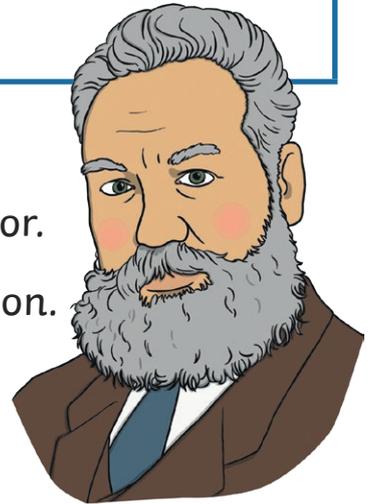


# Victorian Inventors



Lots of things were invented in Victorian times. Many Victorian inventions are things we still use today, like phones and light bulbs.



## Alexander Bell

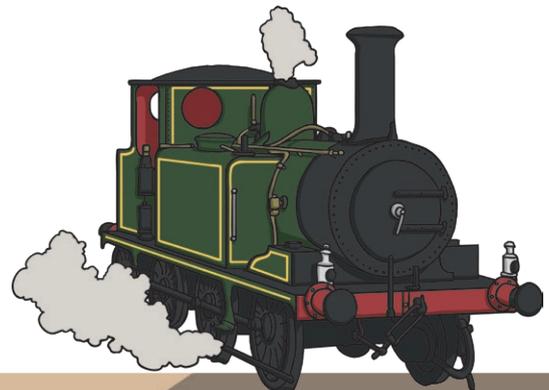
- Alexander was a Scottish scientist and inventor.
- He worked with the electrician, Thomas Watson.
- Together they invented the telephone!

## Hertha Ayrton

- Hertha was a mathematician and inventor.
- Lots of Victorians thought women couldn't be inventors but they were wrong!
- Hertha invented a new way to make a quieter, brighter streetlight.

## Isambard Brunel

- Isambard was a famous engineer who changed Victorian transport.
- He built the Great Western Railway and the world's biggest steamship.
- He also built lots of tunnels and bridges that are still used today.



# Questions

1. Which Victorian inventions do we still use today? Tick two.

- phones
- computers
- light bulbs

2. What did Alexander Bell invent? Tick one.

- light bulbs
- the telephone
- trains

3. Tick one word to complete the sentence.

**Lots of Victorians thought \_\_\_\_\_ couldn't be inventors.**

- children
- men
- women

4. What