Unit focus: British Royalty Text focus: Information Text (590L)

STAGE 2

Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth is the second Queen of England named Elizabeth. This means she is referred to as Queen Elizabeth the Second. Her formal name is Her Majesty The Queen. She was born in 1926.

V	Which word means people mention the Queen by a certain name?		
_	Referred	Second	Queen
V	What does the word "formal" mean about her name?		
R	When was Elizabeth born?		

How long a King or Queen is in power is called their reign. Queen Elizabeth II has reigned since 1952. She is the longest-reigning monarch in British history. She was only 26 years old when she became Queen.



When did Elizabeth become queen?

Elizabeth wasn't meant to be Queen. King Edward VIII was King when she was born. He decided that he didn't want to be King anymore in 1936. This is called abdicating. He is the only King in British history that has done this. This meant that Elizabeth's father had to be King. It also meant that she was now next in line to the throne. Her father was King George VI.



What is it called when you don't want to be King or Queen anymore?

Why was it surprising when Elizabeth's father had to be King?

The Second World War began in 1939. The Royal Family moved to Windsor Castle for safety. Elizabeth made friends with the children of their staff. They put on pantomimes at Christmas for everybody. Elizabeth became Queen seven years after the war finished.

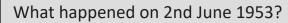


Why do you think Elizabeth and her friends put on pantomimes at Christmas?

The coronation is a ceremony to place the crown on the Queen's head. It also celebrates her future as Queen. Queen Elizabeth's coronation was on the 2nd of June 1953. It took place in Westminster Abbey. She wore the Imperial State Crown which was made for Queen Victoria.



Write a definition of a coronation.





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Answers:

- V: Referred
- V: It is the correct and official name
- R: 1926
- R: 1952
- R: Abdicating
- I: King Edward VIII was supposed to be King. People didn't expect him to quit.
- I: To cheer people up
- V: A ceremony to place a crown on a king or queen.
- R: Queen Elizabeth was crowned