

EDUCATION IN VICTORIAN TIMES

Read this portion of a article about education in Victorian England and do the true/false questions.

<https://sites.udel.edu/britlitwiki/education-in-victorian-england/>

Gender in Education

In Victorian England, women were believed to only need to be educated in "accomplishments" such as artistic talents (singing and dancing), and the languages, essentially anything that would allow them to earn a husband and become the "Angels of the House" (Hughes).

There were many doctors who believed that if women studied too much education, it would stunt their ability to reproduce. Therefore, when universities opened to females, a lot of families did not want to send their daughters for fear no one would want to marry them afterward. However, as time went on and more and more women's colleges opened, more intelligent women attended to be educated in things other than "fashionable" subjects. In this way, knowledge is power and sparked the want for the right to vote and the creation of the National Union of Women's Suffrage in 1897, wish the Queen could not understand (Picard).

It was not until more than forty years after the Victorian Era began that the Education Act was passed in England in 1870, making it required that both females and males get an elementary education, while secondary education in even upper-class families was not a consideration for females until the 1890s (Demir).

Female teachers were permitted, however they had a much lower wage than male teachers and were required to choose either having a profession or marriage and therefore all female teachers were required to remain unmarried while male teachers were not (Demir).

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| 1. In Victorian England girls would likely be encouraged to study French. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2. Some believed that studying could have harmful physical effects on girls. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3. A good education made a girl more desirable for marriage. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4. As time went by, distrust of education led to the closings of women's schools. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5. Primary School for both boys and girls became mandatory in the late 1800s. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 6. Before 1890, girls generally did not attend secondary school. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 7. Women who worked as teachers were usually unmarried and lesser paid. | TRUE | FALSE |

