

MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE

FIFTH EDITION

W. W. WHITE & SONS
Printers & Stationers
10, Market Street, Manchester

Local Newspapers

Part of the Victorian Manchester Series of Education Packs
for Key Stages 1, 2 & 3

Aims

The images and articles included in this resource pack have been taken from original resources held at the Greater Manchester County Record Office. It is the aim of this pack to encourage the use of original source material in historical study from a young age.

Sources

1. Front page of *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* dated Monday 31 July 1899.
 - a. Classified advertisements transcribed from the front page of *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* dated Monday 31 July 1899.
 - b. Situations vacant transcribed from the front page of *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* dated Monday 31 July 1899.
2. Various advertisements photographed and transcribed from *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* 1899 and 1900.
 - a. Advertisement for 'Dr. William's Pink Pill's for Pale People' transcribed from *The Manchester Evening Chronicle*.
3. Articles transcribed from *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* from July 1899.
4. Police Court Report transcribed from *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* from 1900.
5. 'Letters to the Editor' transcribed from *The Manchester Evening Chronicle* from Monday January 1st 1900.

All photographs used are taken from the Documentary Photographic Archive held at Greater Manchester County Record Office.

Newspapers in Manchester

A Brief History

- ◆ The first local newspaper to be published in Manchester in the 19th Century was the *Manchester Observer*. It was formed in 1818 by a group of radicals and by 1819 was being distributed throughout large towns and cities in Britain. The editor of the paper James Wroe reported from the *Peterloo Massacre** in 1819. The paper ceased publication in 1821.
- ◆ *The Manchester Guardian* was first published in 1821. It began as a local voice in reaction to the Peterloo Massacre and in 1855 became a daily newspaper. The original editor, C.P. Scott, encouraged both new journalistic talent and liberal policies. The paper developed an influential and scholarly style. In 1959 *The Manchester Guardian* became a national broadsheet, *The Guardian* is still published in Manchester and London today.
- ◆ *The Manchester Evening News* was founded in 1868 by the Scott Trust. This paper is still printed today and is the largest regional evening newspaper in Britain. It is particularly renowned for its classifieds section.
- ◆ The *Daily Mail*, the first popular daily newspaper in Britain was first printed in London but in 1898 printing of this paper also began in Manchester, when the owners of the paper opened offices on Deansgate. The paper then had a circulation of over 1 million readers.
- ◆ A huge newspaper empire was established in Victorian Manchester by Edward H. Hulton. After working on *The Manchester Guardian* he established *The Sporting Chronicle* in 1871 and *The Athletic News* in 1875.
- ◆ Edward H. Hulton was followed into the trade by his son Edward George who was born in 1869. Edward George attended St. Bede's College in Manchester, leaving aged 16 to serve an apprenticeship at his father's newspaper. In 1894 he took over the business and in 1897 he established a halfpenny newspaper *The Manchester Evening Chronicle*. This was highly successful and remained in direct competition to *The Manchester Evening News* until the 1960's.
- ◆ In 1900 he established the *Daily Dispatch* which had a circulation of over 500,000 copies and competed with the larger daily newspapers.
- ◆ Hulton's printing premises were located in Withy Grove. It was one of the most important places of work in Manchester, employing entire generations of families. The Withy Grove Press became the biggest printing house in Europe.

- ◆ During the 1980's the premises were taken over by Robert Maxwell and saw the production of *The Mirror*. The premises now house the entertainment complex 'The Printworks' and the original façade can still be seen today.

* Peterloo Masacre

On 16th August 1819 at St. Peters Field in Manchester 50,000 people gathered under the leadership of Henry Hunt to petition parliament for the repeal of the Corn Laws. To control the crowds a large number of soldiers were present and their attempts to arrest the leaders resulted in the deaths of 11 people with 400 being injured.



Withy Grove Offices, Manchester.
showing Sunday Chronicle and
Evening Chronicle signs



'J. Hetherington' Interior view.
A printers based in the Ancoats area
of Manchester



Man Typesetting

Source 1

This is a front page of The Manchester Evening Chronicle from 1899.



Source 1 is intended to be used in conjunction with sources 1a and 1b below which are transcripts of original material.

Source 1a

Classifieds

Fashions

Kendal, Milne, & Co.

Summer Sale

Kendal, Milne, & Co. announce that from
Monday July 3

to

Saturday July 15

They will offer the remaining portion of their
Drapery Stock

At prices which should ensure a speedy sale
No catalogues issued

Letter orders have careful and
Expeditious attention

Parcels over 20s. carriage paid

during the sale of goods will not be sent on approbation

Kendal, Milne, & Co., Manchester

R. Mitcheson, 32 Oldham Street

Summer Sale now proceeding

Great general reductions, costumes half-price
Now showing new autumn coats and capes

Inspection invited

R. Mitcheson, Oldham Street

LAST WEEK!

FINAL SALE!

Doveston, Wilson & Co. Ltd

(successors to Doveston, Hull & Co. Ltd)

Cabinet makers, upholsterers & decorators

125 Deansgate, Manchester

Having taken over the whole of the stock we shall from
June 12 to July 15 offer this large collection of superior
household furniture, carpets &c. at considerable
reductions; in many instances less than half the usual
price. Space being required for new stock.

Many genuine bargains will be secured by early patrons

Terms cash on or before delivery

Send at once for a catalogue

FINAL SALE

Doveston, Wilson, & Co. 125 Deansgate

Buy at the Warehouse - our success is solely due to
sterling value. No high rent, no unnecessary expenses. A
word to the wise is sufficient. We give value that cannot be
equalled. Fit, make and quality guaranteed. Call or write
for patterns and compare with what you are paying. Suits
to order 32s 6d, 37s 6d, Frock Coat Suits from 50s,
Chesterfields from 21s, trousers 9s 6d, 11s 6d. All
garments and qualities at proportionate prices - THEWLIS
& Co, 14 Turner Street, High Street, Manchester
Hours 8.30 to 6; Saturdays 8.30 to 3.

