

CONCEPTUAL LINK 7

Stability and Morality

An age of contradictions

- 7.2 City life in Victorian Britain
- 7.3 The Victorian frame of mind
- 7.4 Charles Darwin and *On the Origin of Species*
- 7.10 The age of fiction
- 7.11 All about Charles Dickens
- 7.14 All about *Hard Times*
- T52 Coketown

1837-
1861

Optimism and progress

- 7.1 The early years of Queen Victoria's reign
- 7.5 Victorian London
- 7.6 The Victorian legacy
- 7.8 Victorian poetry
- 7.9 All about Alfred Tennyson
- T49 Ulysses

The growth of female consciousness

- 7.15 All about the Brontë sisters
- 7.16 All about *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë
- T54 Rochester proposes to Jane
- 7.18 All about *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë
- T55 Back to *Wuthering Heights*
- T56 The eternal rocks beneath

Towards education for all

- 7.12 All about *Oliver Twist*
- T50 Oliver wants some more Dickens and Verga
- 7.13 *Oliver Twist* on screen
- T51 The definition of a horse
- T53 Punishment
- 7.17 The right to education
- 7.22 Will education be totally online in the future?

Stability and Morality

The development of the American mind

- 7.7 The beginning of an American identity
- 7.19 American Renaissance and Transcendentalism
- 7.20 All about Nathaniel Hawthorne and *The Scarlet Letter*
- T57 The letter A
- 7.21 All about Herman Melville and *Moby-Dick*
- T58 Captain Ahab's chase
- T59 Moby Dick



Interactive
Timeline

1837

Accession of
Queen Victoria

1838

The People's
Charter

1839-1842

The First Opium War
against China

1840

Queen Victoria
marries Prince Albert
of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha

1845

Irish Potato
Famine

1846

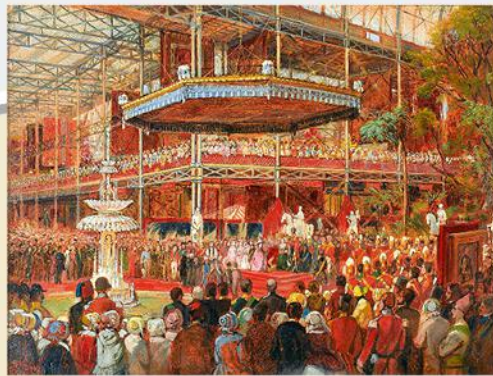
Repeal of the
Corn Laws

- 1** LOOK at the mood board about the first part of the Victorian Age and, in pairs, talk about what you think this Conceptual Link is going to be about.

Notes on



Victoria & Albert
- a royal love match!



The Great Exhibition, the first ever trade fair - an enormous success - 6 million visitors!



Dramatic, wild, romantic but desolate moors

Some of my favourites



Victorian life for the poor - often hard and sometimes cruel



Dates

1837 1851 1859

- 2** IN PAIRS ask and answer the questions.

- 1 Did the first half of the 19th century have any cultural relevance in your country?
- 2 Can you name a unique event in England in this period?
- 3 What do you think it was like to live in a city in this period?
- 4 Look at the pictures in the timeline and in the mood board. Which images do you find most attractive or most interesting? Have you seen any of them before? What do they make you think of?

- 3** IN PAIRS decide which of the concepts below might be relevant to the first part of the 19th century.

material progress • imagination • respectability • better working conditions • duty • hard work • overcrowded cities • strict code of behaviour • spirit of adventure • social reforms • cult of the exotic • territorial expansion

1848

Revolutions in Europe

1851

The Great Exhibition

1853-1856

The Crimean War

1856-1860

The Second Opium War

1857

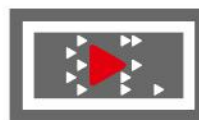
The Indian Mutiny

1859

Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* is published

1861

Prince Albert's death



7.1 The early years of Queen Victoria's reign 1837–1861



WARM-UP

1 DISCUSS. What do you know about Queen Victoria? Have you ever seen a film or TV programme about the Victorian Age?

2 COMPLETE the factfile about Queen Victoria with the words below.

respectability • German • couple • daughter • died • throne • married • uncle

FACTFILE

Queen Victoria

- **1819** Born in London, of the Duke of Kent and a strict princess.
- **1837** Succeeded her William IV to the at the age of eighteen and ruled for sixty-four years.
- **1840** her cousin Albert, son of Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. This devoted was seen as an exemplary model of and family life. They had nine children.
- **1861** Albert suddenly at the age of forty-two.

THE LANGUAGE OF HISTORY

3 MATCH the words to their definition.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> secret ballot | A Revoke a law. |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> repeal | B Rebellion against the authorities. |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> manufactured goods | C A vote where confidentiality is guaranteed. |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> trading routes | D Sea lanes used by merchant shipping. |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> mutiny | E Products made with the use of machines. |

FIRST Reading and Use of English – Part 6

4 GAPPED TEXT. Read the text about Britain in the first part of Queen Victoria's reign. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the sentences A–G the one which fits each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

- A Britain also supported some liberal causes abroad, like the Italian struggle for independence.
B These two important political parties alternated in government.
C This foreign trade was so important that England was prepared to fight wars to protect its trading routes.
D The queen was considered too young and inexperienced to act alone.
E The movement slowly died but many of its objectives, like the use of a secret ballot, were later achieved through Parliament.
F It was eventually put down but marked an important change in Anglo-Indian relations.
G She never overruled Parliament and became a mediator above party politics.

