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**THE SEMANTIC FRAME OF THE ROYAL FUNERAL****SEMANTYCZNA RAMA POGRZEBU KRÓLEWSKIEGO**

**Abstract:** Any form of life ends in death. Human death is a difficult moment for an individual's family. Various cultures observe diverse rituals and traditions connected with the end of life and perform different burial rites. Memorial services assume a range of forms depending on the culture and religious tradition an individual was brought up in and followed throughout their life. However, memorial ceremonies are also diversified within a given culture. The funeral of a monarch is much more complex as compared to this of any of his/her subject's. The death of the British Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, in September 2022 was followed by a period of mourning and state funeral. The analysis in the present paper focuses on the semantic frame of the royal funeral. The methodological framework adopted for the discussion is the cognitive linguistic one, focusing on cognitive-linguistic models such as frames and scripts, exemplified here by the frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL and the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script. Both of the presented models contain unique elements that are not to be found in other contexts. The components of frame and script which are specific to this event are highlighted. The data for the detailed description of the frame are gathered from the online news reports provided by the British Broadcasting Corporation. The study shows how different the discussed model is from the standard description of the frame of FUNERAL and the [FUNERAL] script respectively. Also, many of its elements are culture-specific.

**Keywords:** cognitive models; semantic frames; Queen Elizabeth II; the frame of ROYAL FUNERAL; the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script

**Abstrakt:** Każda forma życia kończy się śmiercią. Śmierć człowieka jest trudnym momentem dla członków rodziny. Różne kultury przestrzegają zróżnicowanych rytuałów i tradycji związanych z końcem życia i obchodzą specyficzne obrzędy pogrzebowe. Przyjmują one formy zróżnicowane pod względem tradycji kulturowych i religijnych, w jakich dana osoba była wychowana i jakich przestrzegała w trakcie swego życia. Jednakże ceremonie pogrzebowe są także różnorodne w obrębie danej kultury. Pogrzeb monarchy jest o wiele bardziej złożony w porównaniu do ceremonii pogrzebowych jej/jego poddanych. Po śmierci brytyjskiej monarchini, królowej Elżbiety II, we wrześniu 2022 roku nastąpił okres żałoby i królewski pogrzeb. Analiza w niniejszym artykule koncentruje się na semantycznej ramie pogrzebu królewskiego. Przyjęta w dyskusji podstawa metodologiczna jest oparta na założeniach językoznawstwa kognitywnego,

z akcentem na modele kognitywne, takie jak ramy i skrypty, zaprezentowane tutaj przez ramę KRÓLEWSKI POGRZEB oraz skrypt [KRÓLEWSKI POGRZEB]. Obydwa przedstawione modele zawierają unikatowe elementy, których nie można odnaleźć w innych kontekstach. Elementy charakterystyczne dla opisywanych ramy i skryptu zostały zaakcentowane w analizie. Dane wykorzystane dla szczegółowego opisu zgromadzone z serwisu wiadomości British Broadcasting Corporation dostępnych online. Analiza materiału badawczego wskazuje różnice pomiędzy opisywanymi modelami a standardowymi opisami ramy POGRZEB i skryptu [POGRZEB]. Wiele ze wspomnianych elementów charakterystycznych omawianych modeli ma uwarunkowania kulturowe.

**Słowa kluczowe:** modele kognitywne, ramy semantyczne, Królowa Elżbieta II, rama KRÓLEWSKI POGRZEB, skrypt [KRÓLEWSKI POGRZEB]

## Introduction

Queen Elizabeth II, the British monarch, died on 8 September 2022 in Balmoral. When her death was announced on the BBC News, the picture presented below i.e. Figure 1, accompanied the sad news.



**Figure 1. Queen Elizabeth II has died**  
(available at <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61585886>)

The aim of the present discussion is to show the semantic frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL and to outline how it differs from a ‘standard’ funeral, i.e. the one that is not a state memorial service. Moreover, the state funeral in this particular case is that of a monarch, which makes it even more specific and unique. The material has been extracted from news reports provided online by the BBC News

coverage between September 8, 2022 and September 24, 2022. The description of the stages of the state funeral will be outlined and its characteristic elements will be addressed. The state funeral, as exemplified in the semantic frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL, is discussed from the cognitive-linguistic perspective. Among cognitive models of various kinds frames and scripts can be identified; they are exemplified in the following analysis with reference to the funeral of the British monarch Queen Elizabeth II. The consecutive events that took place between September 8, 2022 (the passing and announcement of Her Majesty's death) and September 24, 2022 (showing the late Queen's ledger stone at Windsor) were reported online by BBC News. The materials include numerous photographs, one of which has been included in the introductory section of the present article.