Bed Cleaning and Purifying

Flock beds from 3s, Feather beds from 6s Boles & Co. 47
Clifton Street, Gloucester Street, Salford

**E. Kay, Engraver, Brass plates, company's seals &c. - 16
Brazenose Street, Albert Square**

Flies! Flies! Flies! - If you require a genuine and sticky
flypaper buy MCCARTHY'S celebrated stamped ones. None
genuine without the above name

CAUTION - see that they are stamped MCCARTHY'S
Warranted non-poisonous

Tea:

Full weight

Without paper

Brooke, Bonds

Have always given, full net weight of tea to their millions of
customers, and have never weighed in the bag or the card
or the lable.

Yes, Brooke Bond have given full weight and full value for
thirty years.

Prices: 10d, 1s, 1s 2d, 1s 4d, 1s 8d, 2s, 2s 4d, a lb.

Brooke Bond & Co. Limited,

Tea Merchants by Appointment to the People

The Lancashire tea warehouses; 17, Piccadilly & 12-14

Long Millgate, Manchester

And at Leeds, Bradford & London

**Shop books from 4½d, 'Stephens' 1s - ink only 7 ½d,
envelopes from 1s 6d, 1000 - Longworths, 4 & 6 Oak Street**

**Earthenware & China, crates, best or seconds 20s
upwards: 15 dozen seconds 17s 6d, list free. Cash returned
if not approved - WEBB & Co, Longton, Staffordshire**

Teeth - A complete set one Guinea

Single tooth 2s 6d. Five years warranty

Mr. Labouchere, M.P in 'Truth' says :- Mr. Goodman has
one of the largest practices in the world.

PAINLESS GAS EXTRACTION 5s

Goodman Ltd Dentists. Hours 10 to 8.68A Market Street,
Manchester (corner of Brown Street)

**American Tooth & Crown Depot Ltd, 41 Market Street,
Manchester**

Superior Artificial Teeth Warranted From 21s a set, single
tooth 2s 6d Perfect fit and satisfaction guaranteed
Painless system. Lady attendant. Hours 10 to 7, Sat till 4

Kirk & Co.

Jewellers

Kirk & Co.

and

Kirk & Co.

Silversmiths

Kirk & Co.

Sale

Kirk & Co.

of

Kirk & Co.

Johnsons
Stock

Genuine

29, King St

Reduction

29, King St

of
5s to 10s in the £

29, King St

Catalogue

29, King St

on

Application

29, King St

Source 1b

Situations Vacant

Situations Vacant and Wanted	
Domestic Servants Wanted	
H ousework & Children - Wanted respectable GIRL, no washing - Apply 28, Durham St, Conran Street, Harpurhey	B utcher - wanted, competent and experienced MAN of good education as Head Shopman, used to small scales, good reckoner, and willing and obliging, abstainer preferred, early interview necessary, state clearly age, height, wages and references to G3 Evening Chronicle
C ook - General Wanted, small family, no children, no washing, good wages - HOWARD, 70, Church Street, Blackpool	B utchering - wanted. Respectable LAD about 16 as an apprentice or one who has been in the trade. C. Smith, Stockport Road, Ardwick
G eneral Servant Wanted, about 18 years, no family - 74, Dickenson Road, Rusholme	C lerks wanted everywhere for everywork. Good remuneration. Enc. SAE, walker, 83 Bridgeman Street, Bolton
G irl wanted, strong, about 16, one child - Apply 6 Monton Avenue, Monton Road, Eccles	G irls over 14 to learn a good trade, wages at once, 2 Pimbold Street, Park Street, Cheetham
C ook - General wanted, willing to wash; housemaid kept, family two, good wages. Apply after 7pm to THOMPSON, Holmedene, 3 Mauldeth Road, Heaton Mersey	I roners wanted at once, Park Steam Laundry, Hope Street, Eccles
Clerks, Assistants &c. Wanted	
B lacksmith wanted, good nailer, or one that can do jobbing preferred - Apply W. Bulcock, 12 Skipton Old Road, Foulridge, nr. Colne	L aw - Wanted in solicitor's office, sharp Office boy. Apply in own handwriting F71 Evening Chronicle
B aker - wanted, practical young lady, used to smalls & fancies - Apply J. Hart, 97, Palmerston Street, Ancoats	L oom Jobbers, wanted, good, steady, accustomed to wood crofts section and debbies, add F67 Evening Chronicle
B oy - sharp, about 14 or 15-2, Scotland Court, Red Bank, Manchester Boys wanted for tea packing - Apply 9 Mark Lane, Withey Grove	L ady Palmist. Wanted to assist in tent, South Shore. Apply stating salary, Madame Elvira, 'Tower', Blackpool
B oy - sharp, wanted to mind stall and make himself generally useful - Apply 42, Peter Street	L amp Maker - IMPROVER wanted to street lamp making - Apply Baxendale & Co., Miller Street
B allemaker, stencil and hand, state age, wages required and references - Address E54, Evening Chronicle	L adies required for CLERICAL WORK of a confidential nature, good wages, best references required, state age previous experience - Add E58 Evening Chronicle
B oot Trade - wanted immediately, good all round MAN for repairs, must be steady, regular work - Apply JACKSON, Bootmaker, Knutsford	M achinists - wanted experienced WOMEN accustomed to tailoring, mantles or costumes, good wages and constant employment, also GIRLS to make themselves generally useful. Apply Isador Frankenburg, Greengate rubber Works, Salford
B OOKBINDERS, also LETTERPRESS MACHINE APPRENTICES and strong BOY	

Source 1

Layout

Look at the sources indicated and answer the questions below.

- ◆ Look at a modern newspaper and compare with source 1. Look at the layout of the Newspaper and the transcripts of the source.

