

Disclaimer

Sensitive and/or upsetting topics may emotionally impact your students due to past experiences. You should consider whether this content is appropriate and ensure adequate support is available for anyone affected.

The Queen 1926-2022



The Queen died yesterday afternoon at Balmoral Castle.

Queen Elizabeth II was Britain and the Commonwealth's longest-serving monarch. She reigned for 70 years.

Her dignity, **integrity** and sense of duty led her to become one of the most highly respected and loved figures across the globe. The UK and the member states of the Commonwealth **mourn** her loss.

She was born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary on 21st April 1926 and while growing up she did not expect to become queen. It was only when her uncle, King Edward VIII, **abdicated** that her father, King George VI, became ruler.

When he passed away in 1952, Elizabeth became the ruling monarch.

The following year, she was crowned Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey at the age of 27.

During her lifetime, she witnessed many events that changed the world. The Second World War, the Moon landings, the end of the British Empire, the birth of the Internet and the coronavirus pandemic to name but a few.

Prime Minister Liz Truss said: "Through thick and thin, Queen Elizabeth II provided us with the stability and the strength that we needed."

Over the course of her long reign, she prided

herself on being a hard-working servant to her people. Even as a young princess, she said in a speech: "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be **devoted** to your service."

World leaders have been paying tribute to The Queen. US President Joe Biden said: "In a world of constant change, she was a steadying presence and a source of comfort and pride".

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said: "I will never forget her warmth and kindness."

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that in their chats she was "thoughtful, wise, curious, helpful, funny and so much more." He added: "She was one of my favourite people in the world, and I will miss her so."

The Queen's eldest child, Charles, will now become king.

Glossary

integrity Honesty and moral strength.

mourn Feel or show sadness for the death of someone.

abdicated Gave up being king or queen.

devoted Give all your time and energy to something.

Questions

1. Tick to show whether the statement is true or false according to the article.

	True	False
Queen Elizabeth II was Britain and the Commonwealth's longest-serving monarch.		
Queen Elizabeth II was born in 1952.		
Queen Elizabeth II's father was King Edward VIII.		
Queen Elizabeth II was crowned in Westminster Abbey.		

2. Which of the following alternate headlines **does not** summarise the article? (**tick one**)

Queen Elizabeth II Remembered

Queen Elizabeth II Passes Away

Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II Dies

The Queen is UK's Longest Reigning Monarch

3. **The Queen took her role seriously.** What evidence can you find in the article which supports that statement?

4. In what year was Queen Elizabeth II crowned?

5. Give the meaning of the word 'servant' as it is used in this sentence: **Over the course of her long reign, she prided herself on being a dedicated servant to her people.**

6. Find and copy two of the important events listed in the article that Queen Elizabeth II lived through.

1. _____

2. _____