

## *Handbagged: A comedic peek into the relationship between Queen Elizabeth II & Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher*

This teachers pack includes factual information as well as tasks and topics to be dealt with in the classroom. Cut and paste as you please, and please consult the official programme for additional information.

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### Handbagged

#### A Synopsis

Moira Buffini's mischievous comedy speculates on a very provocative question: What did the world's most powerful women talk about behind closed doors? Of course no one was actually privy to the meeting between the monarch and her prime minister, but in *Handbagged* we have Moira Buffini's perspective, which is fresh and engaging. The play covers the eleven year period of Thatcher's time as prime minister and we see a younger "Liz" and "Mags" battle their delicate balance of power over their tea time talks, with their older selves hovering near them ready to comment on the conversations.

The play shows us a glimpse of the possible frustrations the Queen had, as being a sovereign who was unable to make executive decisions, but could only advise the Prime Minister. The play illustrates how difficult it could have been for the Queen when faced with Thatcher and her unflinching ideas, harsh and uncaring values and her belief that a Queen is just meant to shake hands and smile. *Handbagged* is about human relationships, differing opinions and it also refers to events that have shaped our society, our government and our attitude to politicians.

#### Task: Reading Practice and Synonyms

##### Synonyms

Find one or two synonyms for each of these challenging words from the synopsis.

Vocab Word	Synonym 1	Synonym 2
mischievous		
provocative		
privy		
hovering		
frustrations		
sovereign		
illustrates		
unflinching		
harsh		
attitude		

Answers: Vocab Word	Synonym 1	Synonym 2
mischievous	playful/funny	ill-behaved/bad
provocative	challenging/stimulating	aggressive/offensive
privy	informed/in the know	aware of/ in on
hovering	waiting/lingering	staying close/hanging around
frustrations	disappointments/defeats	irritations/annoyances
sovereign	queen/ruler	monarch/potentate
illustrates	shows/explains	proves/demonstrates
unflinching	steady/persistent	unwavering/fearless
harsh	severe/cruel	abrasive/bitter
attitude	outlook/position	view/opinion

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Part II: Timeline of the Play - 1979 to 1990  
What in the World was happening?

Insert the missing words, and find out!

Federal Republic of Germany	Auto-Immune Deficiency Syndrome	hunger strike
Wall	Minister	Argentinian
Tehran	Kohl	apartheid
Iraq	Israel	Beijing, China
John Major	Britain	The United States
Afghanistan	South Africa	Premier
female	Diana Spencer	Europe
East Germany	nuclear arms	

1979	Soviet invasion of _____
1979	Camp David Agreement brokers peace between Egypt and _____
1979	Margaret Thatcher, first _____ to become British Prime _____
1980	Iranian Hostage Crisis - hostages held in US Embassy in _____
1980	Ronald Reagan becomes President of _____
1981	Irish Republican Army prisoners go on _____ _____ in UK prison
1981	Prince Charles marries Lady _____, over 700 million TV viewers
1981	_____ (AIDS) becomes major health threat throughout world
1982	Britain regain Falklands Islands after _____ occupation
1983	Helmut _____ becomes German Chancellor
1983	Coloreds and Asians allowed vote in _____, for the first time
1984	Miners' Strike in _____ begins
1985	Mikhail Gorbachev becomes Russian _____ - Time of "Glasnost" and "Perestroika"
1986	Chernobyl nuclear power station explodes, contaminating most of _____
1987	Russia and West sign first of several treaties to reduce _____
1988	End of Iran-____ War
1989	Pro-democracy protest in Tiananmen Square, _____, _____, brutally crushed
1989	Overthrow of communist rule in Poland, Hungary, _____ and Bulgaria
1989	Berlin _____ demolished
1990	Margaret Thatcher resigns - _____ takes over as British PM
1990	East and West Germany unite as _____
1990	Nelson Mandela released - end of _____ in South Africa