What is different? What is the same?

Source 1a

Classifieds Section

- ◆ Look at the style of the classified ads section and compare it with a classifieds section from a newspaper today.
- ◆ What does this tell us about the kinds of things people in Victorian Manchester wanted to buy ? How do these differ from today?
- ◆ Are such products advertised today?
If so how do they differ from those of the Victorian Period and how are they advertised now?

Source 1b

Situations Vacant

- ◆ Where would you expect to find this section in a newspaper today? What does this tell you about what was important to the people of the time?
- ◆ What types of jobs were available for people in Victorian Manchester?
- ◆ How do the jobs advertised differ from the kinds of jobs you would find advertised today?
- ◆ Does anything strike you as unusual about some of the jobs advertised? Explain your answer.

Look carefully at the source and identify what qualities employers were looking for in their employees. Imagine that you are an employer in the Nineteenth Century.

- ◆ Choose a trade or profession. Think about the skills that you would need your employees to have - what would be important to you?
- ◆ Design an advertisement for your own employees.

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A SHILLING COOKERY BOOK, 2D
 Edited by FRANK FRANKLIN, M.A., and MRS. J. H. FRANKLIN, M.A.
 London: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., 1914. 10s. 6d.

[illegible]

Source 2a

Advertisement

DR, WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS FOR PALE PEOPLE

In One Day
Their Value
Can be Proved
Beyond all Shadow of a Doubt

No matter where you live, Ask your neighbours, Ask if they have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and with what result. If they have they will speak well of them. If they have not used them they will surely know of others who have. For there is no neighbourhood that has not seen some pale invalid, some bloodless anaemic girl, some hopeless paralytic, cured and made strong, as by a miracle, by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

***** Case in Point

Why a Stockport Mans Health Failed The Dangers of Overtaxing Ones Strength



Acting on information received (a Stockport reporter writes), I visited the house of John Barnes, 38, Edward Street, Stockport, and it required but a few minutes interview to perceive that he had a remarkable experience to relate. Here is his story:-

"I am a greengrocer, and go out with the cart. Some time ago, I seized with violent pain across the chest, which held me as it were in a grip from which I could not loose myself. I attributed the attack to lifting, for I was always worse after having been hauling potatoes about. I quite lost my appetite for food. I consulted a doctor and took five or six bottles of medicine, besides other remedies, but it was all to no purpose. At the critical period I saw an advert in the paper that Dr. Williams' Medicine Company would give advice by post free. I wrote to them to see if they thought they could do me any good, and a reply came promptly pointing out how Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People had cured similar cases to my own. This was sufficient for me, and I bought a box. Before I had finished taking the contents I felt a decided change for the better. Previously, bear in mind, I was falling away to nothing and nearly dead. But my digestion and appetite gradually revived, and the second and third boxes set me on my feet. I take them yet, occasionally, as a precaution against any return of the complaint, and I shall never cease to keep them in the house, or to recommend their use to anyone".

In reply to the reporters question, Mr. Barnes said he was twenty-six years of age and he was then in as vigorous health as ever, and that he was glad of the opportunity to subscribe this evidence to the virtues of Dr. Williams Pink Pills for Pale People, so that others that might be suffering from any similar complaint might find relief and the remedy for which he was so thankful. If it would add to the emphasis of his case or be any further persuasive proof of his gratitude for and faith in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills he was quite agreeable that this voluntary statement should be published in the interests of those suffering from ill health. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured thousands of cases of anaemia, weakness, palpitation, all forms of female weakness, paralysis, rheumatism, sciatica, rickets and consumption. These pills are genuine only with the FULLNAME Dr. Williams Pink Pills for Pale People and if a substitute is offered it is best to send to Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Holburn Viaduct, London. Price 2s. 9d. a box, six boxes for 13s. 9d. post free.

Source 2

Advertisements

Compare the sources with some advertisements from contemporary newspapers.

- ◆ How are images used to sell products and how does this differ from today?
- ◆ Do you recognise any of the products advertised?
- ◆ If so what do the advertisements for these products look like today? Has the product changed? If so how?
- ◆ Some of the products advertised here are today subject to censorship and advertising standards - advertising standards restrict what they are allowed to say.

Which do you think they are?

Would these advertisements be allowed today?

- ◆ What claims do these advertisements make that would not be allowed today?

Source 2a

- ◆ Why do you think this advertisement looks like a news report?
- ◆ What is it for?
- ◆ What does this advert tell you about Victorian attitudes to health?
- ◆ Do you think this advertisement would be acceptable today? Explain your answer.

Select a product that is important to you and design an advertisement in the style of the nineteenth century.

Source 3

Articles Source 3a

The Manchester Evening Chronicle, Monday, 24 July, 1899

Automobiletaxameterdroschken

Automobilism is making its way with rapid strides in Berlin. In a few days time the first public conveyances in the shape of automobile "droschkes" will make their appearance in the streets. These will be provided with the "taxameters" for calculating the fares. Some other name will, however, have to be found for them (says the 'New York Herald'). "Automobiletaxameterdroschken", as they are at present termed, is too dreadful a word for ordinary everyday use.

Women Who Smoke

The habit of smoking, which is so common abroad, has now become, among many women in England, quite as natural a thing, and it is not in the least unusual for cigarettes to be handed round in the drawing-room after the women have gone upstairs and left the men to drink their wine and eat their desert. Hitherto it has been mainly confined to the house, and even the bedroom or boudoir, but within the last two months two cases of women smoking in public have come under my notice (writes Lady Jeune in 'The Ladies' Field.') One day in the Strand a woman, young and pretty, was seen walking and quietly smoking a cigarette, and on another occasion in Richmond Park a woman was enjoying a fairly large cigar with her male companion. These are only isolated cases, but they excited little or no comment, and it seems an indication of a change of sentiment and public opinion on the subject of women smoking.

