What do you know about Queen Elizabeth II? Watch this video to find out how she became Britain’s longest-reigning monarch.

Before reading
Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task
Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ...... an ambassador</td>
<td>a. the period of time when a queen or king rules a country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ...... a decade</td>
<td>b. someone who officially represents their country in a foreign country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. ...... a reign</td>
<td>c. the state of being successful and having a lot of money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. ...... prosperity</td>
<td>d. to become queen or king</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. ...... an upheaval</td>
<td>e. a king or queen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. ...... to ascend the throne</td>
<td>f. ten years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. ...... a platinum jubilee</td>
<td>g. a great change, especially involving much difficulty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. ...... a monarch</td>
<td>h. 70 years after an important occasion, or a special event to celebrate this</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tasks

Task 1
Write a number (1–8) to put the events in the order they are mentioned.

1. Britain celebrates 70 years of Queen Elizabeth II’s reign in June 2022.
2. Princess Elizabeth and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, visited Nairobi, Kenya.
3. Queen Elizabeth ascended the throne on 6 February 1952.
4. The Duke of Edinburgh told his wife about the death of her father.
5. The Queen’s husband, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, died in April 2021.
6. There were a lot of changes in Britain in the years that followed.
7. Queen Elizabeth left Kenya immediately for London.
8. King George VI died.

Task 2
Complete the text.

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>throne</th>
<th>ambassador</th>
<th>tour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>queen</td>
<td>strength</td>
<td>honours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Princess Elizabeth had planned to ........................................... different countries for five months.
2. When she arrived in Kenya, Princess Elizabeth was a royal .............................. .
3. When she left Kenya, she was a ................................. .
4. Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the ................................. when she was 25.
5. The Platinum Jubilee ............................................. 70 years of the Queen’s reign.
6. Queen Elizabeth II represents ................................. and continuity.

Discussion
Which other famous queens or kings do you know?
Answers

Preparation task
1. b
2. f
3. a
4. c
5. g
6. d
7. h
8. e

Task 1
8 Britain celebrates 70 years of Queen Elizabeth II’s reign in June 2022.
1 Princess Elizabeth and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, visited Nairobi, Kenya.
5 Queen Elizabeth ascended the throne on 6 February 1952.
3 The Duke of Edinburgh told his wife about the death of her father.
7 The Queen’s husband, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, died in April 2021.
6 There were a lot of changes in Britain in the years that followed.
4 Queen Elizabeth left Kenya immediately for London.
2 King George VI died.

Task 2
1. tour
2. ambassador
3. queen
4. throne
5. honours
6. strength