




















# Comparing Victorian and Modern Schools

Compare Victorian and modern schools by completing the Venn diagram with the words below. One has already been done for you.

 <p>dunce's hat</p>	 <p>interactive whiteboard</p>	 <p>class of more than forty</p>	 <p>behaviour chart</p>
 <p><del>slate and chalk</del></p>	 <p>pen and ink</p>	 <p>class of about thirty</p>	 <p>girls and boys separate</p>
 <p>group of tables</p>	 <p>playground games</p>	 <p>abacus</p>	 <p>writing on slates</p>
 <p>individual desk</p>	 <p>cane</p>	 <p>calculator</p>	 <p>pen and exercise book</p>
 <p>large chalkboard</p>	 <p>fun teachers</p>	 <p>strict teachers</p>	

# Comparing Victorian and Modern Schools

Using your knowledge of Victorian schooling and the additional information provided, compare Victorian and modern schools by completing the Venn diagram with notes. One has already been done for you.

## Additional Information: Victorian Schools

- Desks were arranged in rows facing the front of the room.
- Class sizes of 60 or more were normal.
- Children wrote on slates with chalk or slate pencils. They wiped the slate clean with a cloth, with their coat sleeve or with their fingers!
- Older children wrote on paper. An 'ink monitor' distributed ink to the children, who kept it in the inkwells in their desks. They used wooden pens with steel tips; the pen had to be dipped in the ink every few words.
- A Victorian timetable was based on the three Rs – reading, writing and arithmetic. There was a lot of emphasis on perfecting handwriting and calculation methods.
- An abacus was used in the Victorian classroom as an aid to calculation. Pupils also had to practise written methods for calculations repeatedly.
- 'Drill' was a bit like PE and included marching and running.
- Victorian teachers used canes for punishing pupils who misbehaved, for example: talking, answering back, slow work and being late for school.
- A dunce's hat was used as a punishment for classroom discipline. The wearer might have to stand against the wall or in the corner in the hope that embarrassment would prevent them repeating their behaviour.



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## Additional Information: Victorian Schools

- At the beginning of the Victorian period, only children from the richest families went to school.
- Until 1891, many children had to pay for schooling.
- Many education laws were passed during the reign of Queen Victoria and schools changed dramatically during this time. One such change was the introduction of 'ragged' schools (charitable organisations dedicated to the free education of children who couldn't pay).
- By the end of the Victorian era, school was compulsory and free for all children up to the age of 12.
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