Harnessing Tidal Waves

It is interesting to know that the government of India intends to employ electricity as its motive power in the great central factories for military requisites it is about to erect in Jubblepore. But more interesting still is the intelligence that the advisers of this scheme believe that the falls of Nerbudda, and later of the Godavery, the latter of which is far larger and more magnificent than the falls of Niagara, can be utilised to generate electric power upon the grandest scale. "Are we not a little slow in England with our experiments in this direction?" Asks the 'Spectator'. "There is force enough lost in the gorge of the Avon and the tidal wave of the Solway to keep all our factories going, and as competition develops we shall feel a keen need for cheapening motive power. The wage-earners will fight the capitalists if reductions are made in their cost, but the machinery will not".

CADBURY'S COCOA is absolutely pure and is therefore the best cocoa. It is a refreshing, stimulating drink and a nutritious food, containing no foreign substances such as kola, malt, hops &c. The fact cannot be too strongly impressed that cocoa must be unadulterated to ensure its fullest and beneficial effects. Always insist on having CADBURY'S - sold only in packets and tins - as other cocoas are often substituted for the sake of extra profit. (Advt)

The Manchester Evening Chronicle, Monday, July 17; 1899

Furious Cycle Riding

At Altringham to-day, William Booth and Anne Holt, of Bury, and Charles Lyall and William Irving of Didsbury, were each fined 10s. for riding tandem bicycles furiously along the highway at Dunham Massey. The police stated that Lyall and Irving were going at a speed of at least 20 miles an hour. George Washington, Hope Terrace, Altringham, was also fined 10s. for furiously riding a bicycle.

The Manoeuvres A Splendid Scene

The channel and mobilising fleets, comprising eight battleships and twenty cruisers, left Portland Harbour this morning for Belfast. The above represents the hostile fleet in the forthcoming naval manoeuvres and is described as the most powerful squadron ever assembled at Portland. The ships left in a single column, and the sight was a grand and inspiring one.

Not Bona-Fide Travellers

At Stockport police court to-day, Albert Griffiths of Coronation Street, Sandy Lane and Benjamin Booth of Liverpool Street, Salford, were ordered to pay the costs for obtaining beer by falsely representing themselves as bona-fide travellers on the occasion of the Stockport Park Festival. William Mellor, landlord of the Park Hotel, gave evidence and the defendants pleaded guilty, saying they had come from Manchester on the previous Saturday night.

Impudent Bicycle Thief

Yesterday afternoon about three o' clock a very impudent theft was perpetrated in Piccadilly, Manchester. A gentleman named Johnson, of 4 Denmark Road called at his place of business, Messrs. Fletcher & Co., for any letters that might have arrived, leaving his bicycle on the flags leaning against the window. He was not in the shop more than a couple of minutes but when he returned the machine had disappeared, and he has neither heard nor seen anything of it since. The police were communicated with immediately but no trace of the thief has been found. The police have had several cases of this kind reported to them within the last couple of months.

**An Ingenious Fire Alarm System
To be tried in Manchester**

The Managers of the Pearson Fire Alarm System Limited, have been invited by the fire brigade authorities of this city to give an exhibition of the working of the system, which is of a very ingenious nature. It consists chiefly of a thermostat - a thermometer with a bit of platinum wire fixed into it - which is connected by an electric wire with the chief fire station, where a tape machine tells the locale of the fire. On an outbreak of fire the temperature in the building where the thermostat is fixed naturally rises above normal temperature. The mercury in the thermostat rises also, and on reaching the 120 degrees touches the platinum wire and forms the necessary electrical connections. The bell in the fire station rings and the tape machine gives out the situation of the building in question. In this way the prospect of a fire gaining a big hold on a building is reduced almost to impossibility. In London several firms have availed themselves of the benefits afforded by the system.

Europe Threatened with Bubonic Plague

The Bombay correspondent of the 'Morning Post' telegraphs: - The bubonic plague continues to spread among the populace of Bushire. The people are being instigated by the priesthood to resent the institution of preventative measures. It is feared that the disease may make its way into Russia in the autumn, and thus menace Europe. The Persian government is feeble and taking no steps to check the spread of the plague. The malady is believed to have been imported by pilgrims from Jeddah.

**Landlady Fined at Wigan
£5 for allowing betting**

This afternoon, at Wigan, Catherine Green, Landlady of the Cross keys, Market Place, Wigan, was summoned for allowing her house to be used for betting purposes. Two probationers of the Wigan police force deposed to visiting the Inn on various occasions and seeing persons hand to the barmaid slips of paper and money. The officers also made bets. Mr Lees denied betting has taken place. Defendant was fined £5 costs, and the license was endorsed.

Source 3

Articles

Use the sources above to spark general class discussions about the incidents reported.

Read the articles and answer the following questions.

Source 3a

- ◆ What is the new form of transport described?
- ◆ What is the name given to this type of vehicle today?
- ◆ Why do you think people were surprised to see women smoking?
- ◆ How have attitudes to women changed since Victorian times?
- ◆ Why do you think they want to use tidal waves to create electricity?
- ◆ Can you think of any other way in which the force of flowing water has been used?
- ◆ Is nature used in a similar way today? If so how?

Source 3b

- ◆ What do you think were the main forms of transport for people living in Victorian Manchester?
- ◆ Why do you think the people were fined for riding their bicycles?
- ◆ What is different about the types of things reported and the way they are reported from newspapers today? List the differences
- ◆ Look at the length of the articles, how do they differ from those printed today? Why do you think this is the case?
- ◆ What do the articles tell us about life in Victorian Manchester?
- ◆ What is different about the way national and international news is reported? Compare it with newspapers today.

Source 4

Reports

Weary and Destitute

Oldham Convict's Sad Plight

A strange case, and despite the surrounding circumstances one that elicited sympathy, was heard by Dr. Yates and other magistrates at the Oldham police court to-day, when a diminutive man with black beard about 50 years of age, named Aaron Taylor, was charged with stealing a book valued at 1s from a branch of the Oldham Free Library, and also with being a convict and failing to report himself.