1979	Soviet invasion of <u>Afghanistan</u>
1979	Camp David Agreement brokers peace between Egypt and <u>Israel</u>
1979	Margaret Thatcher, first <u>female</u> to become British Prime <u>Minister</u>
1980	Iranian Hostage Crisis - hostages held in US Embassy in <u>Tehran</u>
1980	Ronald Reagan becomes President of <u>the United States</u>
1981	Irish Republican Army prisoners go on <u>hunger strike</u> in UK prison
1981	Prince Charles marries Lady <u>Diana Spencer</u> , over 700 million TV viewers
1981	<u>Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome</u> (AIDS) becomes major health threat throughout world
1982	Britain regain Falklands Islands after <u>Argentinian</u> occupation
1983	Helmut <u>Kohl</u> becomes German Chancellor
1983	Coloreds and Asians allowed vote in <u>South Africa</u> , for the first time
1984	Miners' Strike in <u>Britain</u> begins
1985	Mikhail Gorbachev becomes Russian <u>Premier</u> - Time of "Glasnost" and "Perestroika"
1986	Chernobyl nuclear power station explodes, contaminating most of <u>Europe</u>
1987	Russia and West sign first of several treaties to reduce <u>nuclear arms</u>
1988	End of Iran- <u>Iraq</u> War
1989	Pro-democracy protest in Tiananmen Square, <u>Beijing, China</u> , brutally crushed
1989	Overthrow of communist rule in Poland, Hungary, <u>East Germany</u> and Bulgaria
1989	Berlin <u>Wall</u> demolished

1990	Margaret Thatcher resigns – <a href="#">John Major</a> takes over as British PM
1990	East and West Germany unite as <a href="#">Federal Republic of Germany</a>
1990	Nelson Mandela released - end of <a href="#">apartheid</a> in South Africa

[nationalgeographic.com.au/history/the-80s-timeline](http://nationalgeographic.com.au/history/the-80s-timeline)  
[lukemastin.com/history/by\\_date\\_8.html](http://lukemastin.com/history/by_date_8.html)

### Part III: Queen Elizabeth II

Task: Speaking Practice - Which Queen is she?



Have you found her?  
What do you know about  
the other ladies?

Queen Elizabeth I

Queen Victoria

The Queen Mother

Photo credits: BBC, BT.com,  
music.org.za, santanderarte.tk,  
matzav.com, Getty Images

## Vocabulary Exercise:

Which adjectives, verbs, and nouns would you use to describe these women? To start you off, we've given you a few.

Queen Elizabeth II

sparkly                  regal  
speaking  
leader



Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher

first female  
world leader  
invigorating                  serious





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### Part III: The Queen and her Prime Ministers

During her 64-year reign, 13 prime ministers have served Queen Elizabeth II. Many relationships were formed -- from Winston Churchill, to "Iron Lady" Margaret Thatcher -- and some proved more difficult than others.

While most of their political and personal conversations are kept strictly confidential, memoirs and historic interactions provide an insight into their relationships.

Take a look back at those who have served during Queen Elizabeth II's reign..

1. WINSTON CHURCHILL 1951-1955
2. ANTHONY EDEN 1955-1957
3. HAROLD MACMILLAN 1957-1963
4. ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME 1963-1964
5. HAROLD WILSON 1964-1970, 1974-1976
6. EDWARD HEATH 1970-1974
7. JAMES CALLAGHAN 1976-1979
8. MARGARET THATCHER 1979-1990
9. JOHN MAJOR 1990-1997
10. TONY BLAIR 1997-2007
11. GORDON BROWN 2007-2010
12. DAVID CAMERON 2010-2016
13. THERESA MAY 2016-present

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- CNN, updated July 14, 2016



*The Queen chats with Margaret Thatcher at the National Portrait Gallery in London May 4, 2000.*

While Thatcher and the Queen were the closest in age, Thatcher kept their encounters strictly professional, formal and famously stiff. The "Iron Lady," as she became known, reportedly had a tense relationship with the monarch during their traditional weekly meetings. Thatcher also viewed her annual visits to the royal home in Balmoral, Scotland as interrupting her work. But despite this, Thatcher is said to have been incredibly respectful of the Queen and eventually became her longest serving prime minister.

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## Part III: Queen Elizabeth II – Videos

### **The Queen's relationship with the key Prime Ministers - 3:04 minutes**

Report by Louise Hulland, The Royal Family Channel

[https://youtu.be/8\\_2vZE9dinY](https://youtu.be/8_2vZE9dinY)

### **Top 10 Facts About Queen Elizabeth II – 8:28 minutes**

The Queen of the UK has been reigning for over 6 decades making many feel that her time will never come to an end. In all those years the Queen has lived quite an intriguing life, find out some interesting facts you may not have known.

