

Read pages 4, 5 and 6 from “The Victorian Era” and complete: the following activities

COMPETENCE:
READING AND ORGANISING INFORMATION

3 **READ** the first paragraph on page 4 and complete the factfile about Queen Victoria.

ASCENDED TO THE THRONE:

AGE:

RULED FOR:

MARRIED IN

HAD CHILDREN

GAVE HER HUSBAND THE TITLE OF IN

4 **COMPLETE** the table about the parliamentary reforms of the 1830s and the first part of Queen Victoria’s reign.

Year	Reform	Aim

5 **EXPLAIN** the following in your own words.

- 1 People’s Charter
- 2 Irish Potato Famine
- 3 Opium Wars
- 4 Indian Mutiny

Read the text in page 8 and choose the correct option

- 1 The urban working poor in Victorian England lived in
 - A communal cottages.
 - B converted farms.
 - C unhealthy conditions.
 - D factory grounds.
- 2 Child labour was common in
 - A dirty or dangerous trades like the army.
 - B factories, mines, street trades and domestic service.
 - C agricultural areas.
 - D the privileged classes.
- 3 Which social classes expanded the most in this period?
 - A The upper middle class.
 - B The working class.
 - C The lower middle class.
 - D The middle and lower middle classes.
- 4 The queen was seen as an iconic symbol of
 - A upper-class superiority.
 - B feminine beauty.
 - C middle-class respectability.
 - D majesty and tolerance.
- 5 In the Victorian Age childhood
 - A was recognised as an important stage in life.
 - B became less important.
 - C was an important source for literature.
 - D became the symbol of respectability.
- 6 Which of the following sentences best describes the main characteristics of Victorian Britain, according to the article?
 - A The time was one of incredible opportunities for people at all levels of society.
 - B The quality of life could dramatically vary in different social realities.
 - C Victorians were hypocrites who did not even try to see the reality around them.
 - D This was one of the best times to be British.

2 1.2 SENTENCE COMPLETION. You will hear a History teacher talking about the coming of the railways. For questions 1-10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Before the railways (1) had been the principal means of transporting goods. By (2) George Stephenson had shown that a (3) was possible when the Stockton to Darlington line was opened. In 1831 the famous engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel began the construction of a railway line from (4) By 1840 the cities of Birmingham, Manchester and Brighton were connected to London by nearly (5) of railway track. The building of the railways required the employment

of tens of thousands of engineers, mechanics, repairmen and technicians, as well as (6) The railway was an important stimulus to industry in the country as the (7) costs meant goods cost less and were available to a wider market. Travel by rail also made it possible for people to go on (8) to the country or the sea. Fresh goods could be brought into towns from the countryside and (9) could be sent out from London all over the country. New towns grew up around the new railway stations and people could live (10) from their workplaces than before.