

V.273

Unterrichtsmagazin

The Queen's jubilee in 2022: the monarchy still going strong? – Pflichten und Probleme der Monarchie erarbeiten und bewerten (Kl. 9–12)

Waltraud Feger, Siegen



Elizabeth II. begeht 2022 ihr 70-jähriges Jubiläum als Regentin und das Volk jubelt ihr zu. Angesichts dessen fragt man sich dennoch, ob die Monarchie weiterhin bestehen wird. Nicht nur die Medien hinterfragen die Notwendigkeit der Monarchie, die Eignung Prinz Charles' als Thronfolger, die von Skandalen erschütterte königliche Familie und ihre Vorbildfunktion. Die vorliegenden Unterrichtsmaterialien greifen diese Fragen auf und präsentieren Ursachen und Probleme, mit denen die Schülerinnen und Schüler sich auseinandersetzen.

KOMPETENZPROFIL

Klassenstufe: 9–12 (G8), 10–13 (G9)

Dauer: 6 Unterrichtsstunden

Themen: British society, monarchy versus democracy, Royal Family, Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee

Kompetenzen: 1. Hör-Seh-Verstehen: einem Video zentrale Informationen entnehmen; 2. Sprechkompetenz: abstrakte Begriffe und Einflussfaktoren diskutieren; 3. Schreibkompetenz: Zusammenfassungen, Analysen und Kommentare schreiben

Material: Video, Fotos, Texte, interaktive *LearningApp*

Auf einen Blick

1. Stunde

Thema: Warming up to the topic: the Royal Family

M 1 **Who are they? – Talking about the British monarchy / Austausch**
über die königliche Familie (PA, UG, EA)

Benötigt: Beamer/Whiteboard, Dokumentenkamera bzw. OHP
 Digitale Fassung, Ausdruck bzw. Folienkopie von M 1

2. Stunde

Thema: Facts about the Royal Family

M 2 **What does the Royal Family actually do? Working with a video /**
Erarbeiten der Verpflichtungen der königlichen Familie, Üben des
Hör-Seh-Verstehens, Diskutieren und Argumentieren (PA, UG, EA)

Homework: Write a comment about one of the statements.

Benötigt: Internetzugang/Möglichkeit zum Abspielen des Videos
 Beamer/Whiteboard, Dokumentenkamera bzw. OHP zur Sicherung
 Digitale Fassung, Ausdruck bzw. Folienkopie von M 2

3./4. Stunde

Thema: Elizabeth II and her longest serving British monarch

M 3 **70 years Elizabeth II – the Queen's platinum jubilee 2022 /** Bearbeiten
von Aufgaben zum Textverstehen und kreative Aktivitäten (EA, PA, GA)

Homework: Choose one member of the Royal Family. Put yourself into his/her shoes
and write over an insulting entry in social media.

5./6. Stunde

Thema: Who will be the successor of Elizabeth II?

M 4 **The British monarchy has a succession problem /** Bearbeiten von
Textverstehensaufgaben, Durchführen einer *Placemat activity*, Verfassen
eines Eintrags für die sozialen Medien, Beurteilen von Pressemitteilungen,
Vorbereiten einer Präsentation (EA, PA, GA)

Homework: Write a critical entry for social media about Prince Harry's and Meghan's
leaving the Royal Family.

Benötigt: Vorbereitete Placements
 Beamer/Whiteboard, Dokumentenkamera bzw. OHP zur Sicherung
 Digitale Fassung, Ausdruck bzw. Folienkopie von M 4



M 2

What does the British Royal Family actually do? – Working with a video



Tasks

Work with the video "What does the British Royal Family actually do?"

<https://raabe.click/royalduties>

Useful vocabulary

workhorse: das Arbeitstier – **weird:** sonderbar – **(to) shoulder:** (to) accept, difficult duty – **take on:** übernehmen – **(to) do stuff:** here: seinen Beitrag leisten – **charity event:** die Wohltätigkeitsveranstaltung – **engagement:** commitment – **eligible:** suitable, fitting, *berechtigt* – **robe:** die Robe, das Gewand – **trappings:** die Staatssymbole – **by any measure:** in jeder Hinsicht – **unchecked:** without any control – **rubber stamp:** der Stempel



1. Before you watch the video, discuss the question "What does the British Royal Family actually do?" with a partner and consider what the video may offer as possible answers.



2. Present your findings concerning the Royal Family's work and responsibilities to the class.



3. Read the statements in the grid below. Then watch the video – perhaps at reduced speed (0.75) – with subtitles. Tick off the correct boxes.

