



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Duchess or Princess?

凯拉·奈特莉主演新片《公爵夫人》



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Duchess Or Princess? 凯拉·奈特莉主演新片《公爵夫人》

Echoes of the Past 过去重现

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

The British actress Keira Knightley has **rejected claims** that her latest film **The Duchess**, a historical drama set in the 18th Century, **parallels** the life of Princess Diana.

The film tells the true life story of Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, who was the **great-great-great-great aunt** of Diana, Princess of Wales.

In the film Knightley plays an **aristocratic** woman that is trapped in a marriage to a man who is in love with his **mistress**. It is this **storyline** that mimics the experiences of Princess Diana, who married Prince Charles only to discover that he was continuing a long-standing **clandestine relationship** with another woman.

Even the film's **tagline**, "There were three people in her marriage", suggests a link to Diana's story, as it bears a remarkable similarity to the words the princess used to describe her own situation in a **highly candid** 1995 television interview.

Speaking to the BBC, Keira Knightley was quick to **play down** the similarities in the stories, saying her **character** was "an interesting enough person to **warrant** a film completely about her without comparisons".

In fact the 23-year-old actress claims not to remember the story of Prince Charles and Princess Diana's **doomed marriage**.

"I was 11 when Diana died, so I don't really know what the actual story is so I don't feel I can comment on the parallels," Knightley **scolded** reporters at a recent **press conference**.

Whether the Diana connection exists or not, **The Duchess** provides a fascinating insight into personal relationships in a society where **divorce** was **taboo**.

The film is also a **visual feast** as the architecture and fashions of 18th Century England are **painstakingly recreated** down to the smallest detail.



Glossary 词汇表

rejected claims – 否认	Duchess – 女公爵
parallels – 相似	great-great-great-great aunt – 上推曾祖母
aristocratic – 贵族的	mistress – 情妇
storyline – 故事情节	clandestine relationship – 秘密关系
tagline – (电影的) 标志性语言	highly candid – 非常坦诚不公的
play down – 淡化	character – 角色
warrant – 确保, 保证	doomed marriage – 注定要失败的婚姻
scolded – 批评	press conference – 记者招待会
divorce – 离婚	taboo – 禁忌
visual feast – 视觉大餐	painstakingly recreated – 费尽心机重现

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. Keira Knightley and Princess Diana share a distant ancestor. **True / False**
2. The film is set in the 1700s. **True / False**
3. In the film Keira Knightley plays the mistress of an aristocrat.
True / False
4. Keira Knightley was 23 when Princess Diana died. **True / False**
5. In the 18th Century divorce was seen as an acceptable action by most people. **True / False**

2. Jumbled Sentences 打乱词序的句子

Rearrange the words in the sentences below to make correct sentences.

请将下列句子中的单词重新排列，组成一个正确的句子。

1. her latest plays an 18th Keira Knightley Century in film duchess
_____.

2. of distant Devonshire was a of The Duchess Princess Diana ancestor
_____.

3. unfaithful The is a film a Duchess whose husband woman is about
_____.

4. Princess film is marriage said parallel the The of Diana to
_____.

5. Charles not Kiera said did and Knightley Diana's marriage she remember
_____.

6. Century was of by in the Divorce 18th disapproved people
_____.

3. Idioms 习惯用语

Look at the idioms below. Each one is connected to royalty or aristocracy.

Match the idiom to its definition.

请看下列习惯用语，它们都与皇室或贵族有关。

请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. fit for a king | a. the most important woman |
| 2. as drunk as a lord | b. a large sum of money |
| 3. a king's ransom | c. very intoxicated with alcohol |
| 4. queen bee | d. of a very high standard |

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

1. I have a terrible hangover this morning – I was _____ last night.
2. That lady is the boss of the whole department - she's the _____.
3. That footballer cost _____ but he is one of the best in the world.
4. The food in that restaurant is _____; the chef is world famous.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with royalty and aristocracy in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与《公爵夫人》有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

a	s	d	u	c	h	e	s	s	f	r	t
c	g	a	u	v	f	w	h	e	j	q	r
o	t	b	s	k	f	h	c	o	u	n	t
u	a	r	g	b	e	j	y	s	m	g	q
n	l	g	t	b	g	t	d	r	v	a	l
t	l	k	n	i	g	h	t	v	l	y	w
e	w	i	t	p	s	y	l	i	s	p	a
s	r	n	t	i	n	g	l	o	r	d	h
s	r	g	l	i	p	s	a	n	l	a	p
a	t	h	r	l	t	l	d	k	l	m	i
t	q	u	e	e	n	b	y	f	r	e	i
r	m	y	c	k	i	n	t	r	k	n	t

king	queen	duke	duchess	lord
lady	count	countess	knight	dame

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

- Keira Knightley and Princess Diana share a distant ancestor. **False**
- The film is set in the 1700s. **True**
- In the film Keira Knightley plays the mistress of an aristocrat. **False**
- Keira Knightley was 23 when Princess Diana died. **False**
- In the 18th Century divorce was seen as an acceptable action by most people. **False**

3. Idioms 习惯用语

Look at the idioms below. Each one is connected to royalty or aristocracy. Match the idiom to its definition.

请看下列习惯用语, 它们都与皇室或贵族有关。请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- d
- c
- b
- a

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

- I have a terrible hangover this morning – I was **drunk as a lord** last night.
- That lady is the boss of the whole department – she's the **queen bee**.
- That footballer cost **a king's ransom** but he is one of the best in the world.
- The food in that restaurant is **fit for a king**; the chef is world famous.

2. Jumbled Sentences 打乱词序的句子

Rearrange the words in the sentences below to make correct sentences.

请将下列句子中的单词重新排列, 组成一个正确的句子。

- Keira Knightley plays an 18th Century duchess in her latest film
- The Duchess of Devonshire was a distant ancestor of Princess Diana
- The Duchess is a film about a woman whose husband is unfaithful
- The film is said to parallel the marriage of Princess Diana
- Kiera Knightley said she did not remember Charles and Diana's marriage
- Divorce was disapproved of by people in the 18th Century

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

		d	u	c	h	e	s	s			
c			u								
o				k			c	o	u	n	t
u					e						
n											
t		k	n	i	g	h	t				
e		i									
s		n					l	o	r	d	
s		g					a			a	
							d			m	
		q	u	e	e	n	y			e	