

Life in Victorian Britain

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This publication, covering the 10 weeks course in its entirety, explores the immense social, cultural and economic changes, from the backdrop of Victoria's accession in 1837 to her death in 1901.

Extensive research has been carried out to illustrate vividly what life was really like in Britain in all sectors of society as the century unfolded. Each chapter represents a weekly session and is broken down into distinct themes.

The format is mainly presentational with plenty of opportunity for discussion and the chance to bring along any archival material.

- 1. Victoria's inheritance**
- 2. Transport, Travel & Trade**
- 3. Working Lives**
- 4. Home Life & Leisure**
- 5. Reform, Religion & Rumpy-Pumpy**
- 6. Beacons of the Future**
- 7. The World of Empire**
- 8. Medicine, Surgery & Psychology**
- 9. A Better Life for Most**
- 10. End of an Era**

Several other related papers augment the course to provide far greater depth on specific topics, as well amplifying some touched on only fleetingly.

Contents

1. Victoria's inheritance	Shaking off the Past Aristocratic Britain Signs of Discontent Spectre of the Workhouse
2. Transport, Travel & Trade	Horse-Power to Steam-Power Creating a Rail System Life of a Railway Navvy Britain on the Move
3. Working Lives	Factory & Industrial Life Domestic Service Below Stairs Working on the Land Birth of the Co-op
4. Home Life & Leisure	The Urban Poor Countryside Living Middle Class Life in London Literature for the Masses
5. Reform, Religion & Rumpy-Pumpy	Reform of the Electoral System Opium of the People Sexism & Sexual Ignorance
6. Beacons of the Future	Peering Through the School Gates A Poor Education Educating our Masters Striving for Equality
7. The World of Empire	Colouring the Map Red The Great Exhibition of 1851 Christianity, Civilization, Commerce & Conquest Ineptitude & Incompetence Crushing Rebellion
8. Medicine, Surgery & Psychology	Health & Medicine – an Introduction A Growing Medical Industry Pioneers in Anaesthetics, Surgery & Research The Powers of Rejuvenation Treating Mental Illness Developments in Psychology
9. A Better Life for Most	Aspiring to Middle Class Status Distinguished by Profession Keeping up with the Jones Stemming the Tide Those Left Behind Let Workers Unite Inventing the Future

10. End of an Era

The Age of Philanthropy
Victorian Values – Myth or Reality
Proud to be British
Roles & Representation in Society
A Nation in Mourning

Prime References

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Numerous other sources have been used to provide supporting information and to corroborate details, including a multitude of academic websites and occasional PhD theses.

Separate references have been provided in Chapter 8 in view of the technical content and medical terminology.