

This week's English News is going to be all about Queen Elizabeth II. She died last week at the age of 96. A lot of people have asked me how I feel, and I don't really feel sad because I have never met her. However, I do feel strange because she has always been Queen. To me, she was more than a person. It is difficult to explain. She was more of an institution¹, like a building, or the post office. I don't know if that makes any sense². Hearing she had died was the same as if I had heard that the post office had collapsed³. It would be too strange. Anyway, now I have to get used to⁴ hearing Charles III. I'm sure I will get used to it, but it will take a while.



10 differences

Here are last week's answers. There were 12 differences.



Things that will have to be changed:

Many things in the UK have the queen's face on them. All of these things will have to change. Here are some of them:

1. Money. All money in the UK has the queen's face on it. Both the notes and the coins. They will start having King Charles's face from now on.
2. Stamps. They have the queen's face and the value.
3. The national anthem⁵ is now "God save the King".
4. The text inside passports will change.
5. A lot of the flags that the army, navy, and airforce use will have to change.

Queen Elizabeth II Dies

Last week, Queen Elizabeth II of the UK died. She was queen for 70 years and 214 days, from February 6th 1952. She died peacefully, surrounded by her family. She died a little over a year after her husband died. She was succeeded⁶ by her son, Charles, who has become Charles III. Queen Elizabeth was queen for so long that she is the only queen that many people know. Also, thanks to TV, more people know her in the UK and around the world than probably any other royal. Her funeral⁷ is going to be on September 19th and she will lie in state⁸ until then. All of the flags across the UK will fly at half mast until the day after her funeral. The government has announced that the day of the funeral will be a public holiday. Many heads of state from around the world are expected to attend. Thousands of people have left flowers and messages outside Buckingham Palace and last week her grandsons and their wives walked around, meeting people. Her son, Charles III, appeared on television and said that he will try to rule⁹ in the same way that his mother did. I don't know if how he will do because he seems to be far more emotional than his mother was. Queen Elizabeth always seemed like an unchanging rock. Only time will tell what kind of king Charles III will be.



1.institution 施設 2.make sense 意味がある 3.collapse つぶれる 4.get used to になれる 5.national anthem 国歌 6.succeed 王位を継ぐ 7.funeral お葬式 8.lie in state 公開安置される 9.rule 統治する



World record

Queen Elizabeth II held many world records. Here are some of them. She had the record for the oldest British monarch¹. She was 96 years old. King George III was the second oldest and he died at the age of 82. She is also the oldest monarch in the world. Queen Elizabeth held the record for the longest reigning living monarch at 70 years and 214 days. She is now the second longest reigning monarch of all time. The longest is Louis XIV, who reigned for 72 years 100 days. She had the record for the most currencies² featuring the same person. Her face has appeared on the money of 45

different countries. She was also the wealthiest queen because she was worth about \$500 million. Most of this money is the crown's and not hers personally. She had a lot of art, land, and buildings, but she couldn't sell them. She has visited over 100 countries, which is more than any other monarch.



Everyone is our neighbor, no matter what race, color, or creed.
-Queen Elizabeth II

A place

Let's have a look at Buckingham Palace this week. Buckingham Palace is very famous as the home of the Royal Family in the UK. Millions of tourists stand outside the palace, hoping to see the queen every year. However, the queen is not there all year round because she has other houses she lives in. She stays at Sandringham House from Christmas to February, Balmoral Castle in August and September, the Palace of Holyroodhouse in June and July, and Windsor Castle at weekends. Any other times, unless she is travelling internationally, she is at home at Buckingham Palace. You know when she is there because the flag flying over the palace is changed. When she is not there, the Union Jack is flying. When she is there the Royal Standard³ is flown.

Buckingham Palace was built in 1703 for John Sheffield. He became the first Duke of Buckingham, which is why the palace became known as Buckingham Palace. His illegitimate son⁴, Charles Sheffield, sold it to George III in 1761 and the building became royal property. George III gave it to his wife, Queen Charlotte, and he never lived there. His son, George IV started to rebuild the palace because it was too small for him. He died before it finished and his younger brother William IV carried on renovating⁵ it, but he never lived there either. The first royal to live there was Queen Victoria, from 1837. She loved it until her husband died in 1861, and then she hated it. She spent most of her time in her other houses and rarely stayed in Buckingham Palace. Her grandson, George V, became the first monarch to spend most of his time there and use the building as a center of operations.



- 1.monarch 国王 2.currency 硬貨 3.royal standard 王旗 4.illegitimate son 非嫡出の息子 5.renovate リフォームする