

The death of Queen Victoria

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A long reign

Queen Victoria was just 18 years old when she came to the throne. She was 81 when she died.

She reigned for **63 years** and until recently, was the longest reigning monarch in British history.



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Victoria's last years

The Queen had been a **widow** since the death of Prince Albert in 1861.

They had been very close; Victoria **mourned** for 40 years and always wore **black**.

A series of **strokes** in January 1901 finally ended her life.



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Public opinion

After Prince Albert's death, many people felt neglected by Victoria, who stopped performing many **public duties**.

However, when she died, people at home and in the Empire expressed **shock and grief**.



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Queen Victoria's funeral

The Queen had requested a **white funeral**. She wore a white dress and her coffin was decked in white flowers.

Large crowds lined the streets to watch the funeral procession in London on **2nd February**. It was one of the **earliest filmed events** in Britain.



Britain in 1901

Victoria's reign had seen tremendous change in people's lives.

Britain was now the most powerful nation in the world and had the largest empire ever known.

The population had more than doubled and the Industrial Revolution had changed both the landscape and working life.



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Did you know?

Queen Victoria survived seven assassination attempts.

She is buried in a tomb at Frogmore house in Windsor.

She was survived by six children, 40 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren.



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Time to research

Can you find out how and why **public opinion** of Victoria changed throughout her reign? Try to include **first-hand evidence**, such as quotes, letters, newspaper reports or political cartoons.

What evidence can you find about how **Britain changed** during her long reign?

What **further facts** can you find out about Queen Victoria's funeral?

Now **present** your findings to the class.



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