

# Knowledge Organiser: PAPER 1 WHITECHAPEL

## Part 1: Housing, Work & Social Tensions

Whitechapel area - housing, work and tensions	
1	Whitechapel is an area of London just east of the City. In the late 1880s, this district had very high levels of poverty, poor living conditions and poor working conditions - all which contributed to a high crime rate.
<b>Key events</b>	
2	<b>1840s-Influx of Irish immigrants</b> , ended up in Whitechapel as it was close to the docks and cheap. Most worked as navvies, had a reputation for being drunk, violent and linked with terrorist groups.
3	<b>1848 - Attempted revolutions across Europe</b> - many revolutionaries such as anarchists and socialists lived in the poor areas of London. Feared by the middle and upper classes, supported by the poor.
4	<b>1875 - Artisan &amp; Dwellings Act</b> : Aimed to clean up the rookeries and create new, cheap housing for the poor (linked to Peabody's estate). Gave local authorities the right to buy and demolish slums.
5	<b>1880- Barnardo's Homes opened</b> - cared for young orphans, conditions much better than the workhouses.
6	<b>1881- Peabody Estate</b> - Attempts to improve housing led to George Peabody building 11 blocks of flats with reasonable rent.
7	<b>1880's - Influx of European immigrants</b> - Mostly Russian and Polish Jews fleeing persecution, poverty meant they had to live in Whitechapel.
8	<b>1886 - Charles Booth</b> begins survey of the London poor and creates London poverty maps.
9	<b>1888</b> - Some parts of Whitechapel had a 95% Jewish population.
<b>Key Concepts</b>	
10	<b>Environment &amp; Crime: Unemployment</b> Low/no income led to stealing for survival by people desperate to avoid the workhouse. Prostitution was the only option for many women.
11	<b>Environment &amp; Crime: Alcoholism</b> Little/no work led to people frequenting the many public houses, many in Whitechapel were dependent on alcohol, leading to violent behaviour.
12	<b>Environment &amp; Crime: Violence</b> High levels of prostitution and alcohol consumption meant there was a lot of violence against women. Lots of violence between racial groups, foreigners blamed for crime.
13	<b>Environment &amp; Crime: Racial Tensions</b> Overcrowding led to violence between groups over housing and jobs. Jewish immigrants accepted lower pay and led to increase in sweatshops. Anti-Semitism increased.

Key Words/Phrases		
14	<b>Lodging Houses</b>	Lodgers paid nightly fee for bed and kitchen. Squalid. 25% of people in Whitechapel lived in a lodging house.
15	<b>Rookeries</b>	Slum housing, most of Whitechapel. Overcrowded with poor sanitation.
16	<b>Workhouses</b>	All poor fearful of ending up in the workhouse. Bed and food for hard labour. Punishment for being poor. Families split up and 'inmates' had to wear uniform. Elderly, orphans, ill, disabled, unmarried mothers.
17	<b>Dr Barnardo</b>	Opened homes for orphans and schools for poor children.
18	<b>Prostitution</b>	High numbers of women selling themselves for sex due to unemployment and alcoholism. Vulnerable.
19	<b>Unemployment</b>	High numbers without work due to high population, led to drinking in 'spare' time and alcoholism.
20	<b>Sweated Trades</b>	Long hours, low pay, poor conditions- cramped & dirty.
21	<b>Bryant &amp; May</b>	Match factory, poor pay and dangerous conditions. Bone cancer 'phossy jaw' due to inhaling chemicals.
22	<b>Navvies</b>	Workers on railways or dockyards. Work was irregular.
23	<b>Alcoholism</b>	Rife amongst prostitutes, the poor and unemployed. Navvies and Irish immigrants also known for drinking.
24	<b>Terrorism</b>	Groups carrying out attacks on the authorities.
25	<b>Fenians</b>	Irish terrorists who wanted Irish independence from Britain. Feared by authorities.
26	<b>Revolutionaries</b>	Wanted to overthrow the authorities across Europe.
27	<b>Anarchists</b>	Opposed organised governments, anti-rules/laws.
28	<b>Socialists</b>	Want to end capitalism, supported by workers and poor
29	<b>Fluctuating Population</b>	Many temporary residents who did not want to create a sense of community in Whitechapel.
30	<b>Eastern Europe immigrants</b>	Mainly Russian and Polish Jews. tended to stick together within areas- had own social clubs- causing segregation.
31	<b>Jews</b>	Seen as foreign, some areas had 95% Jewish population, accepted low pay and caused increase in sweatshops.
32	<b>Anti-Semitism</b>	Rapid rise in hatred of Jews and violence towards them.
33	<b>Foreigners</b>	Blamed for rise in crime, such as murders and violence.

