

## Current topics in short

# The death of Queen Elizabeth II: The end of an era – Den Tod der englischen Königin erarbeiten & erste Reaktionen bewerten

Waltraud Feger, Siegen



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Nur kurze Zeit nach ihrem 70-jährigen Jubiläum starb Queen Elizabeth II. Das britische Volk trauert um seine Königin, wie das Blumenmeer am Buckingham Palast zeigt. Im Ausland gibt es aber auch negative Kommentare, besonders in einigen Commonwealth-Staaten, die ihre Unabhängigkeit anstreben und Reparationen für die Ausbeutung und den Rassismus während der Kolonisation verlangen. Der Tod der Queen kommt in politisch schwierigen Zeiten: gerade tritt eine neue Premierministerin in den Dienst an, der Brexit bereitet weiterhin Probleme und die Inflation, der Klimawandel sowie die Energiekrise aufgrund des Ukrainekrieges bereiten Sorgen.

### KOMPETENZBEZUG

**Klassenstufe:** 11/12 (G8), 12/13 (G9)

**Dauer:** 2 Unterrichtsstunden

**Kompetenzen:** 1. Hör-Seh-Verstehen: einem Kurzvideo zentrale Informationen entnehmen; 2. Sprechkompetenz: abstrakte Begriffe/Bedeutungen und Einflussfaktoren diskutieren; 3. Schreibkompetenz: Informationen zusammenfassen, schriftliche Kommentare/Analysen/kreative Texte/ein Interview verfassen

**Themenbereiche:** *monarchy, British society, British values*

## M 1

**London Bridge is down – Working with pictures****Tasks**

1. Look at the pictures.
  - a) Describe the pictures.
  - b) Compare the pictures and say what they express.
2. The pictures were taken on the same occasion. Briefly explain what happened that we



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## King Charles III addresses the nation as Britain's new monarch – Working with a speech

M 3



On the 9 September 2022, one day after Queen Elizabeth's death, King Charles III delivers his first speech.

I speak to you today with feelings of profound sorrow. Throughout her life, Her Majesty The Queen – my beloved mother – was an inspiration and example to me and to all my family [...]. Queen Elizabeth's was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept and she is mourned<sup>1</sup> most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today.

5 Alongside the personal grief<sup>2</sup> that all my family are feeling, we also share with so many of you in the United Kingdom, in all the countries where the Queen was head of state, in the Commonwealth and across the world, a deep sense of gratitude<sup>3</sup> for the more than 70 years in which my mother, as Queen, served the people of so many nations.

10 In 1947, on her 21st birthday, she pledged<sup>4</sup> in a broadcast from Cape Town to the Commonwealth to devote<sup>5</sup> her life, whether it be short or long, to the service of her peoples. This was more than a promise [...].

In her life of service we saw that abiding<sup>6</sup> love of tradition, together with that fearless embrace<sup>7</sup> of progress, which make us great as nations. The affection<sup>8</sup>, admiration and respect<sup>9</sup> inspired became the hallmark<sup>9</sup> of her reign. And, as every member of my family can testify, she combined these

15 qualities with warmth, humour and an unerring<sup>10</sup> ability always to see the best in people. [...] When the Queen came to the throne, Britain and the world were still coping<sup>11</sup> with the privations<sup>12</sup> and aftermath<sup>13</sup> of the Second World War, and still living by the conventions of earlier times. In the course of the last 70 years we have seen our social structures and many faiths<sup>14</sup>. [...] Our values have remained, and must remain, constant.

20 The role and the duties of monarchy also remain, as does the sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England – the church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted<sup>15</sup>. [...]

As the Queen herself did with such unswerving devotion, I too now solemnly<sup>16</sup> pledge myself, throughout the remaining time God grants<sup>17</sup> me, to uphold<sup>18</sup> the constitutional principles at the heart

25 of our nation. [...] My life will of course change as I take up my new responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply. But I know this important work will go on in the trusted hands of others.

This is also a time of change for my family. I count on the loving help of my darling wife, Camilla. 30 In recognition<sup>19</sup> of my own loyal public service since our marriage 17 years ago, she becomes my Queen Consort<sup>20</sup>. I know she will bring to the demands of her new role the steadfast devotion to duty on which I have come to rely so much.

As my heir, William now assumes the Scottish titles which have meant so much to me. He succeeds me as Duke of Cornwall and takes on the responsibilities for the Duchy of Cornwall, which I have 35 undertaken for more than three decades. Today, I am proud to create him Prince of Wales, Tywysog Cymru<sup>21</sup>, the country whose title I have been so greatly privileged to bear during so much of my life and duty. With Catherine beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations [...].

I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas.

40 In a little over a week's time we will come together as a nation, as a Commonwealth and indeed a global community, to lay my beloved mother to rest. [...] On behalf of all my family, I can only offer

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