

Visit to Kirkgate

Key Question: What was life like for people living in Victorian York?

We are learning to:	What I am looking for:
Describe what houses in the York slums were like	The worksheet to be full of interesting details that you have seen on Kirkgate
Imagine how people in the slums felt about their lives	The use of adjectives to describe people's surroundings and their feelings
Compare life in the slums with life in the city centre	Find similarities and differences between life in the slums and the city centre

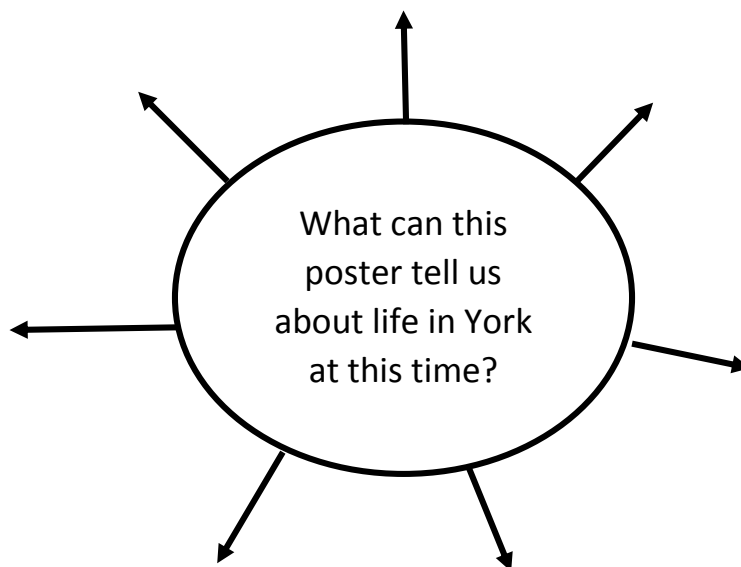
Fill in the table with what you can sense as you enter Kirkgate:

	What you notice
Touch	
Hearing	
Seeing	
Smell	

Stage 1. Rowntree's Snicket, representing the slums of York

1. What do you first notice about the alleyway?

2. Look at the posters on the walls. Pick one poster and complete the spider diagram below. Think about who might have made the poster, and who might have seen it, for clues.



3. Look inside the house to your left. Imagine who might have lived in the house. Sketch a picture of your imaginary person inside their

house (perhaps they could be eating at the table, doing chores, or going to bed). Make sure to include the furniture!



4. Now label your drawing. Use describing words (adjectives) like 'small' 'dark' 'dingy' 'uncomfortable'.
5. Pick one adjective to describe how the person living in this house might feel and write it here:

Stage 2. Kirkgate, representing the centre of York

1. Go to one of the shops listed below.

York Castle Museum



Work in a small group to complete the table.

Choose an item you can see in the shop.

Who do you think might have shopped here?

What does it tell you about the sort of person that might buy it?

Shop name	Ambler's grocer	Kendrick's toy shop	Little Dust Pan
Item chosen			
Implications about type of person using this shop			

2. Now pair up with someone that investigated a shop you didn't go to. Help each other to fill in the blanks.

3. Go into the Cocoa House where you can watch a magic lantern show about real-life citizens of York who. Fill out the short fact file here:

Name: _____

Job: _____

Details about family:

Political views (if stated):

Most interesting fact you found out about them:

Stage 3. Social Care in York

1. Where is the pharmacy in relation to both the centre of York and the slums?

2. What does this tell you about who the pharmacist's customers were?

3. Why do you think this is?

4. Discuss in pairs.

Can you see any other places on Kirkgate that poor people might have gone to get help if they needed it?

If not, why do you think this is?

Summary: Similarities and differences between the 'slums' and the 'centre of York'.

	'Slums'	'Centre of York'
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Outside of buildings		
Inside of buildings		
What type of person would have lived / worked / shopped here		
How much space is there?		
Where could people living there go for help if they were in trouble?		
Any other observations		