BRITAIN UNDER VICTORIA

The first years of Victoria's reign were a period of social reforms and political developments, unprecedented material progress and also one of imperial expansion. The merits of these achievements partly belonged to the queen, who, in marked contrast with other European monarchs, reigned constitutionally, avoiding the storm of revolution which spread all over Europe in 1848. **1**

During these years, there was a strong working-class movement calling for social reform. The Great Reform Act of 1832 (**6.4**) had extended the vote to almost all male members of the middle classes, but had done little for the working class. The movement of Chartism played an important role, drawing up the 'People's Charter' in 1838, which called for social reforms and the extension of the right to vote to all male adults.

2 Other social reforms regulating factory life followed, like the



1. Franz Xaver Winterhalter,
The Royal Family, 1846.
London, Royal Collection.

Ten Hours Act of 1847, which limited working hours to ten a day for all labourers.

On a political level, the two main parties were the Liberals, mainly formed from the former Whigs, and the Conservatives, who evolved from the old Tories. **3** The Liberals promoted a strong campaign for free trade that led to the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846. These laws had maintained the price of corn artificially high to protect the landowners' interests. The repeal of the Corn Laws was also an attempt to help the situation in Ireland, where a disease affecting potatoes, their main produce, had led to the Potato Famine and numerous deaths.

Social unrest did not prevent the increasing power of the middle classes or the expansion of industry and trade. This was also aided by the considerable scientific and technological developments taking place.

In foreign policy, this was a period of great expansion in trade, as the abundance of manufactured goods needed new markets. **4** There were two Opium Wars against China in 1839–1842 and in 1856–1860, which gave Britain access to five Chinese ports and the control of Hong Kong. Along with France, Britain sided with the Ottoman Empire against Russia during the Crimean War, between 1853 and 1856, as a way of containing Russian influence in this sensitive area. **5**

The most important and lucrative zone of influence for Britain, however, was undoubtedly India. A dangerous crisis arose here in 1857 with the so-called 'Indian Mutiny', when Indian soldiers rebelled against their British commanders. They were backed by local rulers and thousands of local people. The uprising was against the rule of the British East India Company, which functioned as a sovereign power on behalf of the British Crown. **6** The East India Company was dissolved and India was administered directly by the British government. Queen Victoria issued a proclamation to Indians in November 1858 which promised them rights similar to those of other British subjects.



DID YOU KNOW?

Railway mania

The first steam locomotives helped make Britain the most powerful nation in the world. In 1825 the opening of the Stockton and Darlington line saw a proper steam locomotive pull wagons for the first time. The Liverpool and Manchester Railway, the world's first twin-tracked railway, opened in 1830. Originally conceived to reduce the cost and time of transporting goods, it soon became primarily a passenger service. Encouraged by this success, entrepreneurs began to submit applications to Parliament for many more railways. Known as 'railway mania', the rush that followed is demonstrated by the fact that 240 acts were passed in 1845 which led to the construction of 4,600 miles of track.

KEY DATE

1851: the Great Exhibition

Britain's leading industrial and economic position in the world was symbolised by the Great Exhibition of 1851, where goods from all over the world were exhibited. It was housed in the Crystal Palace, a huge structure designed by Sir Joseph Paxton and built in Hyde Park. It was a remarkable construction entirely prefabricated in iron and glass. The Great Exhibition was the first exhibition of this kind and attracted huge crowds. It was actively supported by Prince Albert. The profits were used for the establishment of the Science Museum, the Natural History Museum, and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

5 READ the text again and make notes under the following headings.

- 1 The role of the queen
- 2 Chartism
- 3 The two main political parties
- 4 Wars and trade expansion abroad

6 MATCH the words to form key terms about the early years of Victoria's reign.

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> imperial | A monarchy |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> social | B movements |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> constitutional | C expansion |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> technological | D development |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> party | E politics |
| 6 <input type="checkbox"/> working-class | F reforms |

2. The steam locomotive *North Star*, designed by Robert Stephenson in 1837. London, Science Museum.

3. The Crystal Palace in a lithograph by Achille-Louis Martinet, ca 1862. Private collection.





7.2 City life in Victorian Britain 1837–1861

WARM-UP

1 LOOK at the picture. What do you think city life was like in Victorian Britain?

FIRST Reading and Use of English – Part 1

2 MULTIPLE-CHOICE CLOZE. For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

EARLY VICTORIAN CITY LIFE

By the middle of the 19th century, Britain had become a nation of town dwellers due (1) its extraordinary industrial development. The census of 1851 recorded half of the population of Britain as living in towns, and finding solutions to problems linked to the overcrowded urban environment was at the (2) of Victorian political and social reforms. The majority of Victorian city poor lived in unhealthy slum (3) overrun by disease and crime. Here the mortality rate was high and the terrible working conditions in polluted environments had a disastrous effect, especially on children's health. Two Housing Acts were passed in 1851 to clean up the towns which had been devastated by frequent (4) of cholera and typhoid carried by polluted water. However, the changes and the effects were slow. As a result, for every grand public building built, just (5) the corner there were rows of appalling terraced houses and slums.

There was widespread poverty with relief only available to those who agreed to live in workhouses. The homeless, unemployed, orphaned and abandoned children as (6) as the disabled, elderly and unmarried mothers were given a place to live in these institutions in return for their labour. Medicine also underwent a radical change. Modern hospitals were built and professional organisations were (7) to regulate and control medical education and research.

Other changes concerned the gradual introduction of services such as running water, gas, street lighting and paved roads. Places of entertainment (8) public houses, music halls, parks and stadiums were built. Solid Victorian buildings from this time – prisons, police stations, boarding schools and town halls – can still be seen in British cities today.