According to the evidence the prisoner stole a copy of 'Temple Bar' and gave himself up, and said he was a convict. In answer to a question by the chairman as to why he had done this prisoner said he was destitute.

The Chairman: What trade are you?

Prisoner: I am a shoemaker. But who will employ me with the character that I have got, no-one will employ me. Men would not stop in the shop with me.

The Chief Constable (to Clerk): There is something in that.

The Clerk: And that is because the police talk about it.

The Chief Constable: No they don't.

The Clerk: Yes they do.

The Chief Constable: I say they don't.

The Clerk: Nobody, ought to let them know.

The Chief Constable: They are not told by the police.

The Clerk: It does get known.

Detective Inspector Lamb said the prisoner came out of Parkhurst, Isle o' Wight in November last and reported himself to the Oldham police saying he was going to stay at a lodging house. A short time ago he had come to the station and said he wanted to be sent back to prison. He was destitute and said life was a misery to him. He would not report himself. He might say that several of their men (policemen) had several times paid for his lodgings. He had tried to get into the work house a week last Thursday, but had been told to come on the following Wednesday to see the Guardians.

The bench dismissed the case and instructed the police to find any relations of the prisoner. If none could be found then he should be taken to the workhouse and something found for him there. Dr Yates advised the prisoner to try and take a better view of his life.

Read the report and answer the following questions.

- ◆ What do you think has happened to the prisoner
- ◆ Why do you think he wanted to be sent back to prison?
- ◆ What kind of 'Character' do they think he has?
- ◆ What is a Workhouse?
- ◆ What do you think would happen to this prisoner in today's society?
- ◆ How is the style of reporting different from that of today?

Write a report in the style of a Victorian newspaper. Interview your classmates about an incident or event that has taken place at school. Divide into pairs, one reporter and one interviewee.

Source 5

Letters to the Editor

The Manchester Evening Chronicle; Monday January 1st, 1900

Letters ~~to the~~ Editor

The Extermination of the Skylark

To the Editor of the Evening Chronicle

Sir,- Will you kindly allow me a little space in your column for a good cause? I cannot help feeling alarmed at the destruction of the noble little fellow. A man came to my door today and offered me a dozen larks picked and clean for one shilling and, I notice that most poulterers have strings of them hanging outside their shops. What a sad thing to think that the finest songster of the British Islands is to meet the above fate. The skylark is becoming scarcer every year and if the slaughter is permitted much longer this splendid bird will be a thing of the past. What a disgrace to civilisation! - Yours &c., J.A. Gray

The 20th Century

To the Editor of the Evening Chronicle

Sir,- It seems almost incredible that so many intelligent and over educated people could have such difficulty in making up their minds as to when the 20th century begins and even you in your article this evening appear to be somewhat doubtful on the point. Yet it is so simple. One hundred completed years make a century. On December 31st next we shall have completed 18 centuries and ninety-nine years and one more year will be wanted to make nineteen centuries. Therefore the nineteenth century will not be completed until December 31st, 1900 and the twentieth century will begin on January 1st, 1901. Please let the professor know - Yours &c., HT
December 29, 1899

To the Editor of the Evening Chronicle

Sir,- There has been a lot of controversy on the above subject, but the answer appears as easy as A.B.C. to me. When B.C.1 ended and our Lord was born, A.D.1 must have started, just as the day on which you or I was born was reckoned the beginning of our first year. Therefore when A.D.1 ended, A.D.2 started and so on and when this present year is completed, 1900 or the hundredth year of the century will commence. The above appears to me a conclusive argument that the next century will commence on January 1, 1901; but I should be glad to have the opinion of some of your readers on the subject - Yours &c., Ernest Heathfield Moss Side

To the Editor of the Evening Chronicle

Sir, - It will probably be accepted as but another proof of the absurd perversity which at all times is within the range of historical research seems to have prevailed among those whose sole aim in life apparently is to argue upon anything and everything that is outside the reach of personal observation. Therefore I will venture to propound the following illustration in support of the January 1, 1901 theory. - Take two hundred books numbered respectively 1 to 200, each book containing 365 pages. Commence by reading the first page in the volume numbered one, read each page carefully until you have read through the book, you can safely assert that you have completed one book. Take each book in strictly numerical order and when you have read page 365 of the ninety-ninth book you will have completed 99 books. The next volume will of necessity be the one-

hundredth book. But that book will be numbered 100 not 101, and the first page of the one-hundred and first book will be the commencement of the second hundred. Now, Sir, persevere with a few additional hundreds and you will still find yourself unable to gain that odd volume so earnestly desired by the opposition ranks and the very last page of the book numbered 1900 must be read before you can start upon the first book of the next twentieth hundred, which you will find to be numbered 1901. Alter the word 'page' to 'day', substitute 'year' for 'book' and where are we? Yours &c., W.D.M Dec 19, 1899

To the Editor of the Evening Chronicle

Sir - As you will be aware I have long contended that New Years Day 1900 would inaugurate the 20th century of the Christian Era, and in this view I am supported by French, German, Swiss and American nationals, also by Lord Kelvin and other eminent men. The 19th century undoubtedly, in my opinion, commenced in the year 1800 and we have used the century figure 800 for 100 years, therefore the change of the century figure from 1900 must be a transition to the 20th century, and on the 1st of January 1901, would be 1 year old; and the century would also be one year old. I am aware that there are conflicting opinions as to when the 20th century commences but I think the change of century figure, eight to nine should decide the question. Whether I am right or wrong in my contention there can be no harm in wishing your readers a happy new century - and many of them! Yours &c., Ellis Lever
Southport Dec 30 1899

Source 5

Letters to the Editor

Read the source and answer the following questions.

