

Pre	Romans	Saxons	Vikings	Normans	Tudors	Stuart	Georgian	Victorians	Today
BC	43	450	793	1066	1485	1603	1714	1837	1939

THE VICTORIANS

Key Dates	
1838	Queen Victoria crowned aged 18.
1840	Queen Victoria married Prince Albert.
1842	Children under 10 can no longer work in underground mines.
1844	Children aged 8-13 can no longer work for more than 6.5 hours per day.
1856	Each county has to have its own police force.
1861	Prince Albert died of typhoid.
1864	Children under 10 can no longer work as chimney sweeps.
1870	Schools are built for children aged 5-10.
1872	The first FA Cup Final takes place.
1880	The Education Act makes schooling compulsory for all children aged 5-10.
1901	Queen Victoria dies and Edward VII becomes King.



The Victorian Era

The period of time between 1837 to 1901 when Queen Victoria **reigned** over Britain. During her 63 year **reign**, there was a huge contrast between how the rich and poor Victorians lived. Queen Victoria led the expansion of the British empire and saw major changes to all aspects of Britain due to exciting discoveries and **inventions**.

During the Victorian era, the Industrial Revolution was happening - this is when scientific inventions meant that it was easier to make things to sell, and that those things could be sent to places further away than before.

One big reason why the Industrial Revolution happened was because of steam power - this led to the invention of steam trains, which made it faster to travel and to send goods.

A way to make steel from iron was also discovered, which made it easier to make machines for factories and to even build the factories themselves.

All of these things during the Industrial Revolution meant that lots of products could be made in the same place at the same time - this is called mass production. Before this, it would have been just one tradesman making one thing at a time.

Also during the Victorian Era, Great Britain became the British Empire. Britain governed many countries, kingdoms and colonies all over the world. Many of these places are part of the British Commonwealth today.

Before the Victorian era, it took days - sometimes weeks - to travel places. Inventions such as the steam train and the iron steam ship meant that travel took a lot less time, so people started going to places where they wouldn't have thought to before.

It was also faster to get in touch with other people, even if you were all the way across the Atlantic Ocean. The telegraph and telephone were both invented in the Victorian era, so people didn't always have to write letters if they had something important to say.

People started using electricity for the first time in the Victorian Era. The first electrically-lit streetlights, public buildings and even villages were in the UK.

By 1901, half of all the people who lived in Britain (not including the Empire) lived in cities. This was a huge change because most people had lived in the country around the start of the Victorian era.

The Victorians

The Industrial Revolution

- A period of huge change in Britain between 1750 and 1900.
- Before the **Industrial Revolution**, Britain was a rural country, most people lived off the land with **livestock**.
- People began to realise that coal and steam could be used to power factories, large machines, flour and cotton mills. This reduced the time it took to make something and increased the amount that could be made and so the **Industrial Revolution** began.
- Huge factories were built and towns expanded.
- People would **migrate** to the towns attracted by reliable work and pay from the factories.
- Houses for workers were built closer to the factories.
- Better transport links helped boost trade by transporting people and goods quickly and cheaply all across the country.

Key Inventions

1800s- Railway Network	1838- Photography	1840- Penny Black Stamp	1843- Christmas Cards
1852- British Pillar Post Box	1852- Public Flushing Toilet	1863- London Underground Railway	1872- The Penny-Farthing Bicycle
1876- Telephone	1879- Electric Bulb	1885- Petrol Motor Car	1895- X-rays

Key Terms

British Empire	lands that Britain controlled all over the world (for example, India).	Parliament	the House of Lords and the House of Commons who meet to advise the queen.
Coronation	the formal service of a making a person king or queen of a country.	Paupers	very poor people who have no way of feeding or supporting themselves.
Disease	illnesses, many of which were very dangerous (for example, cholera, smallpox and typhoid).	Poverty	people living in poverty do not have enough money to feed or clothe themselves.
Factory acts	laws passed by government to protect people working in dangerous factories (particularly women and children).	Public health	the health of people living in a particular place, often looked after by the government.
Government	people chosen by the country to pass laws and run the country.	Reign	the length of time a king or queen rules a country.
Hygiene	cleanliness needed to keep healthy.	Rural	living in the country.
Industrialized	where heavy mechanised or factory industries, like mining and cloth making, have been widely developed.	Slum	poorest, most overcrowded and uncared for part of a town or city.
Laws	rules passed by government which people living in a country have to abide by.	Transport	ways of travelling around, including roads, railways, undergrounds, and ships. Railways expanded hugely under the Victorians.
Leisure	holidays and other fun activities which people do when they are not working.	Upper class	wealthy people, often estate owners, who had a lot of money and servants.
Middle class	the middle of the Victorian class system, including lawyers earning £500 per year to a small shopkeeper earning £100 per year.	Urban	living in a town or city.
Mill	factory that makes cloth.	Workhouse	places set up by the government where poor people with no money could go and be given a bed, food and work. Many had very harsh rules.
Mines	underground areas where people worked digging out coal and other minerals.	Working class	the bottom of the Victorian class system. A working class man could be anyone from a skilled mechanic earning £90 a year to a servant earning £10 per year.