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 A of | B with | C to | D by |
| 2 A top | B heart | C foot | D target |
| 3 A towns | B terraces | C routes | D districts |
| 4 A numbers | B illness | C epidemics | D disease |
| 5 A around | B on | C with | D over |
| 6 A good | B far | C well | D regards |
| 7 A founded | B made | C found | D built |
| 8 A such | B like | C as | D in |



1. William Lake Price, photograph of *Fleet Street and Ludgate Hill*, in London, ca 1858. London, Royal Collection.

3 READ the text again and answer the questions.

- What changes did the industrial development bring to Britain?
- What were Victorian slums like?
- Which acts were passed in 1851 and how did they affect the slums?
- Who were the workhouses designed to help?
- What was done to improve life in the cities?

DICTATION 1.1

4 LISTEN to the paragraph about Victorian workhouses and write it down.

LINK TO CITIZENSHIP

5 READ about Sustainable Development Goal 6. Then, in small groups, discuss what kind of advertising campaign could be effective in making people aware of the essential need for everyone to have access to clean water.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Billions of people in the world still lack drinking water and sanitation. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the critical importance of sanitation, hygiene and adequate access to clean water for preventing and containing diseases. Hand hygiene saves lives.

7.3 The Victorian frame of mind

1837–1861

WARM-UP

1 DISCUSS. What is the meaning of 'compromise'? Why do you think it can be related to the Victorian Age?

THE LANGUAGE OF SOCIETY

2 WRITE the Italian translation of the words.

- 1 respectability
- 2 charity
- 3 sense of duty
- 4 conformity
- 5 philanthropy
- 6 prudery

3 READ the text about the Victorian compromise and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the meaning of the word 'compromise' as applied to the Victorian way of life?
- 2 Why did the Victorians feel forced to promote a strict code of values?
- 3 Which social classes refined this code?
- 4 What did the Victorian code of values consist of? In your analysis, consider the following concepts:
 - work
 - respectability
 - family
 - sex.

LINK TO TODAY

4 DISCUSS. What is 'respectability' in our society? How has it changed from the Victorian idea?

THE VICTORIAN COMPROMISE

The Victorian Age was a complex and contradictory era: on the one hand, it was the age of progress brought about by the Industrial Revolution, the rising wealth of the upper and middle classes, stability and great social reforms; on the other hand, it was also characterised by poverty, injustice and social unrest.

The Victorians were great moralisers: they faced a large number of problems on such a scale that they felt obliged to support certain values which offered solutions or a way out. Thus, they promoted a code of values that reflected the world as they wanted it to be, not as it really was, based on duties, hard work, respectability and charity. These values were refined by the upper and middle classes, who had political and economic power, but they were equally applied to all strata of society.

In fact, one of the most important notions throughout the 19th century was the need to work hard. In an age which believed in progress, it seemed natural to believe that material progress would result from hard work and to insist on a sense of duty rather than on personal inclination.

The idea of being respectable distinguished the middle from the lower classes. Respectability was a mixture of both morality and hypocrisy, severity and conformity to social standards. It implied the possession of good manners, the ownership of a comfortable house with servants and a carriage, regular attendance at church and charitable activities. Philanthropy was a widespread phenomenon: it applied to every kind of poverty, to 'stray children, fallen women and drunken men', and absorbed the energies of thousands of Victorians, many of whom were women.

Middle-class ideals dominated Victorian family life. The family was a patriarchal unit where the husband represented authority and the key role of women concerned the education of children and the management of the house.

Victorian society was deeply concerned about female chastity and unmarried mothers were marginalised as 'fallen women'. Sexuality was generally repressed in its public and private forms, and moralising 'prudery' in its most extreme manifestations led to the denunciation of nudity in art, the veiling of sculptured genitals and the rejection of words with a sexual connotation from everyday vocabulary.



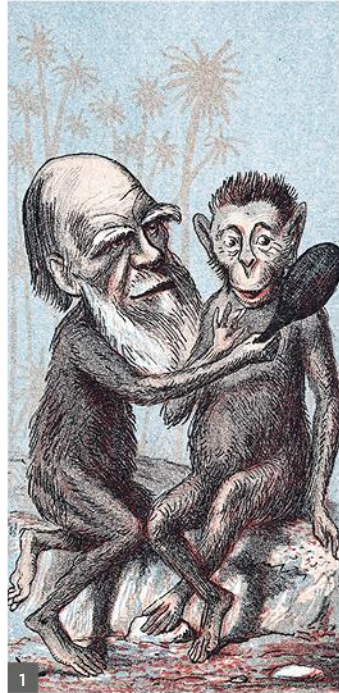
1. George William Joy, *The Bayswater Omnibus*, 1895. London, Museum of London.



7.4 Charles Darwin and *On the Origin of Species*

WARM-UP

1 DISCUSS. In the middle of the Victorian Age there were many scientific discoveries. Look at the cartoon and read the caption. Why was Charles Darwin depicted like this? What do you know about his theory?



1. Faustin Betbeder, *Prof. Darwin*, 1874–1875. Colour lithograph from a set of caricatures for the illustrated newspaper and magazine *The London Sketch Book*.

THE LANGUAGE OF SCIENCE

2 MATCH the words to their definition.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> species |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> biology |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> geology |
| 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> archaeology |
| 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> astronomy |
| 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> evolution |

- A The scientific study of the universe.
 B The study of the physical history of the Earth.
 C A set of animals or plants having common features.
 D The scientific study of the remains of past human life and activities.
 E The way in which living things change and develop over time.
 F The scientific study of living things and their vital processes.

3 READ the text on the right and make notes about:

- discoveries in the middle of the Victorian Age
- the first evolutionary ideas during the Victorian Age
- Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* and the Bible
- Darwin's expedition on the *Beagle*.