- ◆ How many years are there in a century?
- ◆ How many years ago did the Twentieth Century begin?
- ◆ How many years have there been in this century?
- ◆ When this paper was published Mr. J. A. Gray wrote about the extinction of the Skylark. Can you think of three animals that we are worried about the extinction of today?
- ◆ Do newspapers have letters pages today? What are kinds of things do people discuss?

Newspapers and Printing

A Brief History

- ◆ In 1450 a German artisan called Johannes Guttenberg invented a moveable type method of printing that was still used in the 20th century. Guttenberg punched 264 characters into the ends of steel punches, which were inserted into copper blanks. He later transformed a wine press into a machine suitable for printing, and using, heated oil, resin and soap, he made ink.
- ◆ In 1800, Earl Stanhope built a press made of Iron. This press was still operated by hand but could print on larger sheets of papers and thus was far more efficient.
- ◆ With the mechanisation of paper making – the Fourdrinier machine was invented in France in 1798 by Nicholas-Louis Robert, and built in England in 1807 with money provided by the Fourdrinier brothers - giant rolls of paper (webs) were used on the high speed rotary printing presses that were developed in the mid 19th century.
- ◆ During the Industrial Revolution coal fired steam engines were employed in the printing industry. A German engineer, Fredrich Konig, invented a steam driven press in 1812. These presses were much faster than the iron hand presses and continued to be developed during the 19th century. By the end of the 1890's machines which could print 20,000 copies an hour were being used by major newspapers.
- ◆ By the late 19th century only the process of typesetting was still undertaken by hand. This was a time consuming and skilled job involving the picking of each individual piece of type and placing it into a metal stick. Painstakingly, letter by letter and space by space, lines, paragraphs, whole articles were created. After printing all the type had to be returned to the correct cases. Many people were employed in these tasks.
- ◆ In the 1880's an American engineer, Ottmar Mergenthaler, invented the first practical typesetting machine. This involved a keyboard, which when key were depressed created a new piece of type from molten metal. When printing was complete the type was melted down and reused.
- ◆ A Monotype machine was invented in 1887 by Tolbert Lanston and this was used widely in the British printing industry until the use of photographs in the 1960's
- ◆ During Victorian times the advances in paper making, printing and typesetting created an industry which saw a reduction in prices and a wider circulation of books, newspapers and magazines bringing the printed word to the masses.

Glossary/Useful Terms

<i>Journalism</i>	the practice of reporting about, photographing or editing news stories
<i>Editor</i>	a person in charge of a newspaper who edits (makes changes) to written material before publication and decides what articles will be published
<i>Liberal</i>	social or political views in favour of progress, reform and individual freedom
<i>Radical</i>	a person in favour of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic and social conditions
<i>Broadsheet</i>	a large scale newspaper measuring approx 15 x 24" (38 x 61 cm)
<i>Classifieds</i>	advertisements in newspapers that are arranged according to their type i.e houses for sale, furniture for sale
<i>Apprenticeship</i>	a contract where a person works for an agreed period with a skilled or qualified person in order to learn their trade
<i>Industrial Revolution</i>	the transformation of Britain during the 18 th and 19 th centuries into an industrial nation following the development of manufacturing processes and growth in the economy
<i>Mechanisation</i>	to make a process automatic by the use of machinery
<i>Type</i>	a small block of wood or metal bearing a letter or character in relief
<i>Typesetting</i>	the placing of type together to create words and sentences
<i>Monotype</i>	the name of a machine and process by which individual letters are cast from hot metal and used in printing
<i>Corn Laws</i>	a tax on imported corn which contributed to high food prices and influenced strikes and riots by workers across the country

the examination of publications and advertisements in order to suppress things which are considered to be unacceptable.

Teachers Notes

This pack has been designed for use at key Stages 2 and 3. The pack aims to enhance the national curriculum and encourage the use of original sources in the study of history from a young age. It can be used as part of unit 11a (Victorian Britain) and unit 7 (Local History). It is hoped that this will promote a keen interest in and understanding of history and the development of the Manchester area.

When using this pack teacher's will find it useful to have copies of current newspapers available for comparison. This could form part of a wider discussion on the types of newspapers we have today and how they differ from each other.

The sources should be downloaded, printed and given out to students where appropriate. Each source has a set of questions to accompany it. Suggested answers to the questions are given at the end of the pack.

There are additional activities at the end of the pack which could incorporate part of a longer term newspaper project including visits to exhibitions on newspaper printing.

Printing: Experiments with the printing of type could be undertaken as part of art and craft lessons. Students could be encouraged to print headlines for their own articles and newspapers.

Suggested Answers

Layout

The Manchester evening Chronicle from 1899 has no headline news or images on the front page and is in black and white print. The first colour newspaper, 'The Independent' was published in 1986. Today eye-catching colour photographs are seen on the front page to accompany the main news story. Other information given on the front page of the 1899 edition will also be found today e.g. name of newspaper, date, price, edition number.

Classifieds Section

Things that people wanted to buy in Victorian times are similar to those that are found today. However things that are different include a feather bed cleaning and purifying service and an advertisement for sets of false teeth with a five year guarantee! Today classified advertisements are organised into clear sections - here the heading 'Fashions' also includes advertisements for tea, teeth and books. Advertisements in this section today may have images and differ in their layout as they aim to catch the eye of the reader.

Situations Vacant

This section would today be found at the back of the newspaper or in its own separate 'jobs' section. Its position on the front page of The Manchester Evening Chronicle suggests that jobs were very important to the people of Victorian Manchester. Without telephones, TV, and the Internet the newspaper was the main method of reaching the masses.

The jobs vary from unskilled to skilled and cover a range of trades from housework to palm readers. Some of the jobs for servants and errand boys specifically request children under the age of 16. This allowed employers to pay lower wages and is illegal today.