<https://youtu.be/oUkRu9A9wNI>

Published on Dec 25, 2016 – 7:50 minutes

Queen Elizabeth II delivers her annual **Christmas message** from Buckingham Palace. The theme of this year's message is inspiration.

<https://youtu.be/ouieLx4VryU>

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## Part IV: Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher

**“In politics, if you want anything said, ask a man. If you want anything done, ask a woman.”**

—Margaret Thatcher

### **The Iron Lady**

“Her substance is ferrous metal of the highest quality

Of exceptional tensile strength

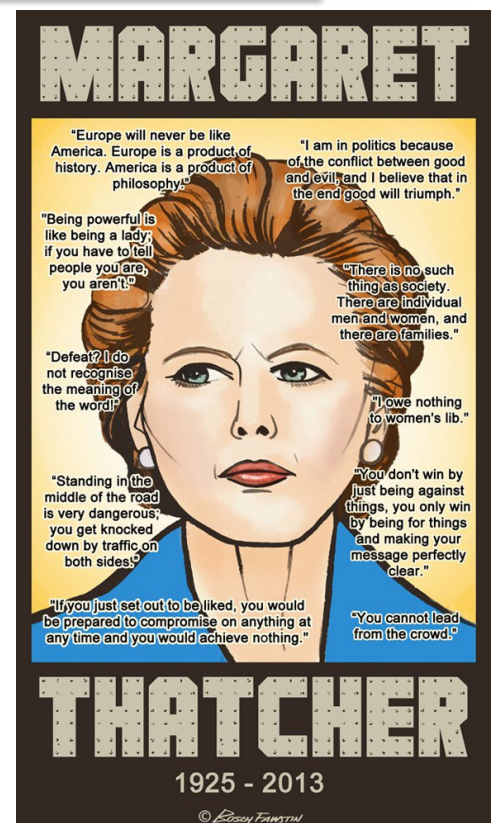
Resistant to wear and tear

Usable for all national purposes”

- Enoch Powell

### **QUICK FACTS**

[biography.com/people/margaret-thatcher-9504796#synopsis](http://biography.com/people/margaret-thatcher-9504796#synopsis)





**NAME**

Margaret Thatcher

**OCCUPATION**

Prime Minister (Conservative Party)

**BIRTH DATE**

October 13, 1925

**EDUCATION**

Oxford University Somerville College (Chemistry), Grantham Girls' High School

**PLACE OF BIRTH**

Lincolnshire, United Kingdom

**AKA**

Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven  
Margaret Thatcher  
Margaret Roberts  
Baroness Thatcher

**NICKNAME**

"Iron Lady"

**MAIDEN NAME**

Margaret Hilda Roberts

Always a controversial figure, she has been described as one of the greatest and most influential politicians in British history, even as arguments over Thatcherism persist.<sup>1</sup>

On moving into 10 Downing Street, Thatcher introduced a series of political and economic initiatives intended to reverse high unemployment and Britain's struggles in the wake of the Winter of Discontent <sup>2</sup> and an ongoing recession.<sup>3</sup> Her political philosophy and economic policies emphasized deregulation (particularly of the financial sector), flexible labor markets, the privatization of state-owned companies, and reducing the power and influence of trade unions. Thatcher's popularity during her first years in office waned amid recession and high unemployment, until victory in the 1982 Falklands War and the recovering economy brought a resurgence of support, resulting in her re-election in 1983.

As Prime Minister, Thatcher met weekly with Queen Elizabeth II to discuss government business, and their relationship came under close scrutiny. Biographer John Campbell says their relations were "punctiliously correct but there was little love lost on either side". The Queen's press secretary leaked anonymous rumors of a rift, which were officially denied by the Palace. Campbell concludes that Thatcher had "an almost mystical reverence for the institution of the monarchy ... Yet at the same time she was trying to modernize the country and sweep away many of the values and practices which the monarchy perpetuated".<sup>4</sup> Thatcher later wrote: "I always found the Queen's attitude towards the work of the Government absolutely correct ... stories of clashes between 'two powerful women' were just too good not to make up."<sup>5</sup>

Thatcher was re-elected for a third term in 1987. During this period her support for a Community Charge (referred to as the "poll tax") was widely unpopular, and her views on the European Community were not shared by others in her Cabinet. She resigned as Prime Minister and party leader in November 1990, after Michael Heseltine launched a challenge to her leadership. After retiring from the Commons in

1992, she was given a life peerage as Baroness Thatcher, which entitled her to sit in the House of Lords. After a series of small strokes in 2002, she was advised to withdraw from public speaking. Despite this, she managed to pre-record a eulogy to her great friend and political comrade, Ronald Reagan prior to his death, which was broadcast at his funeral in 2004. In 2013, she died of another stroke in London, at the age of 87.