The extensive knowledge structure that is the Queen's funeral, containing various events, tools and activities, is analysed from a cognitive-linguistic perspective. The theoretical framework and the method of analysis employed in the paper are outlined in section titled **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND METHOD**, which reports on the cognitive models, with special focus placed on frames and scripts. The following section **THE FRAME OF THE ROYAL FUNERAL AND THE [ROYAL FUNERAL] SCRIPT** discusses the details of the mourning period, successive events and services, such as: **THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MONARCH'S DEATH, THE OBITUARY AND THE PRE-FUNERAL EVENTS, THE STATE FUNERAL and THE SERVICE**. The final section, **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**, highlights the elements that are exclusive to the ROYAL FUNERAL frame and the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script.

### **The theoretical framework and method**

The funeral is the ceremony of the burial of a deceased person's body or their remains. It follows a person's death, which can take place by natural causes, accident, or it can be self-inflicted. Whether it is referred to straightforwardly or euphemistically (Uberman, 2018a), it marks the end of not only human but also any other form of life. Allan and Burrige (2006, p. 135) state that death is "simply another unavoidable body process; no one gets out alive. We can end our own life, but we have no control over when Nature will rob us of it. Death awaits us all, and to most of us it is an unknown, something to be avoided and something that it is reasonable to be fearful of. Even those with strong religious beliefs are not usually in a hurry to meet their maker. For those who die after enduring severe pain, death is a haven. For others, death is eternal sleep or the start of a new afterlife."

Analysing cognitive constructs of various kinds Burkhanov (1999, p. 182) notices that the way people categorise the reality is not only based on "the principle

of taxonomic division of various complexity and /or of various types.” A salient feature of “the framing of concepts is the interdependence of the latter leading to the formation of conceptual configurations which cannot be represented as taxonomies, but as networks of networks which possess a more complex structure.” Such cognitive models denoting knowledge configurations, apart from ‘frames’, are known as ‘idealized cognitive models’ (addressed by Lakoff, 1987), ‘image schema’ (described by Johnson 1987), ‘domain’ (elaborated on by Langacker, 1987), ‘script’ (Shank & Abelson, 1977), etc. However, they vary as far as their coverage is concerned. The present discussion focuses on frames, hence their characteristics will be further developed. Script will also be addressed with reference to funerals.

Fillmore (1982, p. 111) considers frames as a means of schematisation of concepts. He states that the term ‘frame’ represents “any system of concepts related in such a way that to understand any one of them you have to understand the whole structure in which it fits; when one of the things in such a structure is introduced into a text, or into a conversation, all of the others are automatically made available.” Taylor (1989, p. 87) refers to ‘frame’ as “a knowledge network linking the multiple domains associated with the given linguistic form.”

Evans (2007, p. 85) delineates a frame as “a schematisation of experience (a knowledge structure), which is represented at the conceptual level and held in long-term memory and which relates elements and entities associated with a particular culturally embedded scene, situation or event from human experience.” Frames are “complex knowledge structures, which encompass not only culturally-conditioned information, but also descriptions of activities and tools employed in the related processes, their linguistic exponents and elements that are interrelated and mutually-conditioned.” (Uberman, 2018b, p. 428)

Burkhanov (1998, pp. 85-86) points out that “in the most general terms, ‘frame’ may be defined as an area of knowledge or a mental plan of action”, and claims that speakers of a specific language “can be said to know the meaning of a particular lexical item only by first understanding the background frames that motivate the concept that the word encodes.” Fillmore and Atkins (1992, pp. 76-77) note that lexical meaning “can be understood only with reference to a structured background of experience, beliefs, or practices, constituting a kind of conceptual prerequisite for understanding the meaning.”

Lakoff and Johnson (1999, p. 116) highlight the fact that semantic frames provide “an overall conceptual structure defining the semantic relationships among whole “fields” of related concepts and the words that express them.” They also add that “the conceptual frames that inhabit our cognitive unconscious contribute semantically to the meanings of words and sentences”, thus a particular lexical item is interpreted and defined with reference to the frame to which it belongs.