Statements	true	false
a) At the very beginning, Elizabeth was lazy and ignored her responsibilities.		
b) The Queen has various jobs from attending events to being on tour abroad.		
c) Only Prince Philip and Prince Charles took on royal duties.		
d) The Royals are expected to participate in a lot of public events.		
e) Elizabeth II opens Parliament in April every year.		
f) Long ago, the monarch was powerful; it was changed by the Magna Carta.		
g) In today's constitutional monarchy, the king/queen has no political power.		
h) The country is partly run by the Parliament and the monarch.		
i) The Queen has mainly got ceremonial or representative functions.		
j) Nowadays, royal assent is only seldom granted.		

2. Work with your partner. Do a role play. Study the role cards below and decide who is the interviewer and who the interviewee.



The situation:

Because of the Queen's Jubilee and her fragile health, Princess Kate, William's wife, wants to support her mother-in-law with her duties. Because of that, Kate needs some assistance with her three children and wants to employ a young person to give her a hand. That is why her lady-in-waiting or her personal assistant is going to interview a person in order to find out whether she/he is suitable for the job.

Role card 1 – You are the interviewer:

Lady Barbara Montgomery, personal assistant and lady-in-waiting¹ or Mr. Colin Sander, personal assistant of Princess Kate

You are 30 years old. You have worked as a human resources manager/ess² in the industry before joining the Royal Family. You are very fond of the Royals and open-minded³ towards a new member of the royal household.

1 **lady-in-waiting:** die Hofdame – 2 **resources manager/ess:** Personalleiterin/Personalleiter – 3 **open-minded:** unvoreingenommen

Role card 2 – You are the applicant:

Miss/Mr. Chris Edwards

You are 23 years old, and you have 3 younger siblings. You have finished your teacher training¹. You are not totally sure whether teaching at a grammar school is the right thing to do. You want to have some time to think about it. A job with the Foreign Service would be an alternative as you speak French and Italian. This job – restricted² to one year – would give you enough time to take a decision on your future career.

1 **teacher training:** die Lehrerausbildung – 2 **restricted:** begrenzt

3. Hot seat or press conference: Work in groups of 5. One student is chosen for the hot seat while the others work in pairs on questions.



The situation:

Miss/Mr. Collins, spokesperson to the Queen, meets many journalists in a press conference shortly before the platinum jubilee of the Queen.

- Against the background of the article, form questions with your partner.
For instance: What's different this year in comparison with the former jubilees?
 - The student in the hot seat thinks about possible answers to possible questions.
 - After 10 minutes, groups perform in class and the presentations are discussed.
4. The comment was published on social media:

My god, what a nuisance: a four-day weekend for the Queen's jubilee!!! As a businessman and employer, I'm strictly against this kind of thing. Another period of no work while losing money and the time! And this on top of the restrictions, home office and sick certificates – maybe even in June. The economy is going down the drain!

Against the background of the article, write a short diplomatic answer to this comment.

2. Read the text again and then tick off (✓) the correct option. Only one answer is correct.

a) Which of the following topics is **not** mentioned in the article?

- the damaging interview by Oprah Winfrey
- Prince Charles's lack of his mother's knack
- Meghan's quarrel with her father
- Prince Philip's death

b) What was the most alarming point in Oprah's interview?

- Charles's right to become king after the queen's death
- William being the second in line to the throne
- the mentioning of a racist remark
- the low percentage of Charles's popularity in the polls

c) Which of the Queen's personal characteristic is **not** mentioned in the article?

- She is an apolitical guarantor of the British political system
- She presides remarkably over the Royal Family and the union
- She has a reputation for impartiality.
- She is fond of languages and speaks French, German and Spanish fluently.

d) Why has the U.K. been under unprecedented stress lately?

- Because the Prime Minister is a liar
- Because of the Scottish separatism and the aftermath of Brexit
- Because of the bad results concerning the vaccination strategy
- Because of Princess Kate's popularity

3. There is a blog on the Internet, called *Are you ready to abolish the British monarchy?* Discuss this topic with a partner and write an entry for the blog.

4. The British TV station Sky News has a program every evening in which the main topics and the front pages of the papers are being discussed by two journalists. With a partner, study the photo below and discuss each front page and banner and choose one to comment on. Be prepared to present your view in class.



Photo Collage by The Guardian

5. Placemat activity

In groups of 4, prepare a debate by filling in the placemat with the following title: Against the background of the newspaper article: should the monarchy be abolished? Pros and cons.

6. Use your findings in a debate on the topic.

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