

Victorian England

The Victorians lived during the reign of **Queen Victoria**, from 1837-1901. It was an era of exciting discoveries, inventions and exploration following the Industrial Revolution. **Britain** expanded its territory throughout the world and became the largest, richest and most powerful empire in world history.

- New inventions, like the telephone, motorcar, bicycle and moving film changed the way people lived, worked and travelled. Expansion of the **railways** meant people could travel faster and further than before.
- Lots of people moved to cities to find work, making city centres very cramped! Poor people lived in crowded **slums** — houses which were overcrowded, smelly and in bad repair. As technology advanced, **new machines** left lots of people without jobs. Many resorted to **workhouses**, which provided basic poor relief like food, medical care and shelter in exchange for labour. Conditions were poor and families were often separated.
- Improvements in education meant that more people could enjoy reading. New titles of children's books such as *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Treasure Island* and *The Jungle Book* became popular.
- Some of Britain's best-known poets, thinkers and authors flourished in the Victorian era, like poet **Elizabeth Browning**, playwright **Oscar Wilde** and authors **Emily Brontë** and **Charles Dickens**. Victorians entertained themselves by going to the **theatre** or watching **live music**. Visiting the **music hall** was a popular British pastime for poorer people. For a penny, customers were treated to a variety show, showcasing musicians, comedians and plays.



Key Texts

A Study in Scarlet (Sherlock Holmes)	"A Study in Scarlet" is the story of how Sherlock Holmes solved the murder of Joseph Stangerson (and later, Enoch Drebber). The book is written from the perspective of Dr. John Watson , a retired Afghanistan soldier and doctor, who accompanies Holmes on his investigations in Victorian England.
The Sign of Four (Sherlock Holmes)	In it, the detective and his companion Dr Watson unravel a mystery of hidden treasure and murder. Miss Mary Morstan arrives at 221B, Baker Street to request help with the mystery of her missing father, her anonymous gifts of pearls and a letter requesting her to meet an unknown person that evening.
The Speckled Band (Sherlock Holmes)	Helen Stoner's sister died shortly before her wedding and Helen suspects that their stepfather, Roylott, is the culprit. Helen now worries for her own safety. Holmes agrees to take the case. He then receives a visit from an irate Roylott, who threatens him. Holmes discovers that Roylott wants his stepdaughters dead so that he can keep their inheritance. Roylott sends a poisonous snake (the titular Speckled Band) through the air vents to kill Helen, but Holmes intervenes and the snake ultimately kills Roylott instead.
Frankenstein's Monster by Mary Shelley	Frankenstein tells the story of gifted scientist Victor Frankenstein who succeeds in giving life to a being of his own creation. However, this is not the perfect specimen he imagines that it will be, but rather a hideous creature who is rejected by Victor and mankind in general.
The Hound of the Baskervilles (Sherlock Holmes)	Sherlock Holmes (Basil Rathbone) is intrigued by a centuries-old legend in which every generation of the wealthy Baskerville family is eventually killed by a monstrous hound. Suspecting there is more to the story than meets the eye, he sends Dr. Watson to the estate to investigate. Sir Henry, the only Baskerville left, is grateful for his help. But when a crazed convict escapes and footprints from a beast are found, Baskerville wonders if Watson will be enough.

Observation:

1. the action or process of closely observing or monitoring something or someone.
2. a statement based on something one has seen, heard, or noticed.



Deduction:

the inference of particular instances by reference to a general law or principle.



Sherlock Holmes is a character from books written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. He first appeared in 1887 and is known for his detective skills. His most famous story was *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Many of the stories were made into movies and television dramas. He is a detective who tries to find out who committed crimes. There is a monument in London dedicated to him. He has a sharp mind and solves even the most difficult and strange cases. He works with his friend Dr Watson, a retired army officer. Holmes plays the violin and smokes a pipe. He is very intelligent. Sherlock Holmes was "born" on 6th January 1861, and for more than 100 years his name has been known in every country of the world; and not only his name, but his appearance too. The hawk-like features and piercing eyes; the dressing-gown and pipe; the funny cap and magnifying glass - these details are very familiar.





Explaining PEEL: I had an unusual childhood

- P** - I had a pet elephant when I was a child. 
- E** - My parents owned a circus.
- E** - I have a photograph showing me gazing dreamily out of the window with my pet elephant. 
- L** - This photo proves that I had a pet elephant when I was a child.

Inference Questions

- Usually worth **2** marks
- You need to **think** about these questions 
- **Read between the lines**  The **Text Detective** is a higher ranking member of the police force who can solve **inference** questions by thinking and searching for hidden clues.
- Use clues such as words and phrases to find the answer.

Evaluative Questions

- Usually worth **3** marks – so your answer needs **3** parts
- Often look at the **thoughts** and **feelings** of characters or what you think might happen next 
- Use **evidence** in the text to  explain the reasons for your answer. The **judge** gives reasons for his answers and explains them using evidence from the text.

POINT

I believe that...
It is my view that...
In my opinion...
The author is trying to convey the message that...
It appears/seems that...

EVIDENCE

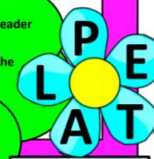
When the author writes...
A clear example of this is...
This can be shown by...
When considering statements such as...
The use of...