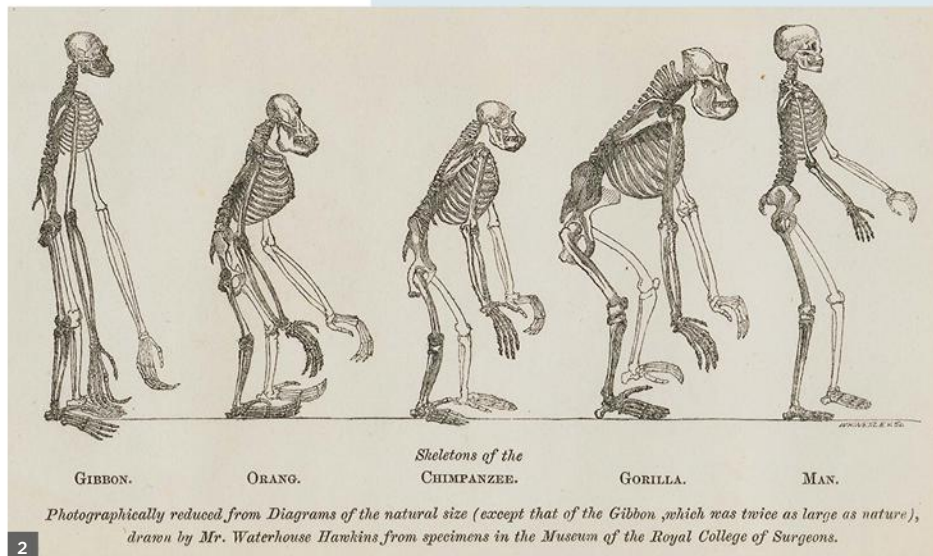
THE 'ORIGIN OF SPECIES' QUESTION

In the middle of the Victorian Age, scientific discoveries, especially in the fields of biology, geology, archaeology and astronomy, began to affect intellectuals and artists.

The year 1859 was a milestone because the British naturalist Charles Darwin (1809–1882) published his theory of evolution in *On the Origin of Species*. The book, which sold 1,250 copies on a single day, became one of the bestsellers of the age. Evolutionary ideas were not new to the Victorians: the work of Charles Lyell in 1830–1833 and Robert Chambers in 1844 both held that organisms evolved from an original being created by God. However, Darwin's radical contribution was his theory of 'natural selection' and his stress on the godless element of chance involved in evolutionary variation.

On the one hand, Darwin's theory discarded the version of creation given by the Bible; on the other hand, it seemed to show that the strongest survived and the weakest would inevitably be defeated.

Darwin used the notes he had taken during his five-year expedition to Australia, South Africa and South America on the survey ship, HMS *Beagle*, when he was only twenty-two. During that voyage, he analysed individual species and considered the connections among them. In the years to come, all these relationships would eventually lead Darwin to a single conclusion: that all species are related.



2. Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins' illustration to the book *Evidence as to Man's Place in Nature* (1863) by Thomas Henry Huxley. London, British Library. Here the skeleton of a man is compared to those of a gibbon, an orangutan, a chimpanzee and a gorilla.

FIRST Reading and Use of English – Part 5

4 MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS. Read the article about Darwin's theory of evolution. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

- 1 Charles Darwin's theory
 - A was completely new.
 - B had been around for centuries.
 - C tried to solve the questions about how new species evolved.
 - D was about the origin of life itself.
- 2 *On the Origin of Species*
 - A was refused by the Victorian public because of its clash with religion.
 - B accepted the theory of a universe created by God.
 - C reflected the biblical interest of the time.
 - D reflected intellectual ideas of the time.
- 3 Darwin believed that living species
 - A changed gradually as the environment changed around them.
 - B were created in each new geological era.
 - C did not possess any variations in their genetic code.
 - D did not descend from earlier species.
- 4 Darwin's ideas
 - A were rejected by all the scientific community.
 - B seemed to provide the missing connection scientists were looking for.
 - C received unanimous support from naturalists.
 - D were limited in their use of evidence.
- 5 Reverend Charles Kingsley
 - A was a member of the clergy hostile to Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*.
 - B challenged Darwin to demonstrate his theory.
 - C believed Darwin had discovered a new law about a God-governed world.
 - D asked Darwin to give up his theory.
- 6 Darwin's idea of natural selection
 - A was guided and caused by God.
 - B was soon largely accepted by international scientists.
 - C was not confirmed by the new fossils discovered.
 - D pointed out there was no meaning behind how life changed.

LINK TO TODAY

5 DISCUSS. Do you think we should investigate any innovative theory possible, whatever the field? Can you give any examples of revolutionary scientific theories today? You can search the Internet to answer this question.

Darwin vs God?

About two hundred years ago, Charles Darwin was born. Many people believe that he was the man who discovered that we come from monkeys. Yet he did no such thing. Writers before Darwin had made connections between humans and apes and monkeys because of our obvious physical similarities. Instead, Darwin set out to answer the questions: How are new species formed? Where do they come from? His theory was not about the origin of life itself. Although Darwin believed that this question too would turn out to have a perfectly natural explanation, he thought that it was beyond the power of science to answer at that time.

We often hear that when *On the Origin of Species* was published, there were strong protests and a historic clash of science and religion. But is that true? It is probably more fantasy than fact. The Victorian public that first read, or read about, *On the Origin of Species* were, for the most part, not biblical literalists. For decades, the most enlightened writers in the fields of science and religion had accepted that much of the Old Testament, and Genesis in particular, had to be read in a metaphorical sense. Now Victorian readers were confronted with one of the leading men of science of the day publishing a work claiming that, contrary to long-held belief, new species were not somehow created in each new geological age to fit the new conditions. Instead, they were the lineal descendants of earlier species. These had gradually changed as the environment changed around them. Thus, all living and extinct species were related in a single genealogical family tree – the tree of life.

