

UNIT 8 BRITISH EMPIRE

A2/B1

LISTENING

A great invention



→ Je peux comprendre un document audio sur l'invention du phonographe.

Listen to the audio. Say if the sentences are true or false. Correct the false statements.

- 1 The phonograph was invented by Thomas Edison in 1877.
- 2 The phonograph was the first machine to reproduce recorded sound.
- 3 Kruesi made drawings of the inventions and Edison constructed them.
- 4 The people who created the machines didn't know what they were for.
- 5 When he invented the phonograph, Edison didn't share it with anybody.



B1

WRITING

The steam engine



→ Je peux rédiger un court texte sur la machine à vapeur.

Write a text about the steam engine.

Talk about how it worked and why it was the most important invention of the Industrial Era.

B1

READING

Explorers



→ Je peux comprendre un texte sur l'expansion de l'empire britannique.

Read the text.

Answer the questions.

The Victorians were determined to expand their trade routes across the globe, to open up the dark continent of Africa, to conquer the world and to build an empire. They knew they were right, and they were fearless in their pursuit of progress.

Explorers were only given helmets, compasses, and guns, but they were confident and able to handle crocodiles, lions and hostile natives. However, a more serious problem was posed by mosquitoes. Most Britons who ventured into the tropics seemed to catch malaria. West Africa was known as 'the white man's graveyard'.

↑ Adam Hart-Davis, *What the Victorians Did for Us* (2001)

- 1 What did the Victorians want?
How are they described?
- 2 How was a typical explorer equipped?
- 3 Why was West Africa called 'the white man's graveyard'?