Unterrichtsmaterialien in digitaler und in gedruckter Form

Auszug aus:

Speech Analysis - Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee Speech
(May 4th 1977)

Das komplette Material finden Sie hier:

School-Scout.de
Queen Elizabeth II delivered this speech in Westminster Hall during the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of her ascension to the throne, i.e. her Silver Jubilee, on May 4th 1977.¹

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons.

I am deeply grateful for your Loyal Addresses and for the kind and generous words in which the Lord Chancellor and Mr Speaker have expressed them. Thank you also for what you have said about my family and the service [that you] have given over the years. You will understand that for me personally their support has been invaluable. It is appropriate that I should come to Westminster at the start of the Jubilee celebrations in the United Kingdom.

Here, in a meeting of Sovereign and Parliament, the essence of Constitutional Monarchy is reflected. It is a form of government in which those who represent the main elements of the community can come together to reconcile conflicting interests and to strive for the hopes and aims we all share. It has adapted itself to the changes in our own society and in international relationships, yet it has remained true to its essential role. It has provided the fabric of good order in society and has been the guardian of the liberties of individual citizens.

These 25 years have seen much change for Britain. By virtue of tolerance and understanding, the Empire has evolved into a Commonwealth of 36 Independent Nations spanning the five Continents. No longer an Imperial Power, we have been coming to terms with what this means for ourselves and for our relations with the rest of the world. We have forged new links with other countries and in joining the European Economic Communities we have taken what is perhaps one of the most significant decisions during my reign.

At home there are greater opportunities for all sorts and conditions of men and women. Developments in science, technology and in medicine have improved the quality and comfort of life and, of course, there has also been television! We in Government and Parliament have to accept the challenges which this progress imposes on us. And they are considerable. The problems of progress, the complexities of modern administration, the feeling that Metropolitan Government is too remote from the lives of ordinary men and women, these among other things have helped to revive an awareness of historic national identities in these Islands. They provide the background for the continuing and keen discussion of proposals for devolution to Scotland and Wales² within the United Kingdom.

¹ [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/1959535.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/1959535.stm)
² Decentralisation of the governments of Scotland and Wales.
**Solutions**

1. **Summarize the main points of Queen Elizabeth's speech.**

The text at hand is the transcript of a speech delivered by Queen Elizabeth II of England in Westminster Hall in 1977 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of her ascension to the throne. To commemorate the event, Queen Elizabeth gives a short overview of the developments of the last 25 years and expresses her hopes for the future.

She begins by thanking the previous speakers in Parliament for their speeches and for their support. She then points out that a Constitutional Monarchy such as in Great Britain is based on the combined efforts of the Parliament and the Queen in order to “reconcile conflicting interests and to strive for the hopes and aims [they] all share” (l. 9).

Queen Elizabeth then goes on to describe the political and economic changes that have happened in the past 25 years, such as the end of the British Empire and the creation of the Commonwealth of Nations and the fact that Britain joined the European Economic Community which she considers to be “one of the most significant decisions during [her] reign” (l. 17). She then goes on to point out that “developments in science, technology and in medicine have improved the quality and comfort of life” (l. 20), but also addresses the rising “awareness of historic national identity” (l. 24).

Queen Elizabeth points out that this rising national identity may be the reason why Scotland and Wales wish to cede from the United Kingdom and to become sovereign states. She expresses understanding for these wishes but also appeals to the citizens of Scotland and Wales to remember the “benefits which union has conferred” (l. 30). She emphasizes that together, Britain has “so many advantages” (l. 33) and that the future can be faced with “determination and [...] with hope” (ll. 32).

Finally, Queen Elizabeth closes her speech by appealing to her constituents to “draw closer together” (l. 37) in unity. She then thanks her audience again and expresses that she is “encouraged by [the audience’s] good wishes and expressions of loyalty” (l. 40).

2. **Queen Elizabeth states that she hopes that the Silver Jubilee may be “a time in which we can all draw closer together” (l. 37). Analyse how she tries to convince her audience of this message by examining the structure of the speech.**

The main message of Queen Elizabeth’s speech is that she hopes that the Silver Jubilee will be “a time in which [the British people] can all draw closer together” (l. 37). She tries to convince her audience of this message by leading her audience to this conclusion through her clearly structured speech as well as by underlining certain aspects of her message with rhetorical devices.

In the introduction to her speech, she thanks the audience for their “kind and generous words” (l. 1), as well as for the “service [they] have given over the years” (l. 4). She begins her speech this way in order to show her appreciation and to ingratiate herself to the audience. She then goes on to discuss the Constitutional Monarchy of Great Britain and points out its advantages and its adaptability to modern
Unterrichtsmaterialien in digitaler und in gedruckter Form

**Auszug aus:**

_Speech Analysis - Queen Elizabeth IIs Silver Jubilee Speech_
_(May 4th 1977)_

Das komplette Material finden Sie hier:

[School-Scout.de](http://School-Scout.de)