

Speaking Practice

by Aletta Rochau

For the article:

Prince William intends to do royal duties with a ‘smaller r’

World and Press, 1st February issue 2025, page 6, 273 words



Topics: UK • monarchy • tradition and change • royal family • society

Skills: quizzing • comprehension • discussion • presentation

Classroom activities: group work • pair work • classroom conversation

Answers: see pages 2

Language variety: American English

Speaking Practice

1. Monarchy quiz: Get to know the British monarchy in seven quick questions!



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a) **Partner work:** Students can work in pairs and share their result with the class.

OR

b) **Group work (quiz show)**

- Split the class in two groups, and have them compete in a quiz show.
- Project the questions onto the wall, one after the other, or use the online exercise to do so.
- The students “buzz in” (e.g., by clapping their hands) and answer the questions. The team who correctly answers the most questions wins the game.

Monarchy quiz

1. What form of government does the UK have?

☐ republic ☐ absolute monarchy ☐ constitutional monarchy

2. What is the role of the British monarch?

☐ head of state ☐ head of government ☐ leader of the House of Lords

3. What is the correct title of King Charles?

☐ King Charles I ☐ King Charles II ☐ King Charles III

4. Prince William is the heir to the throne, which means that he ...

☐ will become king. ☐ is paid more than other royals. ☐ has to get married and have children.

5. Which of the following is an important part of a royal's duties?

☐ passing laws ☐ paying taxes and donating money ☐ representing the nation and doing charity work

6. What does the expression “pomp and circumstance” refer to?

☐ charity work ☐ a royal being off sick ☐ impressive formal ceremonies

7. What is the title of Catherine “Kate” Middleton (William's wife)?

☐ Princess of England ☐ Princess of Scotland ☐ Princess of Wales

2. A modern monarchy (comprehension and partner discussion)

- a) Read the article. In your own words, write down the key aspects of how Prince William plans to modernize the British monarchy.
- b) Find a partner, and choose two of these key aspects that you think would be most effective in modernizing the British monarchy. Explain your choice, and share your thoughts with the class.

3. If I were a royal ... (group work and presentation practice)

Get together in groups of three or four. Imagine you are royals and have the goal to modernize the monarchy. What would you do and change?

- Choose key aspects that you will focus on to modernize the monarchy.
- Find a slogan that expresses your plan.
- Prepare a presentation of approximately two minutes to pitch your ideas to the class.
- After all groups have presented their pitches, the class chooses the best one.

Answer Key

1. Solutions

Monarchy quiz

1. ☒ constitutional monarchy
2. ☒ head of state
3. ☒ King Charles III
4. ☒ will become king.
5. ☒ representing the nation and doing charity work
6. ☒ impressive formal ceremonies
7. ☒ Princess of Wales

2. Sample answers

a)

- choosing an approach to royal duties that portrays the monarchy in a more modern light (paras. 1, 2)
- making the monarchy more relatable to people, especially young people, by reducing “pomp and circumstance” and choosing personable projects (para. 1)
- being more empathic and serving as an example of an empathetic leader (para. 1–3)
- finding ways to battle homelessness (para. 2)
- supporting environmental causes, also to help create a secure future (para. 2)
- supporting philanthropic causes: promoting projects and collaborating with partners that benefit the greater good and help people (para. 2)
- bringing people together (para. 2)

b) Individual answers

3. Individual answers



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