Tree? (1) *3*

7) How many years were there between the birth of Prince Charles and Prince Edward? (1) *16*

8) Which of The Queen's children was the first to get married? (1) *Princess Anne*

9) Who is The Queen's youngest grand-child? (1) *Viscount Severn*

10) Provide three reasons how we know that the Royal Wedding was a very popular event. (3)

Marks can be provided for reference to:

- *Number of people watching on TV/YouTube*
- *Number of people lining the route*
- *Number of street parties*
- *Bank holiday*

CHALLENGE In the space below, can you draw your family tree like the one you've looked at?