



Chapter 1: The Ceremony of the Keys

At exactly 21:53, the Chief *Yeoman Warder* emerged from the Byward Tower – an outer tower guarding the entrance of the fortress also known as the Tower of London. He was wearing a long red coat and a large round black hat called a Tudor *bonnet*. Mr and Mrs Moore watched with great excitement as the *Beefeater* appeared. They were from York in Northern England and were visiting London for the first time. It had been really difficult for them to get tickets for the ceremony. They had booked three months in advance, and were very pleased to be participating in such an *ancient* tradition.

“Oh, isn’t this exciting!” said Mrs Moore to her husband, with a big smile on her face.

Mr Moore nodded, agreeing fully with his wife. In one hand the Chief *Yeoman Warder* was carrying a shining *lantern*, in the other the *Queen’s Keys*. He solemnly marched along Water Lane towards *Traitor’s Gate*. *Armed foot guards* awaited him there. He handed the *lantern* to one of the guards and together they moved on towards the outer gate.

“Did you know that this ceremony has been repeated every night for almost 700 years?”

Mrs Moore looked at her husband in *astonishment*.

“Really!” she exclaimed. “That’s amazing!”

“Yes, it was only ever interrupted once during the Second World War.”

Mr Moore pointed up to the sky. Mrs Moore looked at her husband with irritation. She looked up to the sky, following his finger.

“*Air raid!*” he said *conspiratorially*.

“Oh!” said Mrs Moore, relieved. “I thought you were going to tell me another one of your alien stories.”



Mr Moore shook his head and turned his attention back towards the ceremony. So did his wife. They watched enthusiastically as the guards walked right past them, their steps echoing off the narrow *cobbled* path. As they advanced towards the outer gate, all of the guards and *sentries* saluted the *Queen's Keys*.

"It's a shame you aren't allowed to film or take pictures, isn't it?" said Mr Moore, a note of disappointment in his voice. He looked *longingly* at his camera, which was switched off.

"You could get some really good shots, I tell you."

Mrs Moore *shrugged*, more or less unconcerned by her husband's disappointment. She did not take her eyes off the ceremony.

"There's nothing better than the real thing, that's what I always say," she said.

Übung 1 Wie heißt das Simple Past der folgenden unregelmäßigen Verben?

1. be _____

6. come _____

2. get _____

7. do _____

3. go _____

8. eat _____

4. hear _____

9. let _____

5. fall _____

10. say _____

In the meantime, the Chief *Yeoman Warder* had locked the outer gate. He and his escort turned around again. They were *heading back* in the direction they had come from. Mr Moore took his London tourist guide out of his bag and started *flicking through* the pages. Eventually, he found the page he was looking for. Mr



Moore started running his finger along it. Then his finger stopped. "Ah, do you know what happens now?"

Mrs Moore *tutted*.

"No, but I'm about to find out, am I not?" she said a little annoyed. Mr Moore sighed and put his book back into his bag. The Chief *Yeoman Warder* marched towards the great *oak* gates. They were located at the Middle Tower. He locked them too.

"Now he just needs to lock the gates at the Byward Tower!" exclaimed Mr Moore excitedly.

Mrs Moore gave her husband an *aggravated* look.

"Could you just hold your breath for five minutes, please, Kevin?"

ÜBUNG 2 Übung 2. Lesen Sie weiter und setzen Sie die Begriffe in Klammern richtig ein!

(*direction, escort, answer, guard, think, along, archway*)

Mr Moore *sulked*. The Chief Warder now returned (1.) _____ Water Lane. He marched towards *Traitor's Gate*.

In the shadows of the Bloody Tower (2.) _____, a *sentry* awaited him. Mr Moore's face suddenly lit up again. He was about to say something when his wife said, "Don't even (3.) _____ of it!"

Mr Moore closed his mouth. As soon as the (4.) _____ saw the three men *approach* him, he removed his machine gun from his shoulder. The guard pointed it in their (5.) _____.

He *barked*, "Halt, who comes there?"



The Chief *Yeoman Warder* and his (6.) _____ came to a *stately* halt. “The Keys!” replied the Chief *Yeoman Warder*.

“Whose keys?” asked the guard.

“Queen Elizabeth’s Keys,” is the (7.) _____ they received.

“Pass Queen Elizabeth’s Keys”, answered the *sentry*, “and all’s well!”

The men were just passing the guard through the so-called Bloody Tower *Archway* when suddenly there was a small explosion. Mr and Mrs Moore and all the other tourists around them jumped. Some murmured and others let out a cry of surprise. The guards also ducked and *took to their guns*. Mr Moore took his tourist guide back out of his bag and nervously started *flicking through* the pages.

“I can’t remember reading anything about this!” he remarked.

Then, all of a sudden, there was another explosion. This one was louder and more powerful than the last one. Some people started screaming and shouting. Mr and Mrs Moore *crouched* down.

“What’s going on?” Mrs Moore asked her husband *anxiously*.

“I have no idea.”

“Lost for an explanation for a change!” said Mrs Moore sarcastically.

Mr Moore had no time to defend himself because white smoke had started to *spread* all around them. Mr and Mrs Moore’s eyes began to water and they both began to cough.

“Tear gas!” exclaimed Mr Moore. “We’ve got to get out of here fast!”

Suddenly, there was a third explosion. This one was even more