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<sup>1</sup> biography.com, Margaret Thatcher

<sup>2</sup> The Winter of Discontent refers to the winter of 1978–79 in the United Kingdom, during which there were widespread strikes by public sector trade unions demanding larger pay rises, following the ongoing pay caps of the Labour Party government led by James Callaghan against Trades Union Congress opposition to control inflation, during the coldest winter for 16 years.

<sup>3</sup> In her foreword to the 1979 Conservative party manifesto, Thatcher wrote of "a feeling of helplessness, that a once great nation has somehow fallen behind". Thatcher, Margaret (1979). "Conservative Party Manifesto 1979". *Foreword*.

<sup>4</sup> Campbell, *Margaret Thatcher: The Iron Lady* 2:464

<sup>5</sup> Thatcher (1993), p. 18.

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## Part IV: Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher – Videos

What is THATCHERISM? What does THATCHERISM mean? THATCHERISM meaning - THATCHERISM pronunciation - THATCHERISM definition - THATCHERISM explanation - How to pronounce THATCHERISM? – 5:03 minutes

<https://youtu.be/2eSgN21wmZE>

Source: Wikipedia.org article, adapted under <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>... license.

### **Transcript:**

Thatcherism describes the conviction politics, economic, social policy and political style of the British Conservative Party politician Margaret Thatcher, who was leader of her party from 1975 to 1990. It has also been used to describe the beliefs of the British government under Thatcher as Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990, and beyond into the governments of John Major, Tony Blair and David Cameron. An exponent <sup>1</sup>or supporter of Thatcherism is regarded as a Thatcherite.

Thatcherism represented a systematic, decisive rejection and reversal of the post-war consensus, whereby the major political parties largely agreed on the central themes of Keynesianism<sup>2</sup>, the welfare state, nationalised industry, and close regulation of the economy. There was one major exception: the National Health Service, which was widely popular. She promised Britons in 1982, the NHS is "safe in our hands."

Both the exact terms of what makes up Thatcherism as well as its specific legacy<sup>3</sup> in terms of British history over the past decades are controversial. In terms of ideology, Thatcherism has been described by Nigel Lawson, Thatcher's Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1983 to 1989, as a political platform emphasising free markets with restrained government spending and tax cuts coupled with British nationalism both at home and abroad. The Daily Telegraph stated in April 2008 that the programme of the next non-conservative British government, Tony Blair's administration with an emphasis on 'New Labour', basically accepted the central reform measures of Thatcherism such as deregulation, privatisation of key national industries, maintaining a flexible labour market, marginalising<sup>4</sup> the trade unions, and centralising power from local authorities to central government.

Thatcherism attempts to promote low inflation, the small state, and free markets through tight control of the money supply, privatisation and constraints <sup>5</sup>on the labour movement. It is often compared with Reaganomics<sup>6</sup> in the United

States, Economic Rationalism in Australia and Rogernomics<sup>7</sup> in New Zealand and as a key part of the worldwide economic liberal movement. Nigel Lawson, Thatcher's Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1983 to 1989, listed the Thatcherite ideals as "free markets, financial discipline, firm control over public expenditure, tax cuts, nationalism, 'Victorian values' (of the Samuel Smiles self-help variety), privatisation and a dash<sup>8</sup> of populism".

Thatcherism is thus often compared to neoliberalism<sup>9</sup>. Milton Friedman said that "the thing that people do not recognise is that Margaret Thatcher is not in terms of belief a Tory. She is a nineteenth-century Liberal." Thatcher herself stated in 1983: "I would not mind betting that if Mr Gladstone were alive today he would apply to join the Conservative Party". In the 1996 Keith Joseph memorial lecture Thatcher argued that "The kind of Conservatism which he and I ... favoured would be best described as 'liberal', in the old-fashioned sense. And I mean the liberalism of Mr Gladstone, not of the latter day collectivists". However, Thatcher once told Friedrich Hayek: "I know you want me to become a Whig; no, I am a Tory". Hayek believed "she has felt this very clearly".