Darwin's theory inspired a wide range of reactions. Among the scientific community, they ranged from contemptuous rejection to enthusiastic support. Darwin's wide variety of arguments and evidence persuaded many that he had found the hidden link that naturalists had been seeking which explained how all the different genera and species were related. Other writers felt that Darwin's views were an attack on the role of a Creator in nature.

Others, like the Reverend Charles Kingsley, felt differently. To religious thinkers like Kingsley, Darwin had uncovered a new law by which God governed the natural world and it was quite reasonable to reconcile Darwin's views with their religion. As the years passed, the common descent of species became increasingly accepted. Yet the other key Darwinian idea – natural selection – was much less welcome. The view that natural selection was the primary mechanism was often rejected. Many suggested instead that the variations that natural selection produced were themselves divinely guided or caused. The bottom line seemed to be: Was there a meaning or intention behind how life changed? According to Darwin, there were only natural reasons.

The fact that Darwin's views were largely accepted throughout the international community within ten to fifteen years is remarkable. Scientists found that new avenues were thrown open to their research. Countless confirmations and refinements were published and new fossil forms were discovered which filled gaps between already known groups, just as Darwin had predicted.

(Adapted from BBC History Magazine, 2009)



7.5 Victorian London

KC
CULTURAL AWARENESS
AND EXPRESSION COMPETENCE

WARM-UP

1 DISCUSS. Many London landmarks were built during Queen Victoria's reign. Look at the pictures on these pages: which styles did the Victorians use? Have you ever visited the places in the pictures?

FIRST Reading and Use of English – Part 7

2 MULTIPLE MATCHING. You are going to read an article about Victorian architecture in London. For questions 1–10, choose from the paragraphs (A–D). The paragraphs may be chosen more than once.

Which paragraph

points out that the techniques used for the building were borrowed from ship building?

1

explains the different architectural styles used during the Victorian Age?

2

says who made this building her official residence from 1837 on?

3

explains the different styles of public and private buildings?

4

describes the building as the first national museum open to every visitor?

5

talks about a building made of iron and glass?

6

describes an iconic part of the building where famous people appear?

7

explains some key features of ancient Greek architecture?

8

mentions two architects who made the building bigger?

9

says the building contains tropical plants?

10

A Victorian architecture

Much of the London we see today dates back to the Victorian Age. In their buildings, the Victorians often revived previous styles. Many architects used both classical and Gothic forms, matching the style to the building. Although there was no set rule, classical forms were preferred for civic and public buildings – like government offices, town halls, university colleges – and Gothic for ecclesiastical and domestic ones. This was particularly so before 1855–1860, after which time the Gothic revival prevailed over the classical faction, and Gothic town halls, station façades and academic buildings appeared all over the country.

B The British Museum

The most impressive example of the Greek revival style is the British Museum in London, built between 1825 and 1847 by Sir Robert Smirke (1781–1867). The entrance to the museum is a portico, as was the case in ancient Greek temples. It is made up of columns, which support the roof. The Ionic colonnade in front has forty-four columns. The pediment, the large triangle above the portico designed by Sir Richard Westmacott (1775–1856), is adorned with figures representing 'The Progress of Civilisation'. The centre of the museum was redesigned in 2001 to become the Great Court, surrounding the original Reading Room, which houses about 2,000,000 printed volumes. The British Museum was the first museum in the world to be open to everyone. Its collections are among the most comprehensive ever created, reaching all continents, illustrating and documenting the history of human culture from its beginnings to the present.



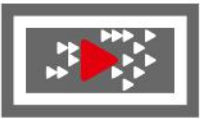
C Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Palace is located in the City of Westminster, in the centre of London. Originally built in 1705, it was enlarged during the 19th century by architects John Nash (1752–1835) and Edward Blore (1787–1879). Queen Victoria made it the official royal residence of the British monarch after her accession to the throne in 1837.

1. The British Museum, in London, designed by Sir Robert Smirke and built between 1825 and 1847.

2. Buckingham Palace, in London, completed in 1705 and enlarged during the 19th century.





VIDEO
The Houses
of Parliament

The East Front contains the well-known balcony from which the royal family traditionally greets the crowds. The palace chapel was destroyed by a German bomb in World War II. The Queen's Gallery was opened to the public in 1962 to exhibit works of art from the Royal Collection. Buckingham Palace Garden is the largest private garden in London. The State Rooms, used for official and state entertaining, are open to the public for most of August and September as part of the Palace's Summer Opening. In front of Buckingham Palace there is the massive Victoria Memorial (1914), a sculpture dedicated to Queen Victoria.

D Palm House at Kew Gardens

The Palm House is at the very heart of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew. It was built between 1844 and 1848 by architect Decimus Burton and iron-maker Richard Turner.

3. Palm House at Kew Gardens, London, a glasshouse built between 1844 and 1848 by Decimus Burton and Richard Turner.

4. The Houses of Parliament, in London, mostly rebuilt in the 19th century.



The aim was to provide a home for the tropical plants brought to England by Victorian explorers. As no one had ever built such a large glass building before, the architects adapted techniques used in ship building. This is why the building looks very much like an upside-down ship hull. It is the world's most important surviving Victorian glass and iron structure, with an amazing exotic garden specialising in palms and other tropical plants.

