

Children at Work Quiz : Answers

1. True
2. True
3. False - although it is believed that children as young as three were put to work on occasions.
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. False. The work was extremely dangerous for everyone because of the poor conditions in which they worked and the huge pieces of machinery which were not guarded to prevent people from getting caught up in them. In fact, incidents were recorded of children falling into machines and being torn apart!
8. True
9. True (In fact, dunking children into cold water was also used as a child-rearing technique in the home!)
10. True
11. True (It's a bit like being clapped in irons or sent to prison for truanting from school)
12. False. Not quite the whole workforce, but children and young people under eighteen made up a good half of the workforce. It was cheaper to employ young people as their wages were lower and they could be exploited.
13. True. Working down the mines was fraught with danger for everyone.
14. True. Some young people ended up having limbs amputated and surgeons would be amazed to find that they had no bone marrow.
15. False. Young people's work was very dangerous indeed because they were asked to weave themselves in and out of working machinery so there was always the risk of being pulled into the mechanisms. The work was also very hard, just as hard as it was for the adult workforce - and sometimes, harder, especially if you consider their small size and lack of experience.