

**How and why did ideas about responsibility for public health change?**

Please complete all tasks in this worksheet which goes alongside the loom videos that you will be watching. You will need to work through these tasks as you watch the video. Please remember to watch the videos in order. The link to the loom videos are here:

**Video 1** - <https://www.loom.com/share/e61a220799fb481a8a585e8b0151e77d>

**Video 2** - <https://www.loom.com/share/a8eb54588b36403d845f7adbfbfb0d86>

**Task 1:** Can you remember which time period the following events took place in? Please fill in the table by writing either 'Medieval', 'Renaissance' or 'Industrial'. You can then check your answers as you watch the video.

<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Medieval, Renaissance or Industrial?</u></b>
John Snow's cholera findings were rejected by the government.	Industrial
The Black Death.	Medieval
The Great Plague.	Renaissance
Edward Jenner discovered the smallpox vaccine.	Industrial
New London sewers completed.	Industrial
Compulsory vaccinations against smallpox.	Industrial

**Task 2:** As you continue to watch the video, it will move on to talk about public health through the different periods that we have looked at, before looking at the first Public Health Act from 1848. As I talk you through this, please answer the following questions in full sentences.

<b><u>Question</u></b>	<b><u>Answer</u></b>
1) What did Edwin Chadwick report to the government in 1842 and what were his findings?	Chadwick reported to the government on the effects of malnourishment, lack of food consumption, and poor sanitary conditions on people. He concluded that in rural areas the average age of death was 38 whereas in urban areas, like Liverpool, the average age of death was significantly lower at just 15.
2) What did the first Public Health Act encourage?	The first Public health act, 1848, encouraged cities to provide clean water for their residents and to set up boards of health. However, this was not compulsory therefore many town councils did not partake in doing any of the things that were encouraged. This made it ineffective and it had very little impact in changing public health for the better.

<p>3) What was the problem with the 1848 Public Health Act?</p> <p>You may choose to refer to why it was ineffective and link it to Pasteur’s 1861 germ theory.</p>	<p>It was only encouraged/ advised therefore it was not compulsory meaning that many town councils saw it as an option and they chose to not follow the guidelines involved. It highlights the role of the government in public health and shows the power that they have. This is exemplified with Louis Pasteur in 1861 because his ideas were right and important however the government did not support his theory therefore it did not get the recognition it deserved and was not listened to and acted upon. There was also no scientific proof to back Pasteur’s theory therefore politicians could not back/enforce what seemed like a lost cause.</p>
<p>4) Why was John Snow’s report to the government rejected in 1855?</p>	<p>His report was rejected because politicians were unable to understand how the water was causing cholera and John Snow had no real proof to back up his theory and make the government want to do something to help. It was also before germ theory in 1861 which meant the government had no idea about germs and how they could be transmitted from different things.</p>
<p>5) When did the government invest into the new London sewer system and why did they do this?</p>	<p>The government only invested in a new sewer system in 1858 due to the Great Stink and was done out of self interest due to it benefiting themselves.</p>

**Task 3:** As you continue to watch the video, it will move on to talk about the second Public Health Act in 1875. As I talk you through this, please answer the following questions in full sentences.

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
<p>1) What began to happen from the 1860s? Can you give an example of this?</p>	<p>The government began to become more involved in public health. An example of this would be slums being demolished in places like Birmingham.</p>
<p>2) What was the major difference between the first and second Public Health Act?</p>	<p>The major difference between the Health acts was that the second one was compulsory meaning cities had to follow the rules now instead of just being advised on them.</p>
<p>3) What did the 1875 Public Health Act force city authorities to do? List as many as you can.</p>	<p>The 1875 health act forced cities to: provide clean water, dispose of sewage, build public toilets, employ a public office of health to monitor disease, ensure new houses were built</p>

	with better quality, provide public parks for exercise, create street lighting to prevent accidents and check the quality of food in shops.
4) Why was it important to check the quality of foods?	This was because the way food was prepared was dangerous e.g they would often put chalk in bread to make it the white powdery colour. This would not benefit anyone's health and needed to be fixed.
5) Why was the 1875 Public Health Act a success? Please list as many reasons as you can.	It was now made compulsory. There were no other epidemics of cholera. The deaths from typhus went from 716, 1868, to 0 in 1900.

