

2 Check the meaning of new words in your dictionary or with your teacher.

the whole world	own (adj)	everybody (pron)
famous (adj)	piper (n)	during (prep)
grow up (v)	outside (prep)	course (food) (n)
like (prep)		

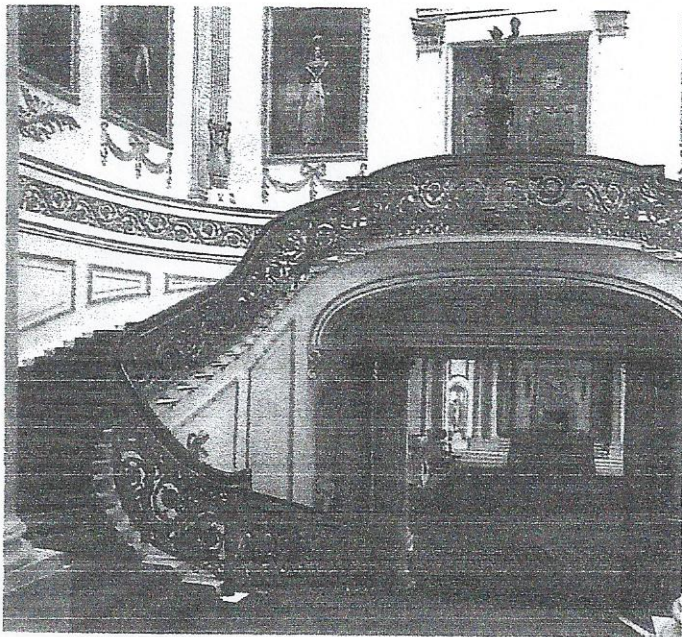
### Reading

Read the text.

## INSIDE

# Buckingham Palace

### THE PALACE



There are two addresses in London that the whole world knows. One is 10 Downing Street, where the Prime Minister lives. The other is Buckingham Palace. This famous palace, first built in 1703, is in the very centre of London.

It is two places, not one. It is a family house, where children play and grow up. It is also the place where presidents, kings, and politicians go to meet the Queen.

Buckingham Palace is like a small town, with a police station, two post offices, a hospital, a bar, two sports clubs, a disco, a cinema, and a swimming pool. There are 600 rooms and three miles of red carpet. Two men work full-time to look after the 300 clocks. About 700 people work in the Palace.

### Comprehension check

1 Are the sentences true (✓) or false (X)? Correct the false sentences.

- The Palace is more than two hundred years old.
- It is famous because it is in the centre of London.
- The same person starts the Queen's bath, prepares her clothes, and feeds the dogs.
- The dogs sleep in the Queen's bedroom.
- The Queen and the Prime Minister go out for a drink on Tuesday nights.

2 Answer the questions.

- 'Buckingham Palace is two places, not one.' How?
- Why is it like a small town?
- Are there a lot of clocks?
- How many dogs does the Queen have?
- What newspaper does she read?
- What sort of music does the piper play?
- Why do people have five glasses on the table?
- Who does the Queen speak to during a meal?
- What happens when the Queen finishes her food?

### THE QUEEN'S DAY

When the Queen gets up in the morning, seven people look after her. One starts her bath, one prepares her clothes, and one feeds the Royal dogs. She has eight or nine dogs, and they sleep in their own bedroom near the Queen's bedroom. Two people bring her breakfast. She has coffee from Harrods, toast, and eggs. Every day for fifteen minutes, a piper plays Scottish music outside her room and the Queen reads *The Times*.

Every Tuesday evening, she meets the Prime Minister. They talk about world news and have a drink, perhaps a gin and tonic or a whisky.



### AN INVITATION TO THE PALACE

When the Queen invites a lot of people for dinner, it takes three days to prepare the table and three days to do the washing-up. Everybody has five glasses: one for red wine, one for white

wine, one for water, one for port, and one for liqueur. During the first and second courses, the Queen speaks to the person on her left and then she speaks to the person on her right for the rest of the meal. When the Queen finishes her food, everybody finishes, and it is time for the next course!