The cognitive and semantic frame of DEATH, as discussed in detail in other works (Uberman, 2016; 2018b; 2019) is a broad knowledge structure which brings

together numerous interrelated elements and processes. One significant element of which is the funeral. The burial rituals are not uniform all over the world as they are conditioned by the culture, with its beliefs, traditions and values observed by the community (e.g. Baumel, 2002; Collins & Doolittle, 2006; Eisenbruch, 2021; Longoria, 2014; Onu & Solomon-Etefia, 2019).

The death and ensuing state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II will be analysed in terms of the sequence of events, attributes and elements constituting the frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL. It is significantly different from any regular or standard funeral, as it contains components which are unique to this particular ceremony. It is essential to stress the fact that frames, as systems of interrelated elements and conceptual structures of a prototypical nature (Burkhanov, 1999), systems of linguistic choices associated with ‘prototypical instances of scenes’ (Fillmore, 1982) also include scripts. Schank and Abelson (1977, p. 41) define a script as: “a structure that describes appropriate sequences of events in a particular context. A script is made up of slots and requirements about what can fill these slots. The structure is an interconnected whole and what is in one slot affects what can be in another. Scripts handle stylized everyday situations. They are not subject to much change, nor do they provide the apparatus for handling totally novel situations. Thus a script is a predetermined, stereotyped sequence of actions that defines a well-known situation.”

A funeral is a ceremony that is formed by a stereotypical sequence of events. However, depending on the fact whether it is a religious or a civil ceremony, the slots in the script will vary. They will also be determined by the observances of a particular religion or denomination and the form of carrying and/or preserving the earthly remains, i.e. whether the corpse is buried in a coffin or if it is incinerated and ashes are scattered or buried in an urn (compare Uberman, 2018; 2019).

The data presenting the consecutive stages of the burial ceremony as well as the entire description of the ROYAL FUNERAL frame have been gathered from the BBC News website, following the announcement of the Queen’s passing and reporting the successive events as they took place.

### **The frame of the royal funeral and the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script**

As pointed out above, a frame is a complex knowledge structure of closely interrelated elements and it is of a prototypical nature. Unlike a typical or standard FUNERAL frame, the frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL, referring in this particular case to the British Monarch, contains additional elements that are ROYAL FUNERAL frame specific. In the following subsections the details of the event following the death of Queen Elizabeth II are described.

## **The announcement of the Monarch's death**

Queen Elizabeth II, the British monarch, died on 8 September 2022 in Balmoral. Her death was announced on the BBC by a reporter in a special programme with the words: "Buckingham Palace has announced the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. In a statement the palace said, the Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon" (<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-21927209>).

The BBC News online of September 8, 2022 published an article titled *Queen Elizabeth II has died* and stated as follows: "Queen Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch, has died at Balmoral aged 96, after reigning for 70 years. She died peacefully on Thursday afternoon at her Scottish estate, where she had spent much of the summer." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61585886>) Earlier that day doctors became concerned with the condition of the late Queen and all her children travelled to Balmoral after she had been placed under medical supervision. The news spread swiftly and the crowds gathered in London at Buckingham Palace in hope of hearing positive news as updates of the Queen's condition were to be announced. Instead, they were notified of the death of their monarch and started to cry. "The union flag on top of the palace was lowered to half-mast at 18:30 BST and an official notice announcing the death was posted outside." The announcement that was put on display on the gate of the Palace, the official notice, read: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon. The King and Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61585886>) The other Royal Family members, i.e. King Charles and his wife, the Queen Consort, Princess Anne, Princes Andrew and Edward were accompanied by Edward's wife Sophie, and Princes William and Harry. Catherine, William's wife, was absent as she stayed with their children at Windsor.

Following the announcement of the monarch's death, King Charles expressed his profound sadness; afterwards condolences were expressed by heads of state from all over the world, also many politicians paid tribute to the late Queen.

The period of mourning that began upon the Queen's death lasted till September 27, 2022. According to protocol, flags were lowered to half-mast on royal and government buildings as well as overseas UK posts. As further noted in the article, "there will be church bells tolling and gun salutes as local and national organisations and charities organise ways to pay their respects, with commemorative events and books of condolence." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61585886>)

## **The obituary and the pre-funeral events**

Her Majesty's BBC obituary stated as follows: "The long reign of Queen Elizabeth II was marked by her strong sense of duty and her determination to dedicate her life to her throne and to her people." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61605149>)

The Queen's coffin was brought to Edinburgh's Palace of Holyroodhouse and on Monday September 12, 2022 in the afternoon it processed to St. Giles' Cathedral (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-62876366>) where it was put on display lying in state (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-62879795>) until Tuesday 13, 2022.

