



"They say it is a private matter." The Wealth of Queen Elizabeth II, Explained - WSJ

Source:
<https://bit.ly/3mgr66H>

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Watch the video twice and answer the questions below.

1. How much money does the queen receive from the UK government?
2. How does the queen use the money from the Sovereign Grant?
3. Can the queen sell property in the crown estate? Why or why not?
4. Where does the queen spend her summers?
5. What is the Duchy of Lancaster and how does the queen make money from it?
6. How much money does she make from her personal investments?
7. Does the queen pay taxes? Why or why not?

VOCABULARY

- estate = an extensive area of land, usually with a large house
- trust = a legal entity that holds and manages assets for an individual
- inherit = to receive money or property after the death of the previous owner
- will = a legal document with instructions as to what should be done after death
- property = a thing, including land, belonging to someone

SPEAKING ACTIVITY

How do you react to the statements below?

Which ones do you agree with? Which ones bother you? Discuss

a. Royal families help to keep a country unified.

b. Queen Elizabeth II deserves the money she makes as queen.

c. Nobody should be exempt from paying taxes.

d. I thought she would be richer!

e. The royal family should not receive money from the government.

f. The queen is useless and the royal family is nothing more than English pop culture.

g. It isn't right that the royal family can hide their wealth.

h. Inheritance tax is a way for the government to steal money from its citizens.

i. I already know what will be in my will.

j. The queen should give away all of her money.

k. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer. That's how the world works.

"They say it is a private matter." The Wealth of Queen Elizabeth II, Explained - WSJ

Source:
<https://bit.ly/3mgr66H>

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Watch the video twice and answer the questions below

1. How much money does the queen receive from the UK government?

The queen receives around \$100 million from the UK government through the Sovereign Grant.

2. How does the queen use the money from the Sovereign Grant?

She uses this money to pay for her official duties as queen and maintain estates such as Buckingham Palace.

3. Can the queen sell property in the crown estate? Why or why not?

No, because she does not personally own the properties in the Crown Estate. She only receives a percentage of the revenue.

4. Where does the queen spend her summers?

She spends her summer holidays at Balmoral Castle in Scotland.

5. What is the Duchy of Lancaster and how does the queen make money from it?

The Duchy of Lancaster is 45,000 acres of commercial, agricultural and residential properties in England and Wales privately owned by the queen. She earned about \$27 million last year mainly through rent.

6. How much money does she make from her personal investments?

Nobody knows because this amount is undisclosed.

7. Does the queen pay taxes? Why or why not?

She doesn't have to pay taxes, but she voluntarily pays income tax and capital gains tax since 1992. She made this decision because the public was discontent with her not paying taxes.