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Consignes

- Remplir soigneusement l'en-tête de chaque feuille avant de commencer à composer
- Rédiger avec un stylo non effaçable bleu ou noir
- Ne rien écrire dans les marges (gauche et droite)
- Numéroté chaque page (cadre en bas à droite)
- Placer les feuilles A3 ouvertes, dans le même sens et dans l'ordre

Compréhension

The death of Queen Elizabeth II and her funerals in September 2022 have been an upsetting event for the UK and the entire world, making - yet long-running - debates resurface over the monarchy and its late Queen's legacy.

According to document 1, she was the figure who maintained a strong feeling of unity despite the growing nationalistic fervours undermining the Kingdom. Furthermore, both documents agree that her longevity and permanent efforts of kindness would fuel the illusion of an ideal situation for the Britons. But for document 1, more divisions are to be feared now that the Queen passed. Even though it has prevented the monarchy from falling apart, it may not resist eternally the increasing desire of change from the people. The UK was meant to wake up.

Nevertheless, following document 2, the sorrow drummed up by her passing tends to sugarcoat history, especially concerning the Empire's colonial past. The violence of this period should not be forgotten as the imperial monarchy can't be dissociated to it. Besides, documents 1 and 2 agree on the fact that the monarchy still remains the symbol of a vertical organisation. For document 1, it is the deeply unequal state system. Moreover, document 2 states that the crown's imperialism still has an influence on foreign relations, as exemplified by domination on former dominions that have become members of the Commonwealth.

Moreover, according to both documents, the controversial

legacy of Elizabeth II is putting the British monarchy in jeopardy. Document 1 asserts that the sustainability - even the existence - of the monarchy is all the more threatened since it was accepted so far mainly thanks to a strong worship for the Queen. Therefore, such a system might not be legitimate enough and Charles III will have to live up important expectations in order to make the monarchy last. On the other hand, for document 2, the Elizabethan era has the ending of a whole model. For all her dedication and achievements, the monarchy is meant to be modernized so it is in tune with our time and is able to head towards progress. The survival of the British monarchy is at stake.

368 words

Expression personnelle

There is no doubt the British monarchy has been weakened since the Queen died. It is currently facing an unprecedented crisis of legitimacy, as a result of growing contestations.

The new King Charles III is trying to sustain the model whereas a broad set of concerns about the future has risen. So, is the monarchy threatened in its very existence?

First of all, I think that there is a large range of elements in favour of the monarchy. The worldwide hype about the Royal Family brings a lot of dynamism to the tourism sector in the UK. It is obviously a strong soft power for the Kingdom as well as it enables to bring huge amounts of money years. For instance, the Platinum Jubilee is a major help for the business. It is important to add that the monarchy today makes everyone feel like they belong to a great family, particularly since Queen Elizabeth. Yougov surveys (document 4) indeed demonstrates that social grade does not affect

the approval of the crown. No matter their position on the social ladder, people are gathered by a sense of unity. To my mind, inclusion has to be provided by the monarchy. But more precisely, the coronation of Charles III and the opening of this new era are key points to determine whether the monarchy will survive its hardships or not. He appears to be trustworthy in the face of the challenges. He effectively has been the longest king-in-waiting in the history and can use his long apprenticeship of royalty well. The stability embodied by the King may even be welcome in times of political uncertainty, as several resignations have recently shaken British politics (B. Johnson, L. Truss, N. Sturgeon). Therefore, I believe that the British monarchy actually has a lot of benefits, that's why it is not meant to disappear because of the current turmoil and upheavals.

Yet, it would be misguided to fall prey to such an optimistic conclusion. A lot of Britons think Charles III is not as good as a sovereign as his mother ~~and fear he won't live up to the expectations~~. In my opinion, that's a big crown to fill and Queen Elizabeth left a void behind her. However, not only do people don't want him to be their king (as showed by the massively related #NotMyKing (doc 5)), but the British monarchy is outdated. Indeed, in a society where inequalities are increasing, one should not accept such privilege and tax advantages for the king. Owing to this polarisation of the British society, more and more people are defining themselves as "down-trodden" and anti-establishment advocate groups are spreading throughout the UK - especially where there are higher rates of poverty, such as in Liverpool. The monarchy is also seen like a compelling system for nations in the UK. For instance, the SNP is pushing for the independence of Scotland which national assembly is overruled by the UK. Likewise, former British colonies are asking the crown to repair the wounds of the memory and are planning to leave the Commonwealth in order to cut domination and exist freely. ~~It is undoubtedly a loss of power for the monarchy.~~

As a conclusion, it is not easy to forecast the survival of the British monarchy, for all the challenges it is facing. While

it has a fair amount of advantages, this is a bone of contention. The younger people are, the more likely they are to want to abolish this system. Ultimately, I think that the monarchy can survive only if it evolves at the pace of modernity and takes each claim into account.

590 words

Theme

Bypassing the crowded streets of London on the day of the coronation of the Queen in 1953, sociologists Michael Young and Edward Shils named the event "national fellowship great act". They wrote that it was meaningful as a "non-individual but collective experience", which was federating thousands of families in a popular fervour, reminding them of the celebration of the victory over nazi Germany. In a humbly-heated atmosphere, even pickpockets had stopped their job. A sense of brotherhood was ruling, which would have horrified "those who have the nationalistic bias of the well-taught people of our time - especially those who have liberal or radical political stances."

Today, as the inequalities gaps are tirelessly widening in the UK, the monarchy seems to have conserved its popularity. Almost two Britons out of three approve of its existence. Only 22% wish its disappearance, the most hostile being the Scottish. There is an interesting paradox: Through hard times, the Royal Family appears either to be a derivative or a consolation. During the ten last years' royal weddings, there was always someone to claim our nation needed a boost.