The coffin with the Queen's body was transported to London, to Buckingham Palace, in the afternoon on September 13, 2022. On Wednesday, September 14, 2022, as reported by BBC News, the coffin was transported on a horse-drawn gun carriage in a ceremonial procession to Westminster Hall, where it was lying-in-state until the Queen's funeral on Monday September 19, 2022. In the procession the royal family members, including King Charles III, followed the coffin (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w172yfc4z0mfhy7>). Lying-in-state as well as the state funeral protocol will be addressed in the following section.

### **The state funeral**

The state funeral that was organised took place on September 19, 2022 and it had to follow a rigid plan (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62960196>).

The state funeral, as noted by the BBC News report (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62844663>) is "typically held for a king or queen and follows strict rules of protocol. A military procession carries the coffin to Westminster Hall, and is followed by a period of lying-in-state, and a service at Westminster Abbey or St. Paul's Cathedral." The protocol is described in a document called *State and ceremonial funerals* provided to Members of Parliament available at the Library of the House of Commons and online at:

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06600/SN06600.pdf>

As noted above, after the coffin carrying the Queen's body was brought from Scotland to Buckingham Palace in London, the following day it was transported to Westminster Hall for the period of lying-in-state for four days. 'Lying-in-state' as defined by Oxford English dictionary, when referring to the corpse of the public figure, means "being on display for public tribute before burial" (<https://www.oed.com/view/Entry/111587?rskey=KFaNdA&result=1&isAdvanced=false#eid38760570>). This is the period during which members of the public can pay tribute to the monarch and view her coffin. On September 16 and September 17, 2022 the Royal family members stood vigil around the late Queen's coffin at Westminster Hall. On Friday the Queen's children, including the present king, stood guard for ten minutes, wearing military uniforms (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62934405>). Exceptions were made for Prince Andrew and Prince Harry who were also allowed to wear them despite previously being stripped of their military functions (<https://www>.

bbc.com/news/uk-62938463). This, however, was not the case during the funeral; neither of the Princes wore their uniforms. Similarly, on Saturday Her Majesty's eight grandchildren stood at different points around the coffin for a quarter of an hour. It is worth noting that for the first time in history the monarch's grandchildren took part in the ceremony.

The Queen's lying-in-state ended on Monday September 19, 2022, the day of the funeral at 6.30 a.m. (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60617519>). As noted further in the article, "After days of lying-in-state, the body of the late Queen Elizabeth II has made its final journey as part of a grand state funeral. It travelled first to Westminster Abbey, for a religious service in front of a congregation of thousands, and then to Windsor Castle for a more intimate committal service and, in the evening, a private burial." After the coffin was lifted off the catafalque in Westminster Hall, it was taken to Westminster Abbey for the service to be held on the State Gun Carriage of the Royal Navy, drawn by 142 sailors. As further reported, "The Queen's coffin is topped with the Royal Standard, the Imperial State Crown, the Sovereign's orb and sceptre and a wreath made up of flowers and foliage chosen by the King, picked from Buckingham Palace and the King's homes of Clarence House and Highgrove." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60617519>) (The description of the crown and the wreaths are available respectively at <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-62906194> and <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62954578>). In the procession which followed the gun carriage were senior members of the Royal Family. The Bands of the Scottish and Irish Guards led the ceremony; members of other military services were also part of the ceremony, either lining the route or standing guard of honour.

The service took place in Westminster Abbey, with heads of state, politicians and members of other royal houses present. It was led by the Dean of Westminster David Hoyle, while the sermon was given by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby. "Towards the end of the funeral service the Last Post - a short bugle call - was played followed by a two-minute national silence. The national anthem and a lament played by the Queen's piper brought the service to an end just after midday." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60617519>) The coffin was then taken in the carriage in the walking procession from Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch. The details of the full procession are available at <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62941422>. The Queen's last journey was "lined with military personnel and police, Big Ben tolled at one-minute intervals as the procession moved slowly through the streets of the capital. Gun salutes were fired every minute from Hyde Park." (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60617519>) Royal Family members walked behind the carriage carrying the Queen's coffin. At Wellington Arch the coffin was transferred to the new State Hearse, which covered the last leg of Her Majesty's final journey to Windsor Castle. Once there, the coffin was brought to St. George's Chapel for a committal service.



