Victorian History

Presented by : online-tutoring.uk



Introduction

The Victorian era was the time when Queen Victoria ruled Britain – from 1837 to 1901. It was a period of big changes! 🚂

💡 What was special about it?

- Inventions: Trains, telegraphs, and the first photographs
- Cities grew fast: Many people moved from the countryside to work in factories
- Schooling: Education became important, and more children went to school
- Rich & Poor: Some lived in grand houses, while others struggled in crowded streets
- Famous stories: Writers like Charles Dickens told tales of Victorian life

The Victorians shaped the modern world – and their ideas, inventions, and stories are still with us today!



Victorian Inventions That Changed the World

The Victorian era was full of amazing inventions! People were coming up with clever ideas that made life faster, easier, and more exciting. 🚂📸

- Trains became a main way to travel. Before trains, long journeys took days – now people could cross the country in hours!
- The telephone made it possible to talk to someone far away without sending a letter.
- The light bulb meant no more relying on candles or gas lamps for light at night.
- The camera let people capture moments and keep them forever.

These inventions didn't just help Victorians – they changed the way we live today. Many of the things we use now started with ideas from this time!

Victorian Inventions That Changed the World

Draw a line and match the invention to the description

Descriptions:

- Let people travel across the country in hours instead of days.
- Allowed people to talk to each other over long distances.
- Gave people bright light without needing candles or gas lamps.
- Captured pictures to remember special moments forever.

Lightbulb

Camera

Train

Telephone

How Victorian Cities Grew Fast

During the Victorian era, cities grew bigger and busier than ever before. 🚂
New machines in factories meant lots of jobs, so people moved from the countryside to towns to work.

But this fast growth had problems:

- Streets were often crowded and noisy.
- Many families had to live in small houses close together.
- Poor areas sometimes didn't have clean water or proper toilets.

Even though life in the city could be tough, it was also exciting – with new shops, street markets, and inventions like trains and gas streetlights making city life brighter. 🌟

Victorian Cities: Then & Now

Compare what life was like in Victorian cities with life in cities today.

Read the descriptions below and decide whether they belong to 'Victorian Cities' or 'Cities Today'. Write your answers under the column Victorian or today.

Description	Victorian or Today?
Most homes have electricity and running water.	
Many families live in small houses close together with no indoor toilets.	
Trains are a major way to travel between cities.	
New factories open and lots of people move to the city for jobs.	
Gas lamps light the streets at night.	
People use the internet to shop, work, and talk to friends.	



Victorian Schooling

n Victorian times, school was very different from today. At the start of Queen Victoria's reign, many poor children didn't go to school at all – instead, they worked to help earn money for their families. As time went on, new laws made school compulsory for all children aged 5 to 10.

Lessons were strict and focused on reading, writing, and arithmetic (maths). Children sat in rows on wooden benches, and the teacher used a blackboard to explain the work. If you made a mistake or misbehaved, you might be punished with the cane! There were no colourful displays or interactive whiteboards – just chalk, slate boards, and lots of copying from the board.

Although schools could be tough, they gave children a chance to learn skills that would help them in later life.

Victorian Schooling

Match the Fact

1. Compulsory schooling age
2. Main subjects
3. Where children sat
4. How the teacher taught
5. Punishment for bad behaviour
6. Tools for writing
7. What some children did before school was compulsory

