

# Answers

1. During which period in British history were workhouses mainly used?  
Workhouses were mainly used during the Victorian times.
2. Explain what type of person lived in a workhouse.  
The type of person who lived in a workhouse were very poor and could not get a job or were not well enough to work.
3. Give an example of what might happen to a poor person who did not want to live in a workhouse.  
If a poor person did not want to live in a workhouse, they would be homeless/ live on the streets begging for food or money/ be threatened with being put in prison.
4. Why were Union Workhouses built in the 1830s?  
The Union Workhouses were built in the 1830s because the number of poor people soared, so they needed somewhere to live.
5. Why was it considered shameful to live in a workhouse?  
It was considered shameful to live in a workhouse because you were poor/ it was embarrassing/ you couldn't support your family.
6. How were people punished if they broke the rules?  
People were sometimes punished by having to miss a meal or two.
7. Do you think people wanted to wear the workhouse uniforms? Explain your reasons.  
Answers may vary. For example: People would not want to wear the uniform because it was hard wearing.
8. Would it matter to an orphan to live separately from the men and women? Explain your answer.  
It would not matter to an orphan to live separately to the men and women because an orphan had no parents.
9. Why were children not taught to write from 1836?  
Children were not taught to write from 1836 because it was not thought important for poor children to learn to write.
10. What part of the body was infected if a person had ringworm?  
The scalp/ head was infected if a person had ringworm.
11. Give three reasons why you would not have wanted to live in a workhouse. Explain your answer.  
Answers will vary. For example: People would not want to live in the workhouse because it was considered shameful. Also, the work people had to do was very hard and strenuous, consequently, they would not like to live in the workhouse. Finally, diseases, such as ringworm, were very common inside the workhouse and this would have dissuade people from entering the workhouse.