3 WATCH the video about the Houses of Parliament and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the architectural style of the Houses of Parliament?
- 2 When were the Houses of Parliament rebuilt?
- 3 Who was the architect?
- 4 What linked the three different elements of Parliament?
- 5 How wide is the area covered by the Houses of Parliament?
- 6 What are the names of the three towers? How are they decorated?
- 7 What is the name of this clock?
- 8 What evokes the Gothic style?

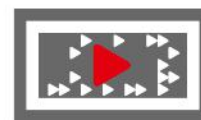


FIRST Writing – Part 2

4 A REVIEW. You have recently read this announcement in an English-language entertainment magazine. Write your review in 140–190 words.

WANTED – The most famous landmarks in Victorian London!

Have you recently studied a monument or building from Victorian London? Write a review of the monument or building describing it and giving your opinion. Say if you would recommend visiting it and why or why not. The best review will be published in the magazine.



7.6 The Victorian legacy

WARM-UP

1 LOOK at the pictures. Tick those you think come from Victorian times.



☐ pleasure garden



☐ hot-air balloon



☐ pub



☐ postage stamp



☐ traditional Christmas tree



☐ piano



☐ professional football player

LISTENING 1.2

2 SHORT OPEN ANSWERS. Listen to an interview with a historian about Victorian inventions we still use today. While listening, answer the questions (1-7) using a maximum of 4 words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

0 What is the name of the radio programme?
Links to the Past

Q1 What was featured on the first postage stamp?

Q2 What did a Scottish blacksmith invent?

Q3 When was the first Christmas card sent?

Q4 Who brought the idea of a decorated Christmas tree to Britain?

Q5 Which institutions had always considered sport important?

Q6 What were formed between 1840 and 1880?

Q7 Who was one of the first people to send a text message?

READING

3 MULTIPLE MATCHING. Read the article about entertainment in Victorian times. Match the questions (1-7) with the paragraphs (A-E). You can choose each paragraph more than once. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Which form of entertainment

0 was provided in different sections of a building for different classes of people? C

Q1 offered different exhibitions?

Q2 gave rise to disorder and police action when it was closed down?

Q3 offered a delightful mixture of songs, comedy and circus acts?

Q4 was located near a river?

Q5 was in an elaborate building that no longer exists?

Q6 provided music, shows and firework displays?

Q7 had historic ruins as well as models of exotic plants?

How the Victorians invented leisure

Whether it was visiting a ‘human zoo’, taking a bull on a hot-air balloon ride, or singing vulgar songs, Victorian Londoners loved to have fun. As entrepreneurs and impresarios came up with increasingly elaborate ways to make money from the capital’s huge potential audience, Victorians effectively invented the modern leisure industry – including theme parks, pubs and professional football. The hunt for profit took place against the backdrop of typical Victorian concerns surrounding morality, class and empire. So, where did Victorians go for fun? And what still exists today?

A You probably won’t hear the typical vulgar songs of the Victorian music hall at Wilton’s these days, but this characteristic theatre in London’s historic East End is one of the few Victorian music halls still standing. Wilton’s was built in 1859, as music halls began to appear in London following changes in licensing laws. Crowds loved the mix of sentimental songs, comedy, circus performers and blackface minstrels. At Wilton’s you can still see a mix of theatre, comedy and music – and there’s also a great bar.

B A dance craze hit London in the 1840s, and a number of dancing rooms – or casinos – were opened, including Laurent’s Casino off the Strand. This was London’s first night-club, and it later transferred to the Argyll Rooms on Shaftesbury Avenue. When the Argyll Rooms lost its licence in 1878, there was a riot. Drunken medical students were so incensed at the closure of their favourite dance hall, they took to the streets and hurled firecrackers at the police. That gives you an idea of the sort of crowd that used to frequent the Argyll Rooms, the West End’s premier and most dissolute dance hall.

C Gin palaces were created partly to make gin-drinking respectable; their decorative features are still the defining characteristics of modern pubs. One of the most distinctive features of the Victorian pubs were the panelled dividers installed to ensure different classes of customer had their own safe space – and class was a major concern for Victorian moral authorities, who worried that the new forms of mass entertainment were cutting across traditional boundaries.

D A set of elaborate iron gates by a riverside park are all that remain of the Cremorne, once one of the most notorious of London’s Victorian pleasure gardens. It opened in 1843 and had hundreds of nightly visitors. The pleasure gardens had promenades and open-air platforms for bands, plus curious performers such as ‘the Beckwith frogs’, a family who ate breakfast in an underwater tank. There were elaborate firework displays, including recreations of the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny. Another Victorian favourite was the novelty hot-air balloon ascent.

E Pleasure gardens were overshadowed by larger exhibition grounds such as the Crystal Palace, which tried to find a way of balancing entertainment with a hard dose of cultural education. Little physically remains of the Crystal Palace itself, but the grand 200-acre grounds still exist as a public park. The great glass building was used as a showcase for luxury goods but also had zones with fine art, artefacts and historic architecture such as a Roman villa and 15-metre copies of the statues of Ramesses II in Abu Simbel. There were dioramas showing flora and fauna from around the world. The gardens hosted elaborate entertainments – a race featuring ponies ridden by monkeys was one highlight – as well as plays, operas and pantomimes. The Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire in 1936 but its footprint remains, as well as the stone statues of dinosaurs.

(Adapted from www.theguardian.com, 2019)



1. A carousel at St Giles’ fair in Oxford (1895).



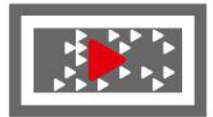
TEEN FORUM

What form of entertainment would you choose if you could go back in time to early Victorian Britain? Write your comment.

.....

.....

.....