The ceremony was attended by a smaller group of about 800 guests. As noted in detail in the BBC news report: “The committal service was conducted by Dean of Windsor David Conner, with a blessing from Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby. The service, whose congregation was largely made up of current and former staff from the Queen’s household and private estates, included traditions symbolising the end of her reign. The Imperial State Crown and the Sovereign’s orb and sceptre were removed from the top of the coffin by the Crown Jeweller, separating the Queen from her crown for the final time. At the end of the last hymn, the King then placed the Queen’s Company camp colour, or flag, of the Grenadier Guards on the coffin. The Grenadier Guards are the most senior of the Foot Guards carrying out ceremonial duties for the monarch. At the same time, the Lord Chamberlain, former MI5 chief Baron Parker, “broke” his wand of office and placed it on the coffin. The snapping of the white staff signals the end of his service to the sovereign as her most senior official in the Royal Household. The Queen was then lowered into the royal vault and the Sovereign’s piper played before a blessing and the singing of God Save the King. The performance by the piper at Windsor was something the Queen had personally requested, Buckingham Palace said.” (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60617519>)

A private family service followed in the evening during which the Queen was buried inside the Chapel with her late husband Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. The ledger stone denoting their final resting place is made of “hand-carved Belgian black marble with brass letter inlays.” (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-63020705>) The period of national mourning lasted till September 20, 2022; the Royal Family observed it for a week longer (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62964166>).

### The service

The service held on Monday September 19, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. BST at Westminster Abbey followed a strict order. Prior to its commencement, the tenor bell tolled 96 times to reflect the late Queen’s age at passing, i.e. every minute for 96 minutes. The Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE led the service and he also pronounced the blessing. As noted by the BBC News report, the service was held in Westminster Abbey. The Dean began the service by speaking of the Queen’s “unswerving commitment to a high calling over so many years as Queen and Head of the Commonwealth.” (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60617519>)

The royal family members, as well as heads of state and politicians, took part in the ceremony. The bidding, the hymns and prayers, the commendation and blessing were followed by *The Last Post* (a short bugle call), a two-minute national silence, *the Reveille* and the singing of the National Anthem. Its words were changed and ‘Queen’ was substituted by ‘King’. *The Last Post* as well as

*the Reveille* were sounded by the State Trumpeters. The details of all consecutive events are presented by the BBC NEWS report available online (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62948934>).

As noted in the subsection above, the private Committal Service took place at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle in the afternoon at 4:00 p.m., the details of which are provided by the BBC News (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62952665>). Towards the end of the service, a hymn was sung, at the end of which The King placed on the coffin The Queen's Company Camp Colour, which was given to him by the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel Grenadier Guard. The Lord Chamberlain broke his Wand and placed it on the coffin, afterwards The Committal took place and the coffin was lowered to the accompaniment of psalm 103 followed by the blessing and the National Anthem (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62952665>). The Queen's final resting place in Windsor is the George VI Memorial Chapel (<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-63020705>).

### Discussion and conclusions

It should be noted that the frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL is an exceedingly complex structure. Unlike a typical, standard western religious ceremony the royal funeral outlined above in detail contains distinctive elements that are not to be found in similar frames. The state funeral is characterised by additional slots in the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script, which is culture-specific in this respect. The elements that are particular to the state funeral include:

- the **announcement of the death**, which was placed on the gate of the Palace,
- **lowering the flags to half-mast** in the UK and overseas posts,
- the coffin was put on display for members of the public to pay their respects,
- **gun carriage** carrying the Queen's coffin in procession to and from Westminster Abbey,
- covering of the **coffin** and placing the Royal attributes on top of the coffin,
- the **wreath of flowers** placed on the coffin with the specific choice and symbolism, as well as a note from King Charles III,
- the military presence and procession, armed services lining the route or standing guard of honour,
- **lying-in-state**,
- **standing guard and solemn vigil** by Royal Children and Grandchildren,
- attending party formed of Royal Family members, Heads of State from all over the world and politicians,
- a **state memorial service** held in the Westminster Abbey,
- **Big Ben tolling**,
- a **private Committal Service** St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle,
- **final resting place** in a Royal vault at Windsor Castle.

