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英剑桥公爵夫人生下一名男婴。这也是英国首次消除王位继承中对女性的歧视 - 也就是说头胎生下的不论是男是女都将成为英国王位第三顺位继承人。但此项为了威廉和凯特的宝宝新推出的法案已经不太重要了。下面是王室记者 *Luisa Baldini* 对小王子未来生活的分析报道：

It was a pregnancy **in the public eye**. There was no hiding away from the cameras. And royal duties continued for the Duchess of Cambridge until the final weeks. Wherever she went, the gifts, the questions, the chat, had been of the baby. She **gave little away**.

With his great-grandmother in her 61st year on the throne, and his grandfather and father ahead of him in the line of **succession**, it will be some time before the Duke and Duchess's son is King.

Suzannah Lipscomb, Historian:

*It is in the nature of these next few years, in his **upbringing**, in his childhood, in the character and values that are instilled in him at this stage, that will determine how the British public will view their **monarch**.*

In the past, there was a formality to the royal birth announcements. Much has changed. After Prince William was born at St. Mary's hospital, his father spoke to the media.

Reporter: *How is Lady Di?*

Prince Charles: *She's very well, marvellous.*

Reporter: *Was it a very painful experience?*

Prince Charles: *Have you ever had a baby?*

Reporter: *No I haven't.*

Prince Charles: *I should wait and see!*

And from the moment the new Prince appeared on the hospital steps, it was clear his upbringing would be different, less formal. William will now be fiercely protective of his

wife and child but controlling the level of interest from the public and the media is increasingly **problematic**.

The Duchess of Cambridge's childhood memories are of a strong family unit in rural Berkshire. Royal life appears not to have **diminished** that bond. And there is **speculation** that after the birth the Duchess will return home to mum for a few weeks.

William's childhood **broke with tradition**. By royal standards there was greater freedom. It was more normal, there was less **restraint**. He is likely to want the same for his son, a little boy who one day will be King.

Questions

1. True or false? *Gifts were given to the baby even before it was born.*
2. How long will it be before the new royal baby becomes King?
3. Where was the Duchess of Cambridge brought up as a child?
4. What kind of childhood does William want for his new son?

Vocabulary and definitions

in the public eye	受公众关注的
gave little away	什么都没泄露
succession	继承权
upbringing	养育, 抚养
monarch	君主
problematic	成问题的
diminished	(使) 减弱
speculation	猜测
broke with tradition	打破了传统
restraint	限制

Answers to the questions:

1. True or false? *Gifts were given to the baby even before it was born.*
Answer: True. Wherever she went, the gifts, the questions, the chat, had been of the baby.
2. How long will it be before the new royal baby becomes King?
Answer: Some time (a long time)
3. Where was the Duchess of Cambridge brought up as a child?
Answer: Rural Berkshire (a county in the UK)
4. What kind of childhood does William want for his new son?
Answer: A childhood with less restraint and more freedom.