**Task 4:** If these are the answers, what might the questions be? I have given you the answers to 5 questions below. What do you think the questions would be? Please pause the video when asked to complete these. Press play when you are finished to go through the answers.

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Question</u>
1) The first Public Health Act, 1848	Which public health act had little difference and was only encouraged not compulsory?
2) 'The Great Stink'	What convinced the government to create new sewer systems?
3) 83 miles	How many miles of new modern sewer were built in 1875?
4) It was compulsory	Why did the Second public health impact make a bigger impact on public health?
5) In the year 1861	When did Louis Pasteur publish his findings about germ theory?

**Task 5:** Why did the government get more involved in public health? As the video talks through the gradual acceptance that the government has for responsibility of public health, please answer the following questions.

- 1) How did 'The Great Stink' of 1858 lead to the government getting more involved in public health?  
The event gave the government some motivation to change the sewer system in London. However, this was more of a selfish reason for the government as they couldn't do the jobs they wanted to do without doing something to prevent/fix the great stink.
  
- 2) Why did the work of Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch encourage the government to get involved with improving the public health of the people?  
In 1861, Louis Pasteur published his theory about germs and the link between dirt and disease. John Snow had also been right about his theory on Cholera however he was unaware that it was bacteria in the water that caused it. Due to Pasteur, the idea that Miasma caused disease went away and his theory was made even stronger when Robert Koch was able to identify individual bacteria .
  
- 3) How did new voting laws in the second half of the nineteenth century motivate the government to improve public health?  
In 1867, working men in towns were given the right to vote meaning the number of voters doubled. This increased even more when working men who lived elsewhere were also given the right to vote in 1884. If politicians wanted to win and stay in power, they now had to appeal to the opinions and thoughts of the working class men.

**Challenge Question:** Based on the knowledge that you have gained from this lesson and past lessons, please attempt to answer the following question. I will go through this question in the video. Please press pause and attempt to complete it when asked. When you have finished, press play and I will talk through the answer.

‘How far do you agree that Pasteur’s germ theory was the most important reason why the British government’s laissez-faire attitude came to an end?’

**You may choose to use the sentence starters to help you but you do not have to use them!**

In some ways, Pasteur's germ theory was the most important reason for the end of the government's laissez-faire attitude. For example, Pasteur's germ theory gave scientific proof that there was a link between dirt and disease which Robert Koch then went on to further the discovery by identifying individual bacteria. The government was then unable to reject their proposal as they could no longer ignore the need to change/ fix public health. John Snow had previously come up with a similar idea however the government had been able to reject his proposal as he had no scientific proof and was unaware that it was bacteria that was affecting the water. The government was then forced to abandon their laissez-faire attitude as they realised that it was necessary for them to do something to help public health and stop disease. However, other reasons also contributed to the end of the government's laissez-faire attitude. For example, the Great Stink, 1858, meant the government was forced to actively get involved and invest in a new sewer system in hope of preventing the Great Stink from worsening. In 1867, the town's working men were given the right to vote and not much longer the working class from more rural areas were also given the right to vote, 1884. This meant politicians had to change their attitudes as if they wanted to remain in power and win the vote then they would have to appeal to working class men which started with improving the unsanitary areas they lived in and public health. This meant the government was forced to abandon their laissez-faire attitude as public health was no longer something that could just be ignored. Overall, I believe that Louis Pasteur was only somewhat responsible for the end to the government's laissez-faire attitude as they previously had not been bothered and the originally rejected Pasteur's ideas until it was later proved correct. I believe the government changed their attitude because they knew that to stay in power they had to appeal to the people that kept them in power and to do so they had to use things that would appeal to working class men in their campaign which public health would have been a vital argument. They also changed the sewers for their own benefit as they had previously rejected Snow's ideas and only changed the sewers because it was becoming an issue for themselves. Therefore I believe it is their own selfishness that changed their laissez attitude as they previously had not shown an ounce of care towards the public health and those in lower classes who were less fortunate than themselves.

**Well done! You have completed the lesson. Please hand in this document via google classroom. To do this, close the worksheet**

**(your work will automatically save), go to the right hand side of the screen and select 'Hand in'. Your teacher will read through this and provide you with some feedback.**

**Thank you for engaging! Keep up with the good work!**