

# Answers

1. What was a workhouse?  
**A workhouse was a huge building built for all the poor people who could not get a job or were not well enough to work.**
2. What would happen to a poor person who did not go into a workhouse?  
**If a poor person did not go into a workhouse, they could end up homeless or in prison.**
3. Why was it shameful for a man with a family to have to live in a workhouse?  
**It was shameful for a man with a family to have to live in a workhouse because it would mean he could not look after his family.**
4. What were the main foods in the workhouse?  
**The main foods in a workhouse meal were bread, broth and cheese.**
5. Give 2 examples of jobs which would be done in the workhouse.  
**stone breaking, grinding corn, chopping wood, laundry, cleaning, scrubbing walls and floors.**
6. Name two subjects the children were taught in a workhouse school.  
**Children were taught to read, write, arithmetic and religion. (Accept any two).**
7. How do we know that teachers were often cruel?  
**We know that teachers were often cruel because it has been reported that children had been caned in class.**
8. Why did girls not have all the same lessons as boys?  
**Girls did not have the same lessons as boys because they would go on to be a maid or servant at the age of 14, so they needed to know learn how to sew and other skills for that job.**
9. Which of the jobs do you think sounds the most difficult and why?  
**Answers will vary.**
10. Give two reasons why you would not want to live in a workhouse.  
**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.**