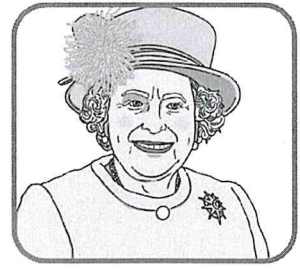


Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II is Queen of the United Kingdom and head of the **Commonwealth**.

Although she is known as Queen Elizabeth II, her real name is Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor. She was born on 21st April 1926.



The Queen is married to Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. They have four children, eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren! The newest arrival is Archie Harrison Mountbatten-Windsor, who was born on 6th May 2019.

Her Majesty has many different **duties**. One of the most important ones is on Remembrance Sunday. On this day, she lays a **wreath** at the **Cenotaph** in London to remember people who have died fighting for their country.



Fun Facts

The Queen is the only person in the UK who is allowed to drive without a driving licence! She doesn't need a passport to travel, either!



Her crown weighs over 1kg. Before the coronation, she had to wear it while working, having tea and reading so she could get used to its weight!

Queen Elizabeth II

How Did She Become Queen?

She was never supposed to become Queen because her father had an older brother who was the first in line to the throne.

However, her uncle (King Edward VIII) gave up the throne because he wanted to marry someone who was divorced. This was frowned upon by the Royal Family so he couldn't stay a king.

After that, her father became King. His title was King George VI.

Sadly, in 1952, while Elizabeth was away in Kenya, King George VI died. As a result, she came home immediately and was greeted as Queen! She was 25 years old.

Her coronation was over a year later, on 2nd June 1953. There was lots to plan and organise!



Glossary

the Cenotaph – A war memorial in London.

the Commonwealth – A group of 53 countries from across the world that were once part of the British Empire.

coronation – The ceremony where a queen or king gets crowned.

duty/duties – A responsibility or task that is part of someone's job.

monarch – A head of state such as a king, queen or emperor.

wreath – A ring of flowers or leaves often used for laying on a grave.

Questions

1. Who is Queen Elizabeth II? Tick **one**.

- ☐ She is Queen of England.
- ☐ She is Queen of the United Kingdom and head of the Cenotaph.
- ☐ She is Queen of the United Kingdom and head of the Commonwealth.

2. What does the Queen do on Remembrance Sunday to remember people who have died fighting for their country?

3. Look at the **How Did She Become Queen?** section. Write numbers from 1 to 4 to put the statements in the correct order. One has been done for you.

Statement	Number
Her coronation happened on 2 nd June 1953.	
Her father died and she became Queen.	
Her father became King.	
The Queen's uncle gave up his throne.	1

4. **Find** and **copy** a word which describes when Elizabeth returned from Kenya.

5. Look at the **Fun Facts** section. Fill in the missing words.

The Queen is the only _____ in the UK who is allowed to
_____ without a _____ licence.

6. Do you think her crown felt heavy or light? Explain why.

I think it felt **heavy / light** (circle one word) because ...