But the relationship between Thatcherism and liberalism is complicated. Thatcher's former Defence Secretary John Nott claimed that "it is a complete misreading of her beliefs to depict her as a nineteenth-century Liberal". As Ellen Meiksins Wood has argued, Thatcherite capitalism was compatible with traditional British political institutions. As Prime Minister, Thatcher did not challenge ancient institutions such as the monarchy or the House of Lords, but some of the most recent additions: such as the trade unions. Indeed, many leading Thatcherites, including Thatcher herself, went on to join the House of Lords: an honour which Gladstone, for instance, had declined.

Thinkers closely associated with Thatcherism include Keith Joseph, Enoch Powell, Friedrich Hayek and Milton Friedman. In an interview with Simon Heffer in 1996 Thatcher stated that the two greatest influences on her as Conservative leader had been Joseph and Powell, who were both "very great men".

### Margaret Thatcher Biography – 3:45 minutes

<https://youtu.be/BxFkgmAUSQ0>

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<http://cloudbiography.com/attribution...>

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## Part V: Miner's Strike of 1984

### MINER'S STRIKE QUICK FACT FILE

12 March, 1984 - Miners strike over threatened pit closures.

9 April, 1984 - Dozens of miners arrested in picket line violence

29 May, 1984 - Major clash between police and miners at Orgreave.

3 March, 1985 - The NUM executive narrowly vote for a return to work.

2002 - Arthur Scargill retires as NUM President

The Miners' Strike was one of the hardest fought industrial disputes in British history. Its battlegrounds were the old mining areas including the Notts and Derbyshire coalfields. Thousands of coal miners came out in protest against proposed pit closures and job losses.

We look back at the key events of the strike, and investigate what happened to the miners when the East Midland pits finally closed.

The Miners' Strike marked the beginning of the end for Britain's coal industry. Once an important part of the economy, coal was no longer a force to be reckoned with.



After the Second World War coal had been “king” in the Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire coalfields.

Whole communities were built on the black stuff, and the area's many pit villages were renowned for their close-knit spirit.

Before the Miners' Strike, the East Midlands boasted around 30 working mines.

Just a few years later most of those mines had closed with the loss of tens of thousands of mining jobs.

Today, only three mines remain - all in Nottinghamshire.

So where did it all go wrong?

The 1984 Miners' Strike was a last attempt by the mining unions to stop mining closures and the loss of jobs.

In March 1984 more than 187,000 miners came out on strike when the National Coal Board announced that 20 pits in England would have to close with the loss of 20,000 jobs.

It was the start of one of the most confrontational strikes ever seen, marred by picket line violence and clashes between police and miners.

Miners in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire eventually came out on strike. But some miners continued to work and were branded as "scabs" by their colleagues when they crossed picket lines.

The Government branded the striking miners as "the enemy within".

When the strike ended 12 months later, it was estimated that the total cost had been £3 billion. Over 11,000 people had been arrested, and around 5,000 miners stood trial for a variety of offences.

Many of the threatened closures took place in 1992. Mining communities throughout the country were scarred, and many never fully recovered.

It was the end of the industry that had once been the backbone of industrial Britain. In 1984 there were 170 collieries in Britain, employing more than 190,000 people. Today there are fewer than 20 collieries (coal mines), employing a workforce of around 5,000.

There is no official record of what happened to the thousands of miners who were forced to leave the industry over the last 20 years.

However a 1994 study by the Coalfield Communities Campaign, based on a survey of 900 ex-miners, painted a depressing picture.

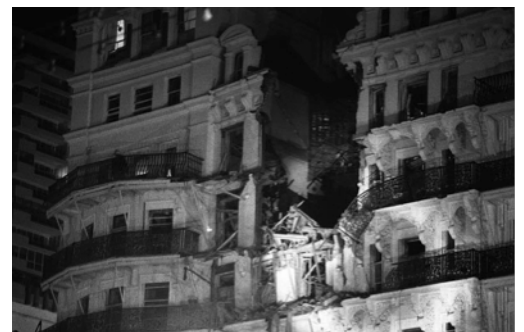
It found that more than 50% of ex-miners were still out of work more than a year after leaving the pit.

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## Part V: Assassination attempt of 1984

Many historians have speculated that the assassination attempt on Margaret Thatcher and the Conservative Party was a direct result of the Miner's strike, increased police violence, and general policies of the Tory government.

