

English Y8 Spring 1 – 19th & 21st Century Non-Fiction

Key Vocabulary

Urbanisation Revolution Industry
Contemporary Society Attitude Culture
Contrast Juxtapose Deduce Insight

5 Minute Morphology!

Choose one of the words below, and add as many different prefixes (groups of letters added to the **beginning** of words) and (groups of letters added to the **end** of words) as you can to create different words and meanings.

Cover Joy Press Hope Like

Example:

help

helps
helping
helped
helpful
unhelpful
helpless

Did you know?

At the start of the 19th century, there were said to be 89,000 living in Manchester. Between 1801 and the 1820s, the population more than doubled, and then doubled again to reach a population of 400,000 by 1851. This was phenomenal growth transforming Manchester into Britain's second city.

GCSE skill! The skills that you build this half term are exactly what you'll need to tackle Component 2, Section A of your Language exam!

Context – 19th Century

You're probably familiar with 19th century England, while not realising it. The 19th century provided the backdrop for the engaging worlds written by some of England's most prolific authors, including Charles Dickens and Jane Austen. While Jane Austen depicted idyllic romantic scenes among the English nobility, Charles Dickens showed the gritty realities of 19th-century life for many people. Queen Victoria ruled over England for a large part of the century, from 1837 to 1901. For this reason, the period is often known as the Victorian Era. This was also a time that Britain saw tremendous economic and industrial growth due to the Industrial Revolution and the invention of the steam engine. The Industrial Revolution prompted a large segment of the British population to shift from agricultural to manufacturing careers, as job opportunities moved to the cities.

SOW Content

During your lessons this half term you will explore real non-fiction texts from the 19th century, such as journalism, travel writing, letters and advertisements. Non-fiction texts offer us incredible insight into how life really was back then as they feature very little creative embellishment – just the truth about 19th century life!

Once you have built confidence with 19th century non-fiction, you will start to compare the texts to pieces about the same topic from this century. You will discuss and comment on how society's attitudes have changed or remained the same, and we'll look closely at the language in the texts to see how this is portrayed by the writers.

Did you know?

Victoria became Queen of England in June 1837, when she was just 18 years old. Ruling for over 60 years, Victoria would become the longest reigning British Monarch, and Queen of the biggest empire in history.

Links for further contextual research:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z224xsg/revision/2>

Books for wider reading:

The World of Charles Dickens: The Life, Times & Works of the Great Novelist

