**Victorian Bicentenary Quiz**

**HOW TO RUN THE QUIZ**

I suggest taping a **line of masking tape** on the floor and inviting **quiz participants to stand on it**. The question is read out. The quizmaster says **‘ready, steady, JUMP.’**

Kids **jump forward for ‘true’ and backwards for ‘false’**. This eliminates chances for cheating and makes it dynamic and engaging to watch.

Pupils can keep count of their own right answers, or pupils can be put out if they get it wrong. Your call – I prefer to keep everyone in for ten questions. Highest scorers can go head-to-head in the last round. Alternatively, pupils can work in groups or pairs and answer on paper. The rounds allow for three heats and a final.

**True or False Round 1**

1. **Victoria become queen at the age of 18. TRUE**
2. **The world’s first sticky postage stamp (1840) was called the ‘Penny Black’. TRUE**
3. **Victoria’s husband was called Barry. FALSE/ALBERT**
4. **The Royal Albert Hall, opened in 1871, is in Glasgow. FALSE LONDON**
5. **Half of all children died before their 5th birthday, according to an 1842 report. TRUE**
6. **The first Sherlock Holmes story was published in 1887. TRUE**
7. **The Great Exhibition opens at Plastic Palace in 1851. FALSE/CRYSTAL PALACE**
8. **The first flushing men’s toilets opened in London in 1852. TRUE**
9. **There was a severe potato famine in Scotland in Victorian Times. FALSE/Ireland**
10. **Education was made FREE for every child in 1891. TRUE. No excuse 😊**

**True or False Round 2**

1. **Victorian author Charles Dickens wrote Treasure Island. FALSE/RLS Stevenson**
2. **The empty ship *Mary Celeste* was found drifting in the Atlantic in 1872. TRUE**
3. **Notorious Victorian murderer Jack the Ripper is never caught. TRUE**
4. **In 1849, 2000 people a week die of pestilence. FALSE/cholera epidemic**
5. **Matthew Webb successfully swims the English Channel in 1875. TRUE (but he died swimming Niagara rapids 8 years later- you’ve got to know when to stop!)**
6. **Victoria is the shortest British monarch since records began. TRUE – under 5 feet**
7. **Victoria’s favourite Scottish servant was John Brown. TRUE**
8. **Queen Victoria survived nine attempts to assassinate her. FALSE/7**
9. **Victoria was scared of bishops as a child. TRUE/ scared of their wigs. Disliked them all her life.**
10. **Victoria said ‘We are not amused’ all the time. FALSE/never. (But ‘I was very much amused’ is a common phrase in her diaries).**

**True or False Round 3**

1. **The Queen died in January 1901. TRUE**
2. **She was 99 when she died. FALSE/81**
3. **Victoria’s son, King Edward, found spelling really hard. TRUE**
4. **A Victorian parlour maid had to work from 6am-10.30pm. TRUE**
5. **A Victorian maidservant was not allowed to have ‘followers’ (boyfriends). TRUE**
6. **Victorian names given to babies included Abishag, Despair, Energetic, Lettuce and Murder. TRUE**
7. **Ratting was a popular past-time. TRUE. (Bets taken on how many rats a dog could kill in a given time. Took place in a rat pit.)**
8. **Boxing took place with no gloves and no rules. FALSE. (All permitted apart from: you were not allowed to kick an opponent when he was on the ground.)**
9. **The Industrial Revolution took place in Victorian times. TRUE**
10. **There was a fine for whistling or singing while at work in a factory. TRUE**

**True or False Round 4**

1. **Factory Managers would alter the clocks so you’d be late, then fine you. TRUE**
2. **Victorians believed killing a spider brought bad luck. TRUE**
3. **Victorians believed ‘swallowing a spider in butter’ cured whooping cough. TRUE**
4. **Popular sensational cheap crime papers were called ‘Dime Dreadfuls’. FALSE/Penny Dreadfuls**
5. **Early policemen were well paid. FALSE. Only one shilling a day**
6. **During the Victorian era, we got the first electric lights. TRUE**
7. **During the Victorian era, we got the first motor cars. TRUE**
8. **Albert never proposed to Victoria. TRUE. (She had to propose to him.)**
9. **Victoria spoke wit a German accent. TRUE**
10. **When Victoria describes her future husband Albert in her diary, she comments on his ‘exquisite nose’. TRUE**

**TIE-BREAKERS:**

1. **Victoria’s mother called her Vicky. FALSE, Drina**
2. **Prince Albert died in a riding accident. FALSE, Typhoid (water from Victoria’s toilet leaked into his drinking water, allegedly)**