The Brighton hotel bombing was a Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) assassination attempt against the top tier of the British government in 1984. It missed its main targets but killed five others.



It occurred on 12 October 1984 at the Grand Hotel in Brighton, England.

A long-delay time bomb was planted in the hotel by IRA member Patrick Magee, with the purpose of killing Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet, who were staying at the hotel for the Conservative Party conference. Although Thatcher narrowly escaped injury, five people were killed including a sitting Conservative MP, and 31 were injured.

Margaret Thatcher began the next session of the conference at 9:30 am the following morning, as scheduled. She dropped from her speech most of her planned attacks on the Labour Party and said the bombing was "*an attempt to cripple Her Majesty's democratically elected Government*":

*That is the scale of the outrage in which we have all shared, and the fact that we are gathered here now—shocked, but composed and determined—is a sign not only that this attack has failed, but that all attempts to destroy democracy by terrorism will fail."*

One of her biographers wrote that Thatcher's "coolness, in the immediate aftermath of the attack and in the hours after it, won universal admiration. Her defiance was another Churchillian moment in her premiership which seemed to encapsulate both her own steely character and the British public's stoical refusal to submit to terrorism".

Immediately afterwards, her popularity soared almost to the level it had been during the Falklands War. The Saturday after the bombing, Thatcher said to her constituents: "We suffered a tragedy not one of us could have thought would happen in our country. And we picked ourselves up and sorted ourselves out as all good British people do, and I thought, let us stand together for we are British! They were trying to destroy the fundamental freedom that is the birth-right of every British citizen, freedom, justice and democracy."

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[bbc.co.uk/insideout/eastmidlands/series5/miners\\_strike\\_coal](http://bbc.co.uk/insideout/eastmidlands/series5/miners_strike_coal)  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brighton\\_hotel\\_bombing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brighton_hotel_bombing)  
[theguardian.com/politics/margareththatcher](http://theguardian.com/politics/margareththatcher)  
Photo credits: Photofusion/Rex, PA, The Guardian

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## Part VI: Thatcher Word search and Sentence practice

### Margaret Thatcher and Thatcherism

H	K	I	M	D	B	A	I	N	U	T	U	R	N	ASSASSINATION
H	R	D	S	T	A	A	N	O	E	M	A	L	R	PRIVATIZATION
S	G	N	I	I	A	X	V	I	T	R	S	N	E	THATCHERISM
B	E	O	R	M	E	E	I	T	H	L	S	A	P	BALMORAL
Y	Y	I	E	M	L	F	G	A	W	H	A	M	I	IRONLADY
D	H	T	H	I	A	I	O	Z	A	A	S	R	C	WETS
A	C	A	C	G	R	R	R	I	R	N	S	O	K	PICKETING
L	R	N	T	R	O	T	A	T	T	D	I	H	E	MONARCHY
N	A	O	A	A	M	S	T	A	W	B	N	B	T	ABHOR
O	N	R	H	T	L	Q	E	V	E	A	A	A	I	TAXES
R	O	O	T	I	A	U	N	I	T	G	T	M	N	HANDBAGGED
I	M	C	H	O	B	E	A	R	S	G	I	I	G	THWART
E	S	A	A	N	N	R	A	P	N	E	O	G	Y	INVIGORATE
O	S	E	X	A	T	Y	Y	O	B	D	N	N	H	CORONATION

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/157452/>

Now, practice writing sentences for some of these vocab words. Please feel free to use the vocab words in the past, present, or future tense in your sentences.

1. Assassination: To kill someone, such as a famous or important person usually for political reasons
  - 1a. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Privatization: This word more commonly entered the modern lexicon after Thatcher sold off major British assets such as BP and public utilities.
  - 2a. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Thatcherism: A term used to describe her own brand of economic policy — controlling inflation, forgetting unemployment and letting the free market reign.
  - 3a. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Balmoral: One of Queen Elizabeth's residences in Scotland, where she met with PM Thatcher on several occasions.
5. Iron Lady: A nickname that became associated with Thatcher's uncompromising politics and leadership style.
6. Wets: The Wets is what she called the Tory-lefts inside her own cabinet.
7. Picketing: To stand or march in a public place in order to protest something or to prevent other workers from going to work during a strike
8. Monarchy: A form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or queen

8a. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Abhor: To dislike (someone or something) very much

9a. \_\_\_\_\_

10. "Taxes" refers to the Poll tax: A flat tax imposed first in Scotland in 1989, then in England and Wales in 1990. The proper name for the scheme was a community charge. Riots ensued. The implementation of this widely unpopular tax caused social unrest and is said to have led to her downfall.

