



## Y6 Thinking like a historian

### Beyond Face Value

#### Key Knowledge:

- Portraits were painted to of significant people or events to give viewers deliberate perceptions.
- It is thought that Victorian factory workers faced harsh conditions including long hours, low wages, and dangerous environments. Many worked 12-14 hour shifts with little pay, and children were frequently employed in dangerous jobs. They often lived in cramped, substandard housing near the factories.
- Paintings from the Victorian era, while offering valuable insights into the past, require careful interpretation because they are not always accurate representations of reality.
- While some evacuees had positive experiences with their host families and found happiness in their new surroundings, many faced difficulties and experienced trauma. The experiences of evacuees varied greatly, and not all were as happy or carefree as portrayed in some historical narratives and images.



Tudors	The English royals that ruled from 1485 to 1603.
Henry VIII	King of English from 1509 to 1547.
Portrait	A painting, photograph or drawing of a person, typically of the person's head and shoulders.
Propaganda	information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.
Vanity	Excessive pride in or admiration of one's own appearance or achievements.
Child labour	The employment of children in an industry or business and considered to be exploitive.
morale	The confidence, enthusiasm and discipline of a person or group at a particular time.

### Learning Questions

Can we analyse what portraits of Henry VIII wanted the public to believe?

Why do portraits of Elizabeth I show her looking younger towards the end of her reign?

Why is it difficult to work out what Victorian factory conditions were really like?

Why do we need to be careful when using paintings to find out about Victorian life?

Were evacuees as happy as they were shown?

**What else do you know?**