

The Victorian Age



Vocabulary

Workhouse	People without a job or a home would be sent to the workhouse to live. They would need to do jobs to 'pay' for staying there.
Urbanisation	The growth of cities caused by people moving to the same area of land.
Education Act	The law which was passed making it compulsory for all children to go to school.
Westminster	An area of London where the Royal Albert Hall is located.
British Empire	Almost a quarter of all the land on Earth was once part of the British Empire. This meant the people living and the decisions that would affect them were all under British

Key Figures:

- Prince Albert - Queen Victoria's husband and Prince Consort.
- Benjamin Disraeli - One of Britain's Prime Ministers
- Nikola Tesla - Inventor of alternating current electricity
- Alexander Graham Bell - Inventor of the telephone.
- Charles Dickens - English Author, wrote Oliver

The Victorian Age was characterised by rapid change and developments in nearly every sphere - from advances in medical, scientific and technological knowledge to changes in population growth.



Key Dates:

- 1837 - Queen Victoria is crowned, aged 18.
- 1880 - Education Act is passed.
- 1861 - Prince Albert dies.
- 1871 - Royal Albert Hall is opened.
- 1877 - Victoria becomes Empress of India.
- 1901 - Queen Victoria dies.

Key Knowledge

- Queen Victoria reigned from 1837 to 1901. She was crowned at age 18.
- During these 64 years, Britain was also going through the Industrial Revolution.
- Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg (her German cousin) in 1840.
- Prince Albert decided to showcase industrial and technological advances from around the world in 'The Great Exhibition'. The Great Exhibition runs from May to October in London 1851.
- Prince Albert dies from typhoid in 1861, Victoria is heartbroken and wears black clothing for the rest of her life.
- Life in the Victorian era changed very quickly for a lot of people, and cities became busier and more crowded.
- Britain's railway network grows until most town and villages have a rail connection during the 1940s.
- In 1851, for the first time ever, more British people lived in towns than in the countryside. The living conditions for factory workers in the city slums were very bad. They were overcrowded and had poor sanitation. As a result disease spread.
- Due to the Industrial Revolution more people were losing their jobs to machinery. Previously, food and money would be handed out to the poor by their parish. However, in 1834, the Poor Law reformed the relief of the poor and unemployed, and ruled that the poor had to apply for 'indoor relief', also known as the workhouse. Children were used as a workforce.
- According to law, every county now has to have its own police force.
- New inventions were created such as: electricity and the telephone (Nikola Tesla & Alexander Graham Bell).
- The Education Act (1880) makes school compulsory for all children. Schools