10a. \_\_\_\_\_

11. Handbagged: People who crossed Thatcher would receive a "handbagging," a term critics used to describe how she could publicly dress down a foe, like being publicly whacked with one of her trademark black handbags.

12. Thwart: Prevent someone from accomplishing something, oppose

12a. \_\_\_\_\_

13. Invigorate: Give strength or energy to someone or something

13a. \_\_\_\_\_

14. Coronation: A ceremony in which a crown is placed on the head of a new king or queen

15. Strife: Angry or bitter disagreement over fundamental issues; conflict

16. Immigration: To move from your home country to a new country to live

16a. \_\_\_\_\_

17. Query: A question, especially one expressing doubt or requesting information

18. U-Turn: This derived from her comment, "You turn if you want to. The lady's not for turning."

19. Yob: Slang for a rude, noisy, aggressive youth

19a. \_\_\_\_\_

## Part VII: Watching the show: Did you pay attention?

Quick to answer questions regarding the play

1. What is the Commonwealth?
2. Who is Philip?
3. What is wrong about the Prime Minister's curtsy?
4. Margaret Thatcher talks about being a Scientist, a pioneer in research chemistry. What did she help to invent?
5. What kind of relationships do they have with their mothers? What do they say in the play that makes this clear?
6. Why does the Queen ask: Will you be bringing any pets to Number Ten?
7. Who is Crawfie?
8. Who is Bobo?
9. What is Thatcher worried about-why do Crawfie and Bobo need to talk to each other?
10. They mention Rhodesia in the play, what is Rhodesia now known as?
11. The Queen: "Margaret put on a large pair of dark glasses I said, 'What on earth are those for?'"  
Why was Thatcher wearing these glasses?
12. The Queen makes a joke about the interval. What does she say?
13. What happened shortly after returning to England from Lusaka?
14. What was the Shadow 5? And what happened to it?
15. What did Margaret Thatcher not do after the incident that upset the Queen?
16. What is amusing about the portrayal of Nancy Reagan?
17. What was Ronald Reagan doing before becoming President of the United States?
18. What happened to Reagan in March 1981?
19. What other famous event happened in 1981 that is mentioned in the play?
20. The actors argue about the Belgrano? What was it?

21. Who said she wants to make Britain great again? Who does this remind us of today?
22. Why did the wives of the striking coal miners give their husbands carnations?
23. Who doesn't want to have an interval? Why not?

After Interval:

24. We met several new historically based characters. One of them is Rupert Murdoch, a name still known today. Who is he?
25. What nickname does he have in the play for Princess Diana?
26. What happened at the Conservative Party Conference in Brighton?
27. What do we learn, happens to Indira Gandhi?
28. What do our leading ladies find most disturbing about the attack?
29. What did The Queen want Britain to do regarding Apartheid in South Africa?
30. On July the 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday Times published an article written by Michael Jones. What was problematic about the article?
31. The Queen and Mrs Thatcher disagreed upon the issue of Poll Tax. What was wrong with this form of taxation?
32. Complete the scene titles as they appear in the play. Missing words are marked with ---