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**Part 2: The Metropolitan Police in Whitechapel (H Division)**

<b>Metropolitan Police (the Met) &amp; H Division</b>	
1	The Met was a government-directed police force policing the whole of London (except for the City of London which had its own police force). There needed to be cooperation between the Met and the City of London force. The Met's H Division was responsible for Whitechapel.
<b>Key events</b>	
2	<b>1878 CID Created:</b> The Criminal Investigation Department of the Met set up to <b>DETECT</b> crime, and was separate from the rest of the force which was supposed to <b>PREVENT</b> crime. CID were ineffective.
3	<b>1885:</b> The Met totalled just 13,319 police who had to police a population of over 5 million. Only 1383 were on duty at one time.
4	<b>1886:</b> Commissioner <b>Sir Charles Warren</b> was appointed Met Commissioner. He was very unpopular with the people of London as the poor felt he was against them.
5	<b>1887 Trafalgar Square protests 'Bloody Sunday':</b> Warren banned an unemployment protest. Poor people ignored the ban. Warren deployed 1000s of police and 1000 army soldiers. Many poor people were injured in the violence and mounted police charges, one protester died. Warren was blamed.
6	<b>1888 Whitechapel Vigilance Committee:</b> Set up by businessmen in Whitechapel on 10 September due to the police's lack of progress in the Ripper murders. Offered rewards for information and patrolled the streets with torches and whistles. Disrupted police investigations by sending false leads and encouraging criticism in newspapers.
<b>Key Concepts</b>	
7	<b>Police recruits</b> could be unreliable e.g. absenteeism and drinking on the job. Many were not from London and didn't understand the issues in specific areas, which meant they were not trusted by locals.
8	<b>Attitudes</b> towards the police in the working class areas were generally poor. People living in areas of poverty believed that the police were simply an extension of the government, who didn't care about them. They believed the police only worked for the middle and upper classes. This made Whitechapel incredibly difficult to police.
9	The <b>government</b> wanted complete control of the Met as they were particularly worried about Irish terrorists, anarchists and socialists in London at this time.

<b>Key Words</b>		
10	<b>Police Recruits</b>	Most not from London, with little policing experience.
11	<b>Absenteeism</b>	Police officers unreliable, didn't turn up for work or complete their beat.
12	<b>Police Drinking</b>	Some had drink problems and would drink on the job.
13	<b>Beat Constable</b>	Police officer had a set route to patrol to deter crime, question people, break up fights and arrest suspects. Had to report to beat sergeants and record events in a diary.
14	<b>H Division</b>	The section of the Met responsible for policing Whitechapel. They faced many difficulties.
15	<b>Sir Charles Warren</b>	Commissioner in charge of the Met police. Very unpopular with the working classes, not trusted.
16	<b>Trafalgar Square 'Bloody Sunday'</b>	Place where violent protests took place in 1887 and many working class people were injured by the police.
17	<b>Attitudes</b>	Many working classes did not trust the police as they worked for the government.
18	<b>Economic Depression</b>	Lack of work, poor wages and poor living conditions meant many people turned to crime and hated police.
19	<b>Home Secretary</b>	Was directly responsible for the Met police so the government could control the policing of terrorists.
20	<b>CID</b>	The Met's Criminal Investigation Department.
21	<b>Problems - Environment</b>	Dark narrow alleys; rookeries packed with people; courts with multiple doorways- difficult to chase criminals.
22	<b>Problems - Prostitutes</b>	In 1888 there were approx. 1200 prostitutes vulnerable to violence- attacks, rapes, murders.
23	<b>Problems - Alcohol</b>	Large numbers of pubs and gin houses in Whitechapel, all sold strong alcohol cheaply. Led to violence and crime.
24	<b>Problems - Gangs and Protection Rackets</b>	Large professional and well-trained gangs of thieves operated e.g. the Wildboys. Attacked police. Some gangs demanded money to 'protect' properties, attacked if you refused. People feared gangs and didn't report to police.
25	<b>Problems - Demonstrations</b>	Protests were common, usually by socialists who wanted more rights for workers. Police dealt with them violently.
26	<b>Problems - Attacks on Jews</b>	Anti-Semitic attacks on Jews common. Some police hated Jews and didn't help. Language barrier an issue.