A. Chalk and slate boards

B. Reading, writing, and arithmetic

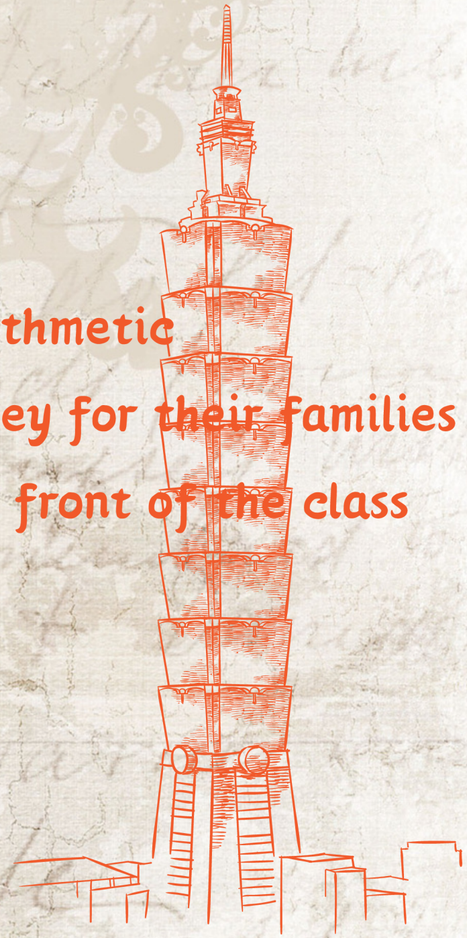
C. Worked to help earn money for their families

D. Used a blackboard at the front of the class

E. 5 to 10 years old

F. Rows of wooden benches

G. Cane



Victorian Era Timeline

- 1837 – Queen Victoria begins her reign, starting the Victorian era.
- 1840s–1850s – Cities grow fast; many people move to work in factories.
- 1870 – School becomes compulsory for children aged 5 to 10.
- Late 1800s – Important inventions appear, like the telephone and light bulb.
- 1890s – Stories by Charles Dickens become very popular, showing life for rich and poor.
- 1901 – Queen Victoria dies, ending the Victorian era.



Rich & Poor in Victorian Times.

Life in Victorian Britain was very different depending on whether you were rich or poor.

Rich families lived in large houses with servants who cooked, cleaned, and looked after the children. Many wealthy children had their own bedrooms, wore fine clothes, and were taught by private tutors or sent to expensive schools. They had plenty of food and could afford toys and books.

Poor families often lived in small, cramped homes, sometimes just one room for the whole family. Many children had to work in factories, mines, or as street sellers to help their parents earn money. They wore old, worn-out clothes and had little to eat. Education was rare for poor children until school became free for everyone later in the Victorian period.

The gap between rich and poor was huge – their daily lives could not have been more different.

Rich & Poor in Victorian Times.

Read the descriptions below and decide if they describe the Rich, the Poor, or Both. Write your answer in the right column.

Description	Rich / Poor / Both
Lived in large houses with servants	
Had to work in factories or mines	
Wore fine clothes	
Lived in small, crowded homes	
Went to expensive schools or had private tutors	
Sometimes lived in just one room with the whole family	
Had plenty of food and toys	
Often had to sell things on the street to help family	
Education was free later in the Victorian period	

Famous Stories from Victorian Times

The Victorian era was a time when many stories and books were written that are still loved today! One of the most famous writers was Charles Dickens. He wrote stories about people living in Victorian cities – both the rich and the poor.
Some of his famous books include "Oliver Twist", about a young boy who runs away from a workhouse, and "A Christmas Carol", the story of Ebenezer Scrooge who learns to be kind and generous.
Victorian stories often showed what life was really like back then, with both happy moments and struggles. They helped people understand each other better and inspired kindness and hope.

📖 Victorian Stories Activity: Meet the Characters!

Instructions:

Read the short descriptions of characters from famous Victorian stories below. Match each character to the correct story by drawing a line or writing the answer next to the description. A for Oliver Twist or B for A Christmas Carol

Characters:

1. Oliver Twist – a young boy who runs away from a workhouse
2. Ebenezer Scrooge – a grumpy man who learns to be kind at Christmas
3. Tiny Tim – a small, brave boy who needs a wheelchair
4. Fagin – the leader of a group of child thieves

Stories:

Bonus Question:

Write a sentence about why you think Victorian stories were important for people back then.

Conclusion

END What We Learned

The Victorian era was a time of big changes and new ideas. People invented amazing things, cities grew fast, and life was very different for rich and poor families. Stories from this time help us understand how people lived and what was important to them.

Learning about the past helps us see how the world has changed – and reminds us that every person's story matters.

Thank You