TECHNIQUE

~ LINES ~ ENJAMBMENT ~ END STOPPING
~ ASSONANCE ~ ALLITERATION ~ METAPHOR ~ SIMILE ~ PERSONIFICATION ~ ONOMATOPOEIA ~ REPETITION ~ PUNS ~ CONNOTATION ~ DOUBLE MEANINGS ~ AMBIGUITY ~ WORD ORDER ~ ADJECTIVES ~ KEY WORDS AND PHRASES ~ SLANG ~ MISSPELLINGS ~ INTERTEXTUALITY ~ STYLE

ANALYSIS

This demonstrates that the author wants the reader to feel/think/believe...
The effect of **[INSERT TECHNIQUE]** is to make the reader consider/contemplate/evaluate...
Based on this evidence, it appears that...
It is clear from the quote above that...
This is significant because it suggests that...
The author uses these literary techniques to...



LINK

SO WHAT? WHY DOES THIS POINT MATTER?

1. Highlight the key word in the question.
2. Scan the text for the key word (or a synonym).
3. Highlight the key word in the text.
4. Read around the key word until you find the answer – highlight if you need to
5. Check the information answers the question.
6. Write the answer down.
7. Repeat for the next question!



LINK BACK TO THE QUESTION

Conjunctions

Subordinating

Coordinating

so that	after
unless	although
until	as
when	because
whenever	before
where	even if
whereas	if
wherever	that
while	once
however	since



For
And
Nor
But
Or
Yet
So



Relative Clauses

My grandmother (**who** is ninety-two) is a gymnast.

Italy – **where** pizza is said to have been invented – is in Europe.

The vases, **which** were antiques, were extremely valuable.

Instead of 'said', try: shouted ~ yelled ~ called ~ laughed ~ giggled ~ cried ~ whispered ~ muttered ~ explained ~ exclaimed ~ questioned ~ announced ~ protested ~ argued ~ sighed ~ moaned ~ complained ~ disagreed ~ agreed ~ lied ~ admitted

Johnny reminded us, **"Always begin a new speaker on a new line!"**

"Take care with your punctuation," he added.



Semi-colons separate two independent clauses

A whale is not a fish; it is a warm-blooded mammal.

Colons separate two dependent clauses

Whales are mammals **while** sharks are fish
→ whales are mammals; sharks are fish.



Simple sentences: *The werewolf growled.*

Compound sentences: The werewolf growled **and** stalked the oblivious girl.

Complex sentences: The werewolf growled **while** stalking the oblivious girl. // **While** stalking the oblivious girl, the werewolf growled.

Figurative language

Simile	Comparing something to something else using 'like' or 'as'. • The water well was as dry as a bone • The soldier was like a brave lion.
Metaphor	A comparison which is not literally true. Does not use 'like' or 'as'. • The water well was a dry bone. • The soldier was a brave lion.
Personification	Giving an object human characteristics (emotions, sensations, speech, physical movements, etc.) • The cruel waves swallowed the poor swimmer.
Onomatopoeia	A word that names a sound, but also sounds like that sound. • Smash, splash, bang, crash, thud, zoom, sizzle, whizz, boom, honk
Alliteration	The repetition of an initial letter or sound in closely linked words. • Don't dream it. Drive it. • Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers .

Creative Writing Vocabulary

menacing	dim / dark	depressing	raucous	repulsive	terrified
intimidating	shadowy	bleak	riotous	obnoxious	afraid
bloodcurdling	murky	gruesome	blaring	dangerous	petrified
forbidding	gloomy	grisly	devious	fearful	nervous
daunting	sinister	ghastly	sly/crafty	menacing	worried
terrifying	mysterious	shrill	deceitful	hostile	timid
chilling	threatening	vociferous	relieved	aggressive	timorous
creepy	ominous	rowdy	cunning	scared	reassured
frightening	evil	boisterous	scheming	frightened	thankful
unattractive	hideous	unsightly	revolting	anxious	calmed

Show, don't tell!



Active Voice

***Zombies invaded* the quiet town of Bromsgrove.**

Passive Voice

The quiet town of Bromsgrove ***was invaded by* zombies.**

Subjunctive

For the subjunctive, we remove the final s at the end of the verb, so:

- I request that he **write** to her (instead of he *writes* to her)

and in the subjunctive we use the forms *I were* and *they be*, so

- I wish I **were** able to fly (instead of I *was*)
- She asked that they **be** told immediately (instead of they *were* told).

The subjunctive isn't used in English very often. Nowadays it is usually replaced with modal verbs like might, could or should.



STOP! CHECK!
Have you included basic punctuation?

A good essay introduction should:

- catch your reader's **attention**.
- give **background** on your topic.
- present your main **point**.

A good essay conclusion :

- Is the **final** idea left with the reader at the end of an essay.
- **links back** to the essay question by briefly **restating your main points**.
- includes a final thought or **reflection** to highlight the significance of the topic.

DADWAVERSS! Description ~ Action ~ Dialogue ~ Where ~ Adverb ~ Verb ~ Estimation of time ~ Rhetorical questions ~ Simile ~ Subordinating Conjunction ~ Onomatopoeia!