7.7 The beginning of an American identity 1837–1861

WARM-UP

1 DISCUSS. Do you know how these words are related to American history? Which other words can you add when thinking about American identity?

dream
frontier
American
pot
melting

1. William Tylee Ranney, *Advice on the Prairie*, 1853. Cody, Whitney Gallery of Western Art.



SHAPING THE AMERICAN MIND

The new federal American republic, established after the American War of Independence (📖 6.2), grew as a nation in the 19th century, expanding its territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. It developed a unique American identity that also found its original expression in literature and in the arts.

Puritanism (📖 4.3) was one of the important cultural factors that helped shape the American mind. It was the religious faith of the first settlers in the 17th century, the Pilgrim Fathers (📖 3.4), who encouraged the spirit of adventure in the name of liberty and emphasised the ethic of hard work to improve each individual's social and financial situation.

As the 18th century progressed, more and more immigrants from all over Europe moved to America and settled in thirteen different colonies along the Atlantic coast. This was fast becoming a 'melting pot', where different races were brought together and were eventually to shape the new 'American'.

The development of the American mind was also influenced by faith in reason and human progress. The belief that man's own efforts can lead him to success was the most important element of the so-called 'American dream'. The spirit of democracy and the idea of justice and equality were brought about by the War of Independence, where victory saw the birth of a new nation.

Though still influenced by European traditions and manners, the new cultural image of America began to take shape. It was dominated by two forces. The first was the East Coast, with the academic influence of the universities of Harvard and Yale, and the business and cultural centre of New York, with its values of wealth and respectability. The second force came from the idea of the as-yet undeveloped West, characterised by the pioneer spirit, the myth of the frontier and the country's endless possibilities.

Truly American characteristics began to emerge in the 19th century, especially in prose. The short story became a distinctive form, mastered by Edgar Allan Poe (1809–1849) (📖 6.11), while James Fenimore Cooper (1789–1851) created the 'epic' of the frontier in his novels.

2 READ the text above and answer the questions.

- How did America expand in the 19th century?
- How did Puritanism influence the American mind?
- What was the 'melting pot'?
- What other elements helped develop the American mind and the 'American dream'?
- Which two forces dominated the new cultural image of America?
- In what literary genre did the truly American characteristics begin to appear?

FIRST Listening – Part 4 1.3

3 MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS. You will hear a radio interview with a journalist talking about the American frontier. For questions 1–7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- What issues were involved in the expansion westwards?
 - Wars with France and Spain and problems with moving West.
 - Frontier battles with pioneers and the independence of local communities.
 - Hostility from local communities, colonial wars and the pioneers' spirit of independence.
- What characterised the frontier hero?
 - Spirituality and a wish to convert the American Indians to Christianity.
 - A sense of excitement and interest in the Western wilderness.
 - A desire to join the local tribes and become an American Indian.
- What did pioneers learn from the frontier experience?
 - Success depended on self-knowledge and respect for the environment.
 - The powers of the wilderness were stronger than the knowledge of good and evil.
 - Civilisation and wilderness were not in contrast.
- What is Mary's attitude towards the environment where the North American Indians lived?
 - She sees it as difficult and hostile.
 - She acknowledges the vastness and sublime nature of the environment.
 - She describes it as monotonous and severe.
- In which ways were the American Indians doubly wronged by the white man?
 - They were dispossessed of all their traditions and only left with their land.
 - They had to fight to obtain land and prove they weren't villains.
 - Their lands were taken away from them and they were depicted as evil.
- Why were Native Americans later seen as a symbol for freedom?
 - Because they had a close relationship with nature.
 - Because they didn't have a political and societal structure.
 - Because their way of life was seen as a freer one than under civilisation.
- What image of the frontier emerges from Mary's descriptions?
 - Nature and individuals play a fundamental role.
 - Native Americans are seen as the local heroes.
 - The wilderness is in a losing battle against the pioneers.

FIRST Reading and Use of English – Part 3

4 WORD FORMATION. For questions 1–8, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

MANIFEST DESTINY

'Manifest Destiny' was a phrase used to justify a sort of divine right to the (0) **TERRITORIAL** expansion of the United States westwards to the Pacific. This expansion was accelerated after the discovery of gold in 1829 leading to the (1) of Native American lands and misery for the evacuated tribes. The phrase first appeared in 1845, in *The United States Magazine and Democratic Review*.

The (2) author wrote: 'Our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free (3) of our multiplying millions'. The article concerned the annexation of Texas but was used to promote the annexations of (4) territory acquired in the war with Mexico and of territory in Oregon gained through (5) with the British.

The (6) established the Oregon Trail so that more pioneers could move to Oregon, which became a state in 1859. Around 1846, John C. Frémont and many soldiers invaded California. They declared it their own republic and named it the 'Bear Flag Republic'. Manifest Destiny had serious consequences for Native Americans since the US (7) tried to expand into the West through the legal purchase of Native American land in treaties. Indians were encouraged to sell their tribal lands and become (8) '.....'.

TERRITORY

EXPLOIT

KNOW

DEVELOP

MEXICO

NEGOTIATE

SETTLE

GOVERN

CIVIL

DID YOU KNOW?

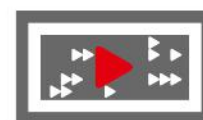
Native Americans today

Today there are approximately 2.8 million Native Americans in the USA, organised into 562 tribes which are federally recognised. The majority of Native Americans live in big cities and rural areas, while others live on federal reservations. Most tribes follow their own tribal laws and are not subject to state laws. Those who live in reservations do so to maintain their traditions.

