

Living conditions of the poor

Millions of people moved from the country to work in the big industrial towns of the north. The mills and factories developed quickly and the houses that were built were cramped, crowded and dark.

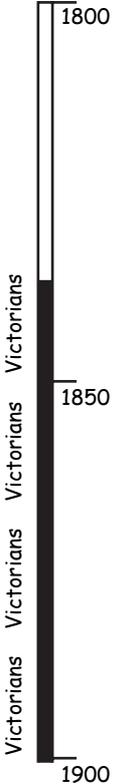


People had to fetch water from a nearby pump in buckets. The water was often dirty and made many people ill. They also had to share a stinking toilet with as many as a hundred people. Dirty water and chamber pots were emptied in to a gully in the street. The air was polluted with smoke and steam from homes and factories.

In some areas, as many as 20 people lived in one damp room. It was not surprising that diseases such as cholera, typhoid, smallpox, tuberculosis and pneumonia spread quickly, and thousands of people, especially children, died.

Here is how a visitor to a big city described the condition of the houses in the 1840s:

The walls of the houses are crumbling, doorposts and window frames loose and broken... Heaps of garbage and ashes lie in all directions, and the foul liquids emptied before the doors gather in stinking pools.....



List 8 reasons why people in many Victorian towns and cities were so unhealthy.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Name diseases that killed many people. _____

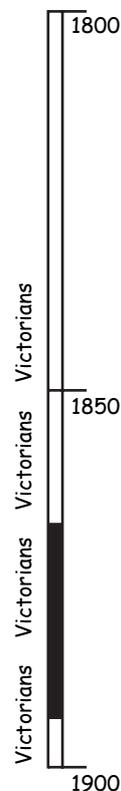
Why are these diseases so rare nowadays?

Great Victorian Prime Ministers

Benjamin Disraeli and William Gladstone were the main Prime Ministers of Queen Victoria's reign.
Read the information below then write a short paragraph about each one.



Benjamin Disraeli 1804 - 1881	William Gladstone 1809 - 1898
<p>Prime Minister 1868, 1874 - 80</p> <p>Conservative</p> <p>Introduced social reforms, which allowed more people to vote</p> <p>Introduced public health acts which made local authorities responsible for health and hygiene</p> <p>Made Queen Victoria Empress of India</p> <p>Was a great rival of Gladstone</p> <p>Was a great public speaker</p> <p>Very popular with Queen Victoria</p> <p>Wrote novels - the most famous one Sybil, showed Victorian life as it was</p>	<p>Prime Minister 1868 - 74, 1880 - 85, 86, 1892 - 94</p> <p>Liberal</p> <p>MP for 62 years</p> <p>Tried unsuccessfully to introduce home rule in Ireland</p> <p>Introduced an education act which gave schooling to all children from 5 - 13</p> <p>Introduced a reform act which gave the vote to farm workers</p> <p>Was disliked by Queen Victoria who said, 'He speaks to me like a public meeting'</p>



Benjamin Disraeli

William Gladstone

Looking at History Book 6

The Victorians

Gill Nettle

Illustrated by David Brindley

Contents

Pages	Title	Particular skills
1	Queen Victoria	Sequencing
2	Prince Albert	Writing continuous text from notes
3	Farming in Victorian times	True or false
4	Rural life	Getting information from text
5	Who said what? - 1	Attributing dialogue
6	Who said what? - 2	Attributing dialogue
7	Industrialisation	Getting information from text
8	The consequences of industrialisation	Completing a diagram from text
9	Child labour in the factories and mines	Getting information from text
10	Living conditions of the poor	Getting information from text
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13	Leisure activities	Labelling
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23	William Morris	Getting information from text
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IBC	Pupil's Record Sheet	

Cover picture: Top row (left to right) William the Conqueror, Henry VIII, Queen Victoria
Bottom row (left to right) William Caxton, Oliver Cromwell, Horatio Nelson, Winston Churchill

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