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**Part 3: Investigative Policing in Whitechapel**

Investigative Policing	
1	The Met developed new methods of detective investigation that were to prove useful in investigating the crimes of Jack the Ripper, who murdered at least five women in and around Whitechapel in the Autumn of 1888.
Key events	
2	<b>31st August 1888:</b> Mary Anne Nichols murdered, Bucks Row.
3	<b>8th September 1888:</b> Annie Chapman murdered, Hanbury Street.
4	<b>30th September 1888:</b> the <b>DOUBLE EVENT</b> Elizabeth Stride murdered in Dutfield's Yard then Catherine Eddowes murdered in Mitre Square.
5	<b>9th November 1888:</b> Mary Kelly murdered inside her lodgings, Miller's Court.
6	<b>Improvements after 1888:</b> The <b>Bertillon System</b> . The Met introduced this system of taking measurements and photographs of suspects and keeping records stored centrally. These were then shared between police forces.
7	<b>1900:</b> Introduction of <b>telephones</b> improved the speed of police communication.
Key Concepts	
8	<b>Jack the Ripper:</b> Five women were strangled and mutilated over a 10 week period in 1888. All were prostitutes and the murdered at night, making witnesses unreliable. 'Jack' got his name from letters sent to the police, and the newspapers called him the 'Ripper'. Who the murderer has never been discovered though there are many theories.
9	<b>Investigative Policing:</b> The Met used lots of different techniques to try try and carry out an investigation leading to the capture of 'Jack'. These techniques paved the way for modern day policing, but the police were unable to find the murderer.
10	<b>Rival Police Forces:</b> The Met and the City of London Police were both desperate to solve crimes first in Whitechapel. They didn't share information. H Division also had to help CID as well as do its own work.
11	<b>The Problem of the Newspapers/Media:</b> Although the media encouraged people to come forward, it also attracted thousands of hoax letters and theories. Papers stirred up racial hatred, claiming a foreigner committed the murders. Newspapers also criticised the police.

Key Words		
12	<b>House to House Searches</b>	Police searched all lodging houses in the area after the Double Event. Opium dens and pubs searched.
13	<b>Leaflets</b>	Handed out when clues discovered. E.g a <b>LEATHER APRON</b> found in Mitre Square after Eddowes was killed.
14	<b>Newspapers</b>	' <b>PENNY DREADFULS</b> ' competed for best stories and sales. Made up stories, released sketches of 'suspects'. A Paper received the ' <b>DEAR BOSS</b> ' letter which was likely to have been from the murder but the paper didn't hand it over the the police for 4 days.
15	<b>Clues</b>	Police followed up clues found at the scene, and also items that were missing were followed up.
16	<b>Post Mortem/ Autopsy</b>	Dr Bond (police surgeon) used autopsy reports and witness descriptions to build a criminal profile.
17	<b>Coroner's Report</b>	Bodies examined by surgeons at crime scene and in the mortuary. Detailed report written about time of death, wounds. Pictures of eyes taken- belief that images were stored in the retina.
18	<b>Annotated sketches of crime scenes</b>	Artists employed to draw the murder victims and crime scenes so they could be compared by the police to see if there were any links.
19	<b>Soup Kitchens</b>	Organised by police for poor people to encourage them to come forward and give information.
20	<b>Interviews</b>	2000 people questioned after DOUBLE EVENT, mainly butcher's and surgeons.
21	<b>Statements</b>	Any statements given to police were written down word for word and read back to the witness.
22	<b>Identity parades</b>	Used to rule out suspects based on descriptions given by witnesses.
23	<b>Hoax Letters</b>	300 plus hoax letters were sent to the police and newspapers.
24	<b>Racial Hatred</b>	Increased due to newspaper reporting, which blamed foreigners. Led to increase of violence which police had to deal with.
25	<b>Bertillon System</b>	System of taking measurements and photographs and sharing with other police forces.

<b>GENERAL TYPE OF SOURCE</b>	<b>VERY SPECIFIC SOURCE FOR Q2b</b>
Photograph	Photograph of _____
Building	Mary Kelly's lodging house at 13 Miller's Court where she was murdered
Newspaper	The Illustrated Police News, The Graphic, East London Observer
Census	London census record e.g. 1881, 1891
Map	Map of Whitechapel showing different social classes by colour code (e.g. Charles Booth's poverty survey)
Drawing	Sketch of the ripper or body of Catherine Eddowes by police surgeon
Book	The Modern Jew by Arnold White published in 1899
Cartoon	Bull' Eye a cartoon published in Punch magazine in 1877
Court record/Old Bailey Record	Thames Police Court January 1887- December 1887
Police records	Details from PC William Shorts entry in H Divisional register