Advertisements

Photographs were used very rarely in newspapers during the Victorian period. The images used here are black and white drawings and illustrations and give an example of the product being sold or set a scene for a story. They are simple images due to the restrictions of printing processes at the time. Full page advertisements were not used until later. The advertisements make simple statements, whereas today they can be very complex and use devices like comedy and wit to get their message across. The images used today include brightly coloured photographs and cartoons.

Bovril is still sold today but it is not advertised as offering protection from the flu. The Cocoa product is also described as keeping the milkman free from colds. This would not be allowed today. Some of the advertisements are for cigarettes. One of these claims that the

cigarettes are good for you. Advertising standards do not allow such misleading statements to be made today.

The advertisement is using real life examples to convey its message. Using a format that is like a news report helps to do this. The advertisement is for pills for pale people and claims to cure a variety of conditions. The advertisement does not indicate what the pills are made of and they appear to cure a wide range of illnesses. Advertising standards today would require that such claims be fully substantiated

Articles

The new form of transport described is the motor vehicle for hire, the fare is calculated according to distance traveled and would have probably replaced the horse drawn carriage or tram. Today these vehicles are known as 'taxi's' or 'cabs'.

Women were treated quite differently during the Victorian period. They would not have been expected to smoke, it probably would have been considered 'un-ladylike' of them to do so. Victorian society was male dominated, today men and women are more often considered equals. Women were not allowed to contribute to society in the way that they do today they had to fight for their rights, for example they were not entitled to vote until 1918.

Using tidal waves to create electricity would be a cheaper and cleaner form of energy. Mills also used the power of rivers to turn large water wheels to turn stones and grind up wheat to make flour. Today we harness power through wind turbines in exposed areas, the electricity they generate is stored in batteries or fed into the national grid.

The main forms of transport for people living in Victorian Manchester would have been by horse and carriage, bicycle or on foot. There were hardly any motor vehicles at this time. Riding bicycles carefully then would have been just as important as it is to drive within the speed limit today. With so many people walking riding bicycles too fast would have been dangerous

The news is reported in a factual way. It tells us the basics of the story. Today articles can be much longer with more commentary and opinions of the reporter. The articles in this newspaper are also shorter than they would be today due to the typesetting process and the need to use space efficiently. Today's newspapers often have separate sections for their national and international news, here events local, national and international events are reported together.

Reports

The prisoner had been released from prison and had nowhere to live, or a job to go to. He stole the book and hoped to be caught so he could be sent back to prison. They think he is of untrustworthy character. The Workhouse was a place where the homeless and destitute were

sheltered. (see Workhouse pack) Today the prisoner may be sent back to prison for committing a further crime or given the chance to be rehabilitated back into society.

Other Activities

Using the sources given in this pack design a front page for a Nineteenth Century newspaper. Include:

- ◆ A name for your newspaper
- ◆ A Classifieds section
- ◆ A Situations Vacant Section
- ◆ An advertisement

Create a Class/School Newspaper.

- ◆ Allocate roles of editor, reporter etc
- ◆ Agree on content
- ◆ Newspapers work to deadlines; Set deadlines
- ◆ Decide on the layout and images to be used.

Note: Use the advertisements, reports and articles already created.

This activity could be used to commemorate a school trip or other school event i.e Sports day.

Other Sources of Information

www.Spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk

Information about other Manchester newspaper and journalists.

www.bl.uk

Permanent exhibition on history of printing in England, hands on access to materials at the British Library. Concise history of the British press and details of publications available.

www.newspapersoc.org.uk

Useful facts and figures about the newspaper industry

www.manchester2002-uk.com

Information about papers currently published in Manchester

www.guardiancentury.co.uk

News reports from the guardian over the last century covering major news events.