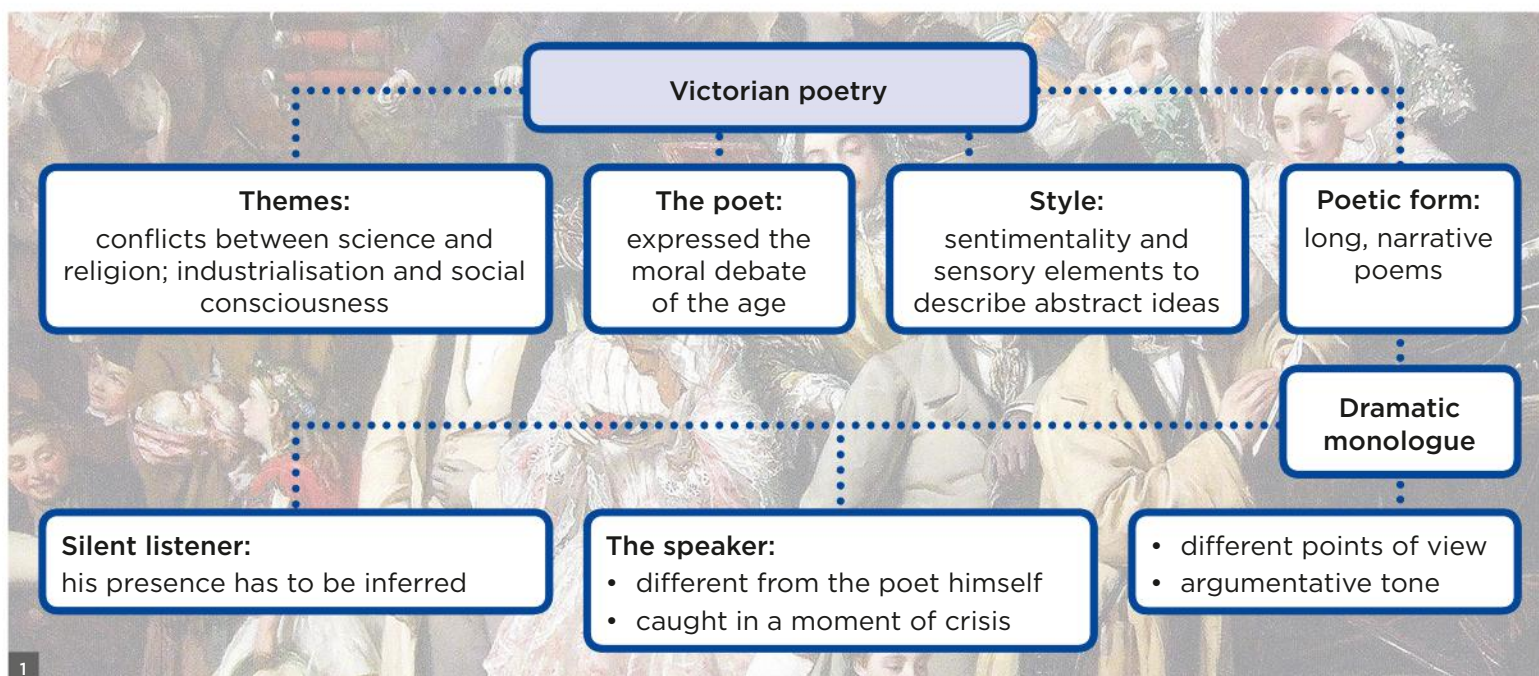


LINK TO TODAY

5 DISCUSS. Do you think it might be difficult for Native Americans to fit into the lifestyle of contemporary America? Think about what you have learned in this section and use your own knowledge of American Indian culture through films, TV programmes, documentaries or personal reading.



7.8 Victorian poetry



During Victoria's reign, England experienced a tremendous cultural upheaval and literature underwent a radical change, taking on a severe, utilitarian view of nature.

Poetry became more concerned with social reality and its recurring themes were: the conflicts between scientific discoveries, such as evolution, and religion; the industrialisation of the country and the growing social consciousness. The poet was seen as a 'prophet' and a 'philosopher', able to express the intellectual and moral debate of the age. He used sentimentality, imagery and sensory elements to describe abstract ideas such as the conflict between faith and progress. He was at times fascinated by classical and medieval literature, because he wanted to show his readers that modern life was as susceptible to romantic behaviour as the remote legends of King Arthur or the Italian Renaissance.

Long, narrative poems were preferred to the short, lyric ones that had been so popular in the Romantic Age. An enduring innovation in Victorian poetry was the dramatic monologue, in which a single character reveals him/herself

to the reader through a monologue addressed to a silent listener, whose presence has to be inferred from clues in the speaker's monologue.

The speaking character, who is different from the poet himself, uses the first singular pronoun 'I' and is caught in a critical or dramatic moment. As the speaker must be judged only on his own words, different points of view may be justified and supported. This suggestion of the absence of a unique truth was the exact opposite of the Victorian love for certainties and it paved the way to new possibilities for poetry in the Modern Age, bringing verse closely in touch with the often unpredictable movements of the human mind. The speaker uses an argumentative tone to reveal the main character's thoughts.

The major poets of the age were Alfred Tennyson (👤 7.9), Robert Browning (1812–1889), who is remembered as an original creator of characters in his best dramatic monologues, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806–1861), who wrote beautiful love sonnets.

1 READ about Victorian poetry and answer the questions.

- Why did literature undergo a radical change in the Victorian Age?
- What did poetry mainly deal with?
- What was the poet's role?
- How did he express the moral debate of the age?
- What poetic form did he mainly employ?
- What are the main features of the dramatic monologue?

1. William Powell Frith, *The Derby Day*, 1858. London, Tate Britain.