Not only the individual unique frame elements, but also the slots of the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script show a significant diversity as compared to a regular burial. Upon the death a death notice, an obituary was issued. Unlike a standard western funeral (Uberman, 2019), the coffin was not carried in a hearse but on a gun carriage. The Queen's coffin was not taken to a funeral parlour or a funeral home but was lying-in-state at Westminster Hall in London, and in Edinburgh, Scotland. To honour the late Monarch a silent vigil was kept by her children and grandchildren, the latter event, i.e. the Royal Grandchildren's vigil, took place for the first time in history. After the period of lying-in-state the coffin was taken in a procession to Westminster Abbey for memorial service. The Royal attributes, including the crown, the orb and the sceptre, were placed on the coffin. During services hymns and prayers are sung, but sounding *The Last Post* as well as *the Reveille* by the State Trumpeters is distinctive for the ROYAL FUNERAL frame and script. This is also the case of the national silence and singing the National Anthem at the end of the ceremony. Afterwards the coffin was escorted in a walking parade to Wellington Arch. Another specific ritual, the Committal Service, took place in Windsor Castle. Contrary to most funerals, the coffin carrying the Queen's earthly remains was not placed in the grave, it was not buried in a graveyard, it was lowered to the Royal vault, the Queen's final resting place at Windsor Castle.

As pointed out above, a wreath of flowers was placed atop the coffin. Its presence is to be expected in standard funerals as well, however the assortment of flowers has particular significance. It has been noted that the choice of colours combined pink, deep burgundy, gold and white (to replicate the colours of the Royal Standard flag the wreath was placed on), while the foliage type included among others rosemary (remembrance), myrtle (symbolising a happy marriage) and English oak (a national representation of strength, and the strength of love). The wreaths of flowers that were placed on the Queen's coffin when it left Balmoral Castle and in Westminster Hall in London were made up of white flowers, some of which were collected from royal gardens at Balmoral and Windsor.

From the presentation above it becomes apparent that the additional distinctive features of the ROYAL FUNERAL frame make it very specific and expand the 'standard' frame in which only the prototypical elements are shared. They include the announcement of the death, the coffin, the mourning period, the service, the singing of hymns and psalms, the solemn clothing and the burial. However, the significant differences lie in the way the dead body is transported, the covering of the coffin, the Royal attributes, lying-in-state, the rigid protocol of the memorial service, the presence of the heads of state and notable politicians apart from family members as well as the military guard, standing vigil and the military outfits worn by Royal Family members. Indeed, in traditional funerals there is no military presence, military procession, military band or national silence or singing of the National Anthem.

Similarly, the typical [FUNERAL] script is made up of the following sequence:

- (1) Announcement of death: a person dies → obituary is displayed → details of burial service to be held are provided
- (2) Pre-funeral stage: the dead body is taken to a morgue → the body is placed in a coffin {the body is incinerated and ashes are placed in an urn} → the coffin / urn are brought to a funeral home / chapel
- (3) Funeral proper: service is held → hymns are sung {if a religious ceremony: prayers are said, blessing is given} → the coffin / urn is taken in a hearse to the graveyard / columbarium to be buried → the coffin / urn is lowered to the grave

The details of the Queen's state funeral show distinctive differences; there are many additional elements that fill the slots in the script.

In the pre-funeral stage: the crown is placed on the coffin → the coffin is put on display → lying-in-state follows for citizens to pay their respects → family members' vigil is held → (before the service) the coffin is carried on a gun carriage in a military procession.

During the funeral proper: (apart from hymns and blessings) special musical pieces are sounded → national silence follows → the singing of the National Anthem.

There is an additional post-service stage: the coffin is carried on a gun carriage in a military procession → the accompaniment of military guard and band → the coffin is then transported to Windsor → a private committal service → the lowering of the coffin to the final resting place in a royal vault at Windsor.

The Queen was exceptional in many respects, her royal memorial service and accompanying events also followed a special protocol. The frame of the ROYAL FUNERAL as well as the [ROYAL FUNERAL] script clearly reflect the extraordinary position held by the British Royal Family, as evidenced by the presence of many specific and unique elements that are characteristic of such an occasion and are not shared by the standard FUNERAL frame or [FUNERAL] script.

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