

1 Read the text and fill in the blanks using the following words:



Britain – war – royal – unity – Ministers – treaties – colonies – symbolic – monarch – citizens – neutral

What is the Queen's role?



Elizabeth II is a constitutional: that is, she is 's head of state, but her executive powers are limited by constitutional rules. Her role is mostly she represents Britain on state visits and on ceremonial occasions.
 5 According to the website, her primary role is as a "focus of national". She is queen of 16 former British, including Australia, Canada and New Zealand; and head of the Commonwealth, a multinational body created after the dissolution of the British Empire.

What powers does the Queen have?

10 The Queen has the right to rule: the people of Britain are not, but subjects of the monarch. Most public servants must swear an oath of loyalty, or make an affirmation of their loyalty, to the crown. Although the Queen is politically, she has the right to be consulted and to
 15 "advise and warn" ministers. Otherwise her residual powers - the "royal prerogative" - are mostly exercised through the government of the day. These include the power to enact legislation, to award honours (on the advice of the prime minister), to sign and to declare
 20 The Government is led by the Prime Minister, who chooses the other The Prime Minister and the other most powerful Ministers belong to a group known as the Cabinet, whose members are the most important decision makers in the Government.

"Britain's monarchy". Chris Alden, *The Guardian*.

Lexical box

- Chancellor of the Exchequer **ministre des Finances**
- Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy **ministre de l'Économie**
- Secretary of State for Health **ministre de la Santé**

2 Read the text again. Are the statements true or false? Justify.



a. Queen Elizabeth II has unlimited powers.

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b. She is Queen of several countries.

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c. The queen can give her opinion to the ministers.

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d. She has the power to start a war.

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