

What were the living conditions like for the poor in the 19th century?





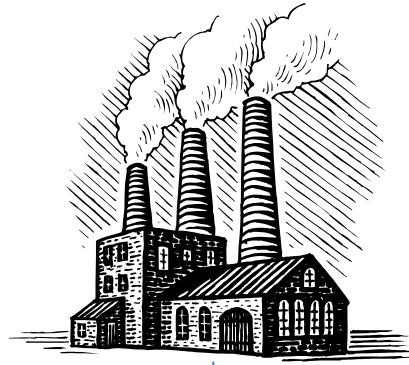
Take a look at the picture and record any vocabulary that comes to mind to describe it.

Learning Objectives:

- **To learn about the living conditions of the poor in the 19th Century.**
- **To examine a number of different sources and reflect on what life must have been like for our ancestors.**

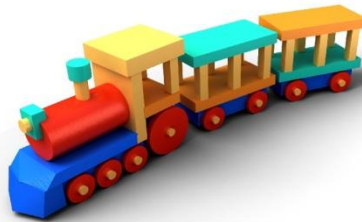


The development of factories

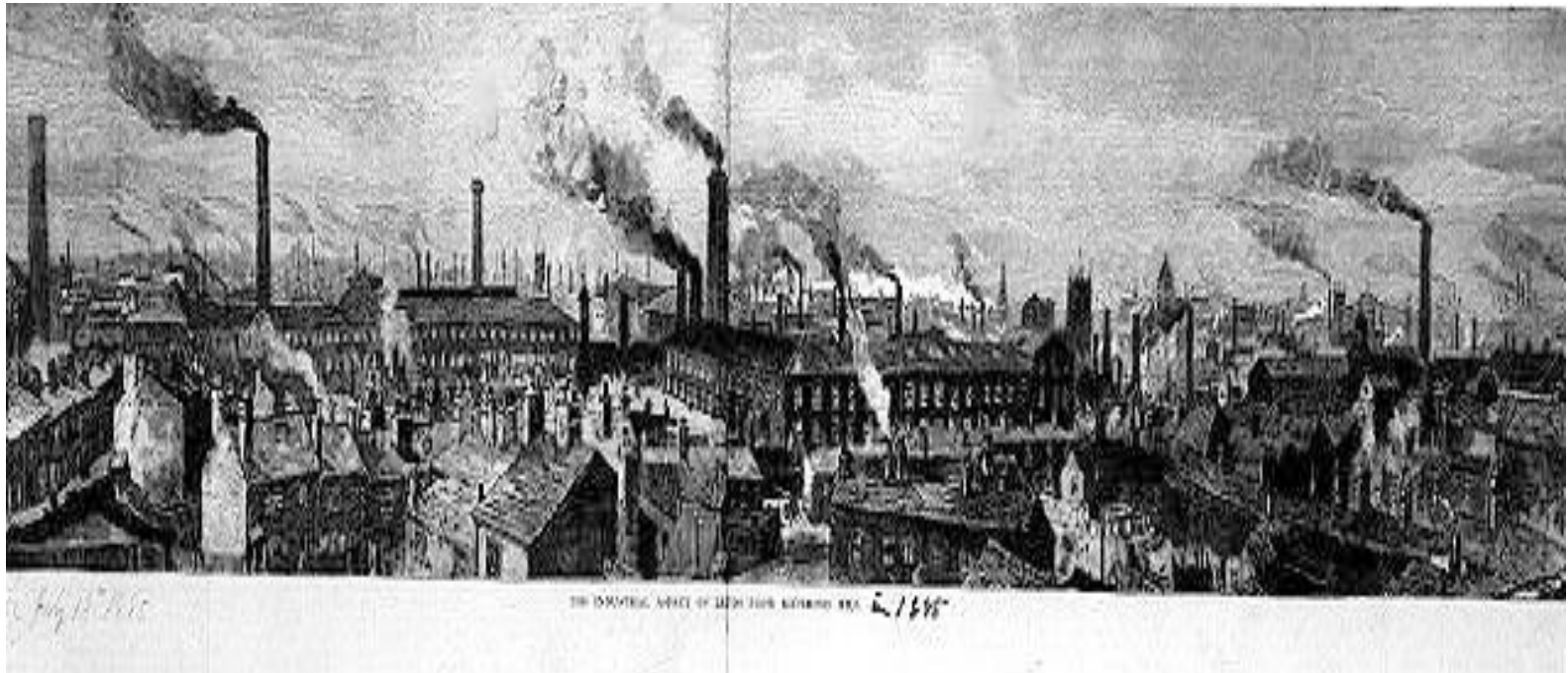


The new factories were like magnets. Made small towns overcrowded cities due to the knock on effect.

