



UNED: Junio 2006

MATERIA: Inglés

The birth of the baby girl to the Prince and Princess of Spain is logically and, above all, a great satisfaction to her parents and the entire Royal Family. It is also a happy event for all those who look to the Crown as a symbol of the historical judicial and political framework in which citizens live together regardless of their differences, which we call the Spanish nation.

That Lenoir's birth starts a discussion about the Crown's succession is a lesser matter when compared to this other essential question. Despite the "logic of the times", her father Prince Philip is not going to give way to his older sister Elena in the line to the Crown.

Until certain political and media elites open the debate, we believe the majority of Spaniards don't mind seeing older, discriminatory traditions in the order of succession as long as they do not have to suffer them in wider society. The Kings can continue following one another as they have been without Spanish citizens being discriminated against.

Now, however, the will to eradicate male preference forms part of the social consciousness and to question it could be viewed as backward as spelling the Princess of Asturias' name wrong. We can only hope, and advocate, that a change in the succession criteria, which requires a change in the Constitution, is not used to slip in other modifications the Prime Minister's partners would like to see: like the end of the monarchy or the unity and existence of the Spanish nation.

A) Answer these questions from the text in your own words (No points will be given for answers copied from the text).

- 1) How do people feel about princess Leonora's birth?
- 2) What has to be done to change the current succession order?
- 3) Are there any risks involved in modifying the constitution?

B) Explain the meaning of the following words or expressions from the text.

- 1) Regardless of their differences.
- 2) Give way to.
- 2) Media.

C) Composition:

Write a 120 word composition on the following topic. Should Prince Philip of Spain or Albert from Monaco give way to their sisters Elena or Carolina in the line to the Crown? Explain why.