

Learning more about the longest-reigning monarch in British history

1 Read the text and match the titles with the different paragraphs.



- a. Accession
- b. Early life
- c. Father becomes King
- d. Marriage – A royal family
- e. Not only a Queen
- f. Personal life / tastes
- g. Service in World War II

All you want to know about Lilibet!

1

Nobody thought that Elizabeth, nicknamed Lilibet, would someday become queen of Great Britain. Her father, Prince Albert, was the second son of King George V and Queen Mary.

3

With the outbreak of World War II in 1939, Elizabeth, 14, made the first of her famous radio broadcasts, with this particular speech reassuring the children of Britain. In 1945, Elizabeth joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service to help in the war effort. She trained side-by-side with other British women to be an expert driver and mechanic.

5

On February 6th, 1952, King George VI died, and Elizabeth became queen. For the first time, the ceremony was broadcast on television, allowing people from across the globe to witness the event.

2

In 1936, the course of Elizabeth's life changed with the death of her grandfather, George V. Her uncle became King Edward VIII, but he was in love with American divorcée Wallis Simpson and had to choose between the Crown and his heart. In the end, Edward chose Simpson and Elizabeth's father became King George VI.

4

She married Philip Mountbatten on November 20th, 1947. The family took on the name Windsor on Churchill's advice. Their son Charles was born the following year and daughter Ann arrived in 1950. Elizabeth had two more children—sons Andrew and Edward, in 1960 and 1964 respectively.

6

Elizabeth likes quiet pastimes. She enjoys reading mysteries, working on crossword puzzles and even watching wrestling on television. For much of her life, the Queen has surrounded herself with dogs.

7

Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain is the Queen of 16 of the 53 states of the Commonwealth of Nations. She is also the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. She is the longest-reigning monarch in British history. She celebrated 65 years on the throne in February 2017 with her Sapphire Jubilee.

Adapted from "Queen Elizabeth II",
www.biography.com.

2 Read the text and answer the questions.



- a. Was Elizabeth destined to become the Queen of England from birth? Justify.
- b. Why did Queen Elizabeth's father become king?
- c. What did Elizabeth II do during WWII? How old was she?
- d. Could a lot of people follow her coronation ceremony? Justify.
- e. How old was she when she was crowned?
- f. What are her hobbies?
- g. Is she only Queen of England?
- h. How long has she been reigning?

Pronunciation box

Prononciation du suffixe *-ed* au prétérit

• « *-ed* » se prononce /id/ après d et t

Ex.: *invited, printed, shouted, decided, needed, landed*

• « *-ed* » se prononce /d/ après b, g, l, m, n, r, v, w, y, z

Ex.: *rubbed, bagged, pulled, hummed, earned, scored, lived, snowed, played, used*

• « *-ed* » se prononce /t/ quand le verbe se termine par les lettres ou sons f, k, p, s, sh, ch, x

Ex.: *laughed, kicked, typed, kissed, pushed, watched, mixed*