ONE: THOSE ARE --- THAT WERE HER ---

TWO: MAY THE --- BE WITH YOU

THREE: SPANKING

FOUR: DANCING AT ---

FIVE: BOMBS I

SIX: THE --- ARE COMING

SEVEN: THE --- OF BRIXTON

EIGHT: ISLANDS IN THE ---

NINE: --- DREAMING

TEN: THE ---

ELEVEN: BOMBS 2

TWELVE: WET WET ---

THIRTEEN: BREAKFAST AT ---

FOURTEEN: THE --- WON'T LISTEN

FIFTEEN: DIAMONDS ARE ---

## ANSWERS

1. What is the Common Wealth? ***The Commonwealth**, is an intergovernmental organisation of 52 member states that are mostly former territories of the British Empire.*
2. Who is Philip? *The Queen's husband*
3. What is wrong about the Prime Minister's curtsy? *It was over the top, she bowed too low.*
4. Margaret Thatcher talks about being a Scientist, a pioneer in research chemistry. What did she help to invent? *She helped to make Mr Whippy ice-cream fluffy.*
5. What kind of relationships do they have with their mothers. What do they say in the play that makes this clear? *Thatcher remarks that after the age of 15 she had nothing to say to her mother, The Queen mention it is difficult to get her mother off the phone.*
6. Why does the Queen ask: Will you be bringing any pets to Number Ten? *She was hoping that they could at least talk about dogs, that they would have something in common.*
7. Who is Crawfie? *She was Thatcher's Lady-in-waiting*
8. Who is Bobo? *She was the Queen's Lady-in-waiting*
9. What is Thatcher worried about-why do Crawfie and Bobo need to talk to each other? *She is worried that they will have outfits that are clashing with each other's or too similar.*
10. They mention Rhodesia in the play, what is Rhodesia no known as? *Zimbabwe*
11. The Queen: "Margaret put on a large pair of dark glasses I said, 'What on earth are those for?'"  
Why was Thatcher wearing these glasses? *She was worried that people would throw acid in her face.*
12. The Queen makes a joke about the interval. What does she say? *She says it is sometimes the best part of the play.*
13. What happened shortly after returning to England from Lusaka? *The IRA made a guerilla roadside bomb attack against the British Army in 1979.*
14. What was the Shadow 5? And what happened to it? *The Shadow 5 was a boat belonging to a cousin of Prince Philip, that was also bombed, and the whole family was killed.*
15. What did Margeret Thatcher not do after the incident that upset the Queen? *She didn't phone her*
16. What is amusing about the portrayal of Nancy Reagan? *The actor playing Nancy is a man dressed up to look like Nancy, and this is very unconvincing.*

17. What was Ronald Reagan doing before becoming President of the United States? *He was a Hollywood actor*
18. What happened to Ronald Reagan in March 1981. *He was shot in an attempted assassination*
19. What other famous event happened in 1981, that is mentioned in the play? *The Royal Wedding of Charles and Diana*
20. The actors argue about the Belgrano? What was it? *The Belgrano, was an Argentinian ship. It was outside the two-hundred-mile military exclusion zone and it was heading away from the Falklands but it was attacked under Thatchers orders*
21. Who said she wants to make Britain great again? Who does this remind us of today? *Thatcher says it and it reminds of Donald Trump wanting to make America great again.*
22. Why did the wives of the striking coal miners give their husbands carnations? *The carnations symbolise heroism.*
23. Who doesn't want to have an interval? Why not? *Thatcher doesn't want an interval because "there is too much to do" and she doesn't want to waste time.*

After Interval:

24. We met several new historically based characters. One of them is Rupert Murdoch, a name still known today. *Who is he? He is an Australian-born International media mogul*
25. What nickname does he have in the play for Princess Diana? *The Princess of Sales*
26. What happened at the Conservative Party Conference in Brighton? *It was bombed.*
27. What do we learn, happens to Indira Gandhi? *She was viciously assassinated.*
28. What do our leading ladies find most disturbing about the attack? *Her personal bodyguards were the murderers.*
29. What did The Queen want Britain to do regarding Apartheid in South Africa? *She wanted to impose sanctions against South Africa*
30. On July the 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday Times published an article written by Michael Jones. What was problematic about the article? *The Sunday Times reported that they had evidence proving that the Queen found Thatcher to be uncaring, confrontational and social divisive.*
31. The Queen and Mrs Thatcher disagreed upon the issue of Poll Tax. What was wrong with this form of taxation? *The previous tax was levied on the value of a home, while the poll tax was charged based on the number of adults living in a home. The Queen sums up the problem by saying „A bus driver in his council flat pays the same as the Duke of Westminster in his mansion“*



32. Complete the scene titles as they appear in the play.

ONE: THOSE ARE PEARLS THAT WERE HER EYES

TWO: MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

THREE: SPANKING

FOUR: DANCING AT LUSAKA

FIVE: BOMBS I

SIX: THE REAGANS ARE COMING

SEVEN: THE GUNS OF BRIXTON

EIGHT: ISLANDS IN THE STREAM

NINE: CALIFORNIA DREAMING

TEN: THE GAP

ELEVEN: BOMBS 2

TWELVE: WET WET WET

THIRTEEN: BREAKFAST AT HOLYROOD

FOURTEEN: THE WORLD WON'T LISTEN

FIFTEEN: DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER