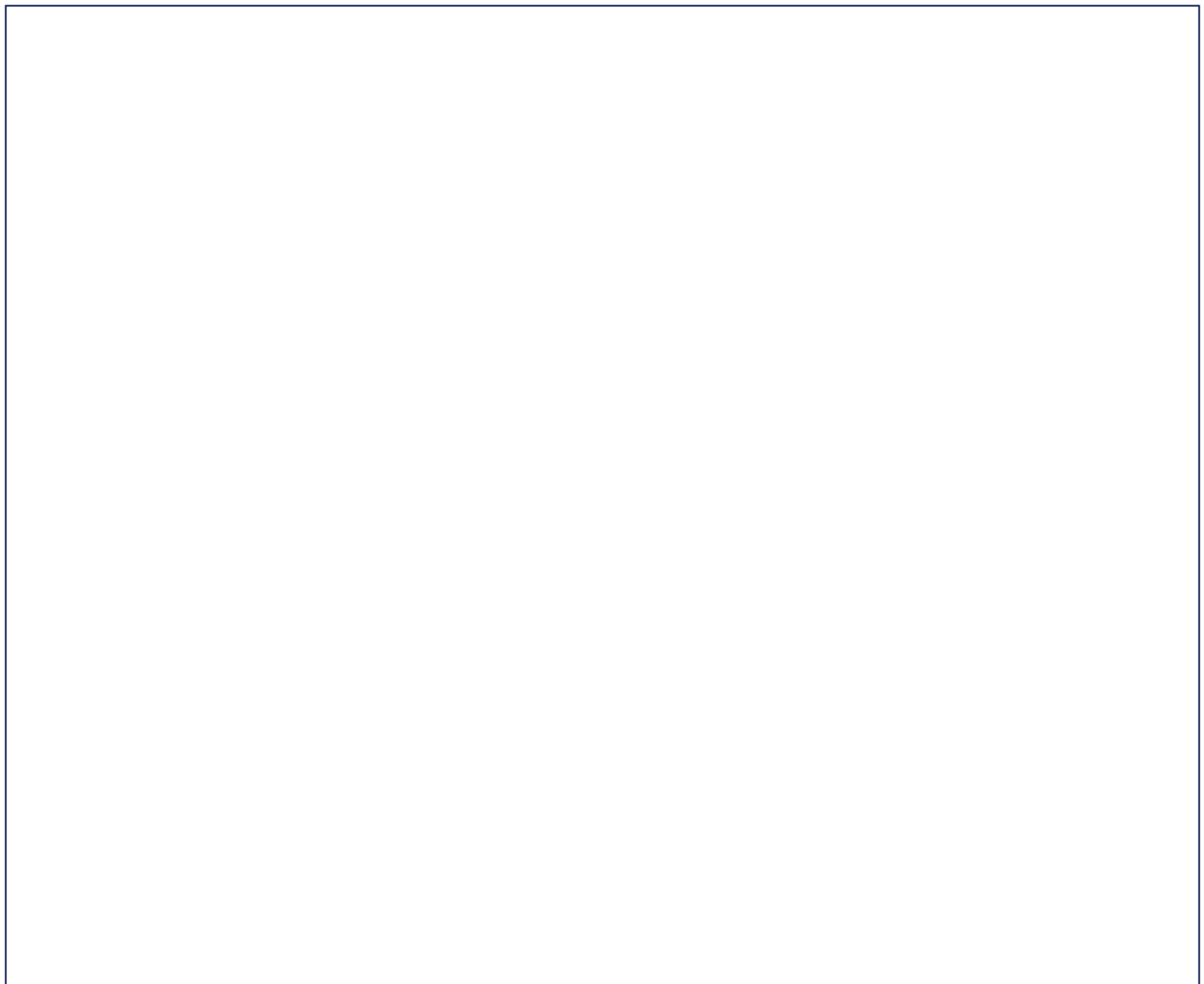


Victorian Life: A Snapshot of Innovation

Learning objective: To understand the social and technological developments of the Victorian era by visualising the stark contrasts between different living conditions and industrial advancements.

Use the drawing prompt below to create a split-scene illustration on your paper. Once your drawing is complete, use the word bank to label the key features of your Victorian scene. Reflect on the historical accuracy of your work using the questions provided.

Draw: Draw a 'split-scene' landscape on your page. On the left side, illustrate a busy, soot-filled industrial street featuring a towering steam engine or factory with smoke rising from a chimney stack, and children working or playing on cobbled stones. On the right side, illustrate the interior of a Victorian parlour with ornate furniture, heavy curtains, and a gas lamp. Use a detailed, observational style, ensuring the contrast between the grime of the industrial city and the comfort of the middle-class home is clear.



Label words: Chimney stack · Cobbled street · Gas lamp · Steam engine · Workhouse · Parlour · Industrial machinery · Top hat

Steps:

1. Identify one piece of technology in your drawing that revolutionised travel or industry during the Victorian era. Explain how this invention changed the way people lived.

2. Compare and contrast the living conditions of a wealthy Victorian family and a working-class family. What evidence of social inequality can be seen in your illustration?
3. Justify why the introduction of the steam engine is often considered the defining moment of the Victorian period.
4. Label three items in your drawing that would have been rare or non-existent in the preceding Georgian period.
5. What might happen to a young child living in the industrial city scene if the Factory Acts had not been passed? Give a reason for your answer.
6. Explain why the invention of the gas lamp changed the rhythm of daily life for Victorian citizens compared to those living in the 1700s.