

NATIONAL WINNER
A MONARCH, A COMMONWEALTH &
60 YEARS OF CHANGE
SENIOR DIVISION



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PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

A DIAMOND REIGN

Rationale – A Diamond Reign: The Crown and the Consequences

When approached regarding this special category of the Challenge, the memorable fuss of last year's CHOGM in Perth was still fresh in our minds – especially intentionally waiting for hours in the street just to see the Queen – making this category all the more attractive to us.

As a pair of collaborators, it was decided from the beginning that our aim would be for a multimedia presentation optimising Jessica's digital manipulation skills to create an appealing video. Working with this goal in mind, we began by conducting background research and deciding the scope of the video. In order to gain an appreciation of the chronology and history of the Queen and associated events, we began by watching the documentary A Diamond Queen and gathering information from the internet.

Constructing a thesis for the basis of the script involved a trip to the State Library of Western Australia (which yielded less information than hoped or expected) and a more successful exploration of our school library. Once a working thesis was decided upon, extensive online research began to fill out the skeleton script, with the information cross-checked by published documents.

With the intention to attract attention and avoid inert retellings of facts, the script was always intended to have an element of humour by utilising language and multimedia skills, while simultaneously conveying the necessary information with brevity, precision and thoughtfulness. After severe brainstorming and several rewrites of the script, filming began.

The footage and voiceovers recorded by us were supplemented to by appropriate images, videos and audio recordings of relevant events and people, mainly sourced from the internet, to create the final video. Such external sources were determined to be related to the subject and to add to the presentation rather than detract from our main ideas. The media collated by Jessica, who also added digital effects intended to help present points, convey message and maintain dynamism.

We felt that a multimedia presentation is more engaging by being visually appealing; it also highlights the step forward into more modern methods of presenting information that would otherwise form an essay. This is especially relevant when considering our topic of the Queen – our presentation is about the development and evolution of the Queen's role in a modern society, as both a significant individual and a representative of nations; this is aptly reflected in a multimedia presentation that juxtaposes the legacy of history with the visual vitality of contemporary technology.