Led to poor conditions

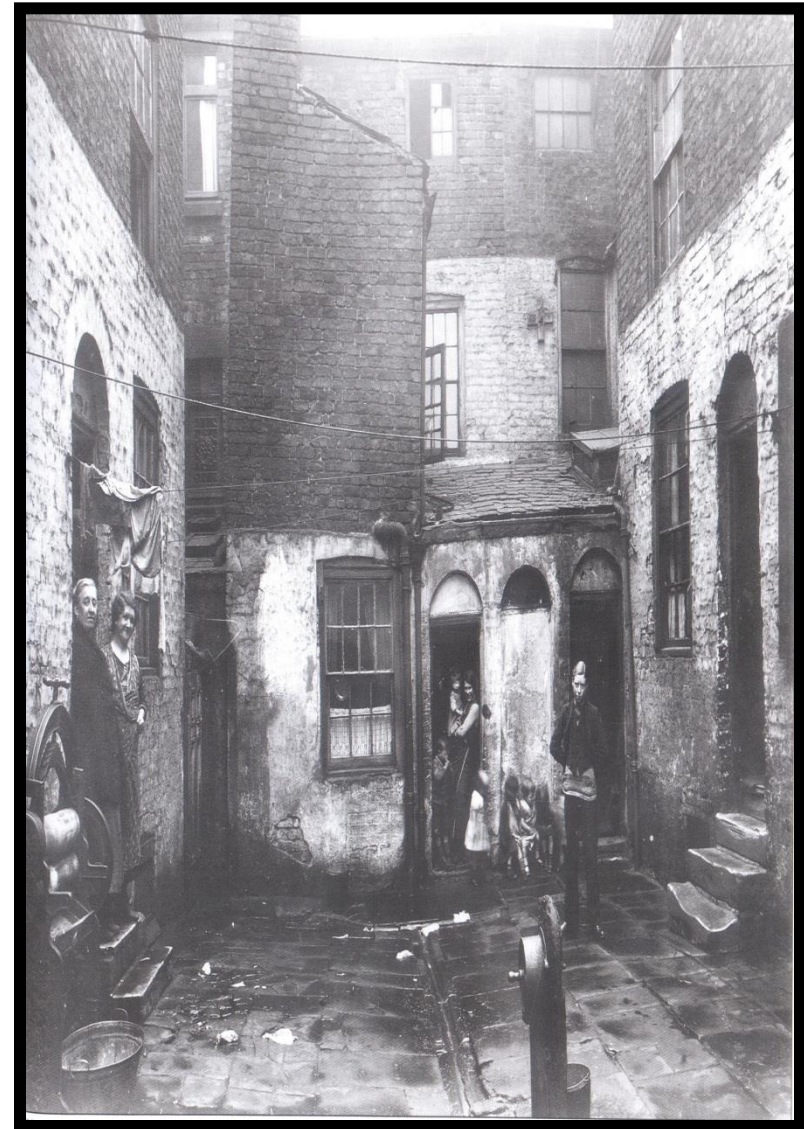


As the Industrial Revolution gathered pace, housing was needed for more and more workers. Some landlords seized the opportunity to exploit this situation. They made their profits by cramming as many poorly-built houses into as small a space as possible. Such cramped, squalid living conditions proved the perfect breeding ground for disease.



What were Slum houses like inside?

There was no toilet, no running water – sometimes not even windows or a fireplace! Rooms were cold, badly ventilated and running with damp. Worst of all were the cellar and attic dwellings in which the poorest families lived. Cellar rooms flooded in bad weather and might be an inch or so deep in stagnant water the whole year round. Attic rooms were cramped and stuffy, with no way of escaping if the building caught fire.



Many of the houses built in the time of the Industrial Revolution had no sewerage system. Instead, each court or street shared a communal privy.

The waste from the privy was tipped into a cesspit – and many landlords would not pay for the cesspits to be emptied until they were overflowing. This meant that human waste could filter through into the water supply that people drank from.

Some houses only had a bucket in the corner as a toilet.



Problems with Slum housing



Sewage



Poor ventilation




Rubbish



Damp



Hygiene



**Dirty drinking
water**

Types of housing

Cellar dwellings

- One-room cellars below ground level.
- As a result the small rooms were damp and poorly ventilated



Back to back housing

- Built in a court grid system.
- The rows of houses were literally built 'back to back' one room deep.



Diseases

Cholera

Typhoid

**Diseases &
killer
conditions**

Influenza

Tuberculosis

Pneumonia

Dirty drinking water; poor cramped housing; lack of toilets; damp rooms, rubbish and filth lining the streets resulted in diseases.