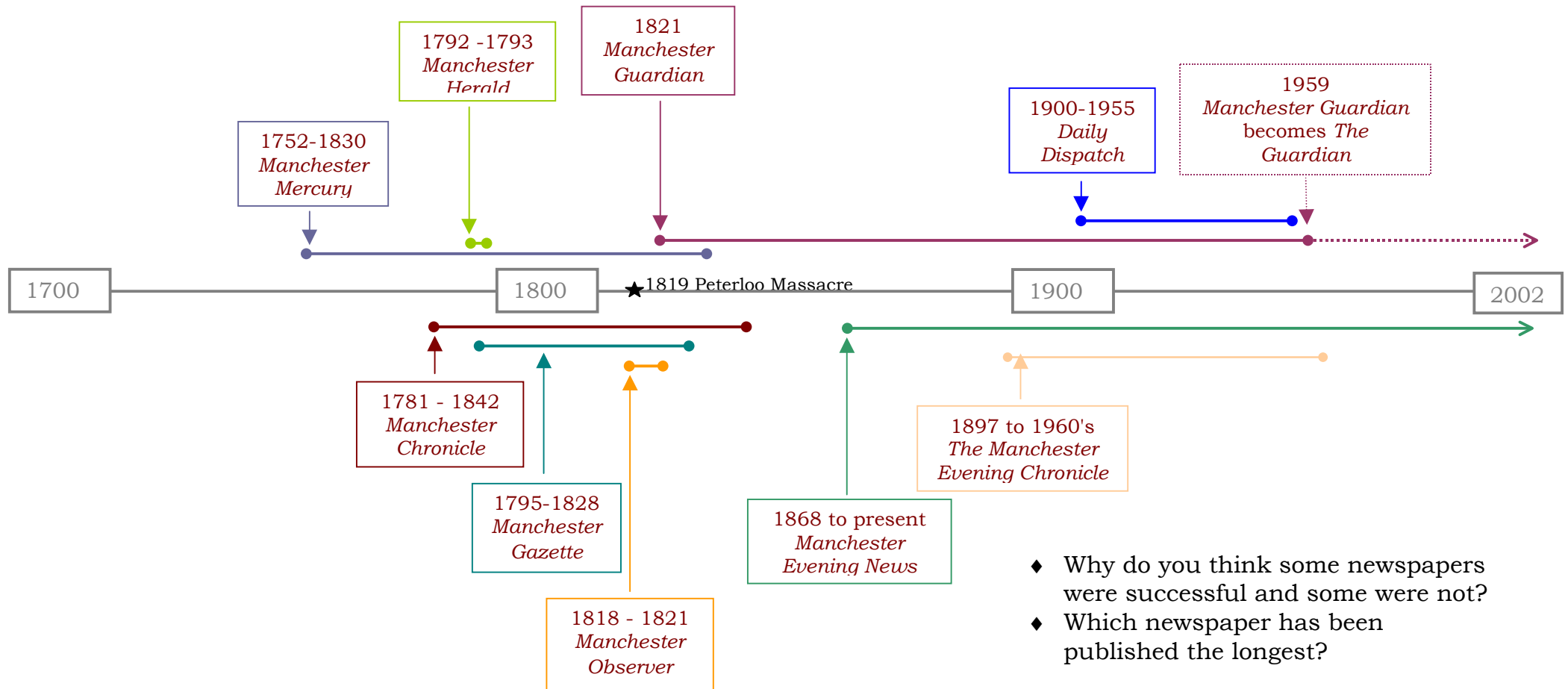
www.guardian.co.uk/newsroom

Archives of The Guardian and Observer, educational resources and visitor centre.

- ◆ Greater Manchester County Record Office has an extensive original collection of Manchester's newspapers.

Appendix 1 Timeline Newspapers in Manchester

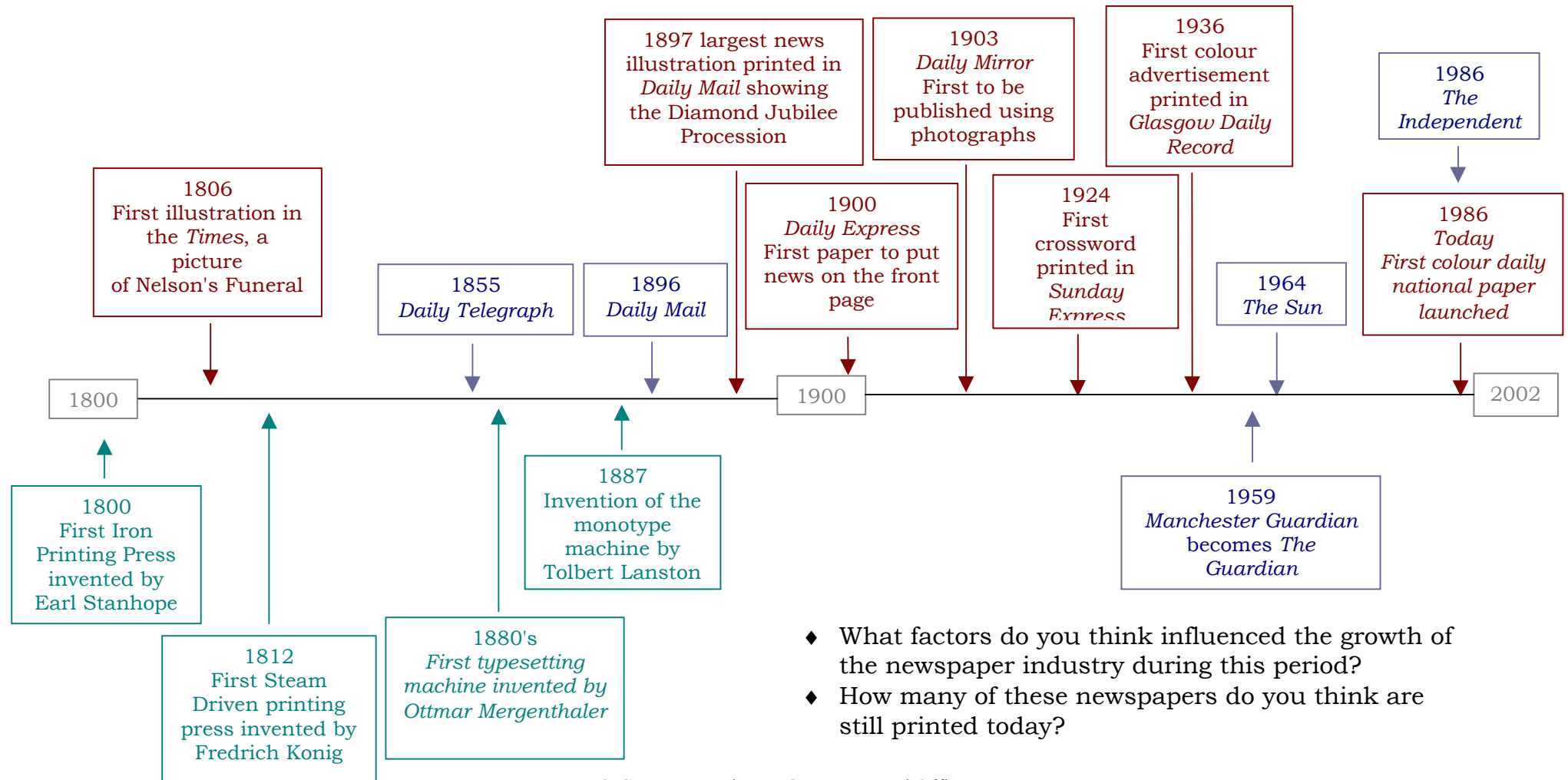
This timeline highlights the major newspapers published in Manchester during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



- ◆ Why do you think some newspapers were successful and some were not?
- ◆ Which newspaper has been published the longest?

Appendix 2 Timeline British Newspapers Timeline

This timeline highlights the major advances in the newspaper industry in Britain during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



- ◆ What factors do you think influenced the growth of the newspaper industry during this period?
- ◆ How many of these newspapers do you think are still printed today?