

UK Queen celebrates 70th wedding anniversary

22nd November, 2017



The United Kingdom's Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her 70th wedding anniversary on Monday with her husband Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The Queen walked down the aisle as a 21-year-old princess on November 20, 1947. She is the first British monarch ever to celebrate a platinum wedding anniversary. She is also the UK's longest-ever

reigning monarch. The couple celebrated their special day with close family and friends at a small private party at one of their royal homes - Windsor Castle, west of London. They marked the occasion with the release of a set of official portraits. Britain's post office has also celebrated the historic landmark with a special set of commemorative postage stamps.

The royal couple first met as teenagers during World War II. Prince Philip was the son of a Greek prince. He gave up his title to become a British citizen to marry the then Princess Elizabeth. Reports say that prior to the wedding, he told his future mother-in-law that he had, "fallen in love completely and unreservedly" with her daughter. He once stated that: "My job first, second and last, is never to let the Queen down." The Queen has always relied on her husband, whom she described as her "rock". Jennie Bond, a former BBC royal correspondent, explained that humor helped their longevity. She said: "A big part of what has kept them going over so many years is the fact they can share a joke together."

Sources: metro.co.uk / gulfnews.com / cbsnews.com

Writing

Marriage is forever. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

70th / wedding anniversary / aisle / monarch / couple / special day / historic / stamps / royal / son / prince / citizen / fallen in love / husband / rock / longevity / joke

True / False

- Queen Elizabeth was 21 when she got married. T / F
- Queen Elizabeth is the second British queen to be married for 70 years. T / F
- The Queen celebrated with a big party at Windsor Castle. T / F
- Buckingham Palace issued a set of commemorative postage stamps. T / F
- Elizabeth and Philip met during World War II. T / F
- Philip told Elizabeth's mother that he completely loved her. T / F
- Prince Philip calls the Queen his "rock". T / F
- A journalist said humor was key in the success of the Queen's marriage. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. celebrated | a. before |
| 2. aisle | b. ruling |
| 3. monarch | c. renounced |
| 4. reigning | d. reporter |
| 5. portraits | e. walkway |
| 6. gave up | f. depended |
| 7. marry | g. pictures |
| 8. prior to | h. commemorated |
| 9. relied | i. wed |
| 10. correspondent | j. ruler |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you know about Queen Elizabeth II?
- What do you think of a couple being married for 70 years?
- Is a royal marriage different from the marriage of 'normal' people?
- Would you like to be married for 70 years?
- How should a couple celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary?
- What do you think of royal weddings?
- What would it be like to live in a castle?
- What landmarks have you had in your life?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Queen walked down | a. on her husband |
| 2. the UK's longest-ever | b. landmark |
| 3. the release of a set | c. met as teenagers |
| 4. celebrated the historic | d. reigning monarch |
| 5. a special set of commemorative | e. his title |
| 6. The royal couple first | f. of official portraits |
| 7. He gave up | g. kept them going |
| 8. fallen in love completely | h. postage stamps |
| 9. The Queen has always relied | i. and unreservedly |
| 10. A big part of what has | j. the aisle |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- How romantic is the marriage of Elizabeth and Philip?
- What would life married to a royal be like?
- Do you think marriage is forever?
- Have you ever let someone down?
- Who is your 'rock'?
- How important is humor in a relationship?
- What questions would you like to ask the UK's Queen Elizabeth II?

Spelling

- The Queen walked down the liase
- the UK's longest-ever reigning rochnam
- They marked the ciaoosnc
- a set of official otritpars
- celebrated the historic mkrndlaa
- sgtpeao stamps
- become a British eizncti
- rprio to the wedding
- completely and eveusrrndely
- eerdli on her husband
- a former BBC royal cerntenosorpd
- humor helped their goetyinlv

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. g
6. c	7. i	8. a	9. f	10. d

Role Play

Role A – Laughter

You think laughter is the best way to a happy marriage. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): having no secrets, having the same hobbies or sharing the housework.

Role B – No Secrets

You think having no secrets is the best way to a happy marriage. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): laughter, having the same hobbies or sharing the housework.

Role C – Same Hobbies

You think having the same hobbies is the best way to a happy marriage. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): having no secrets, laughter or sharing the housework.

Role D – Sharing the Housework

You think sharing the housework is the best way to a happy marriage. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): having no secrets, having the same hobbies or laughter.

Speaking – Marriage

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things for a happy marriage at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| • no secrets | • separate social life |
| • same interests | • same bank account |
| • shared housework | • always say thank you |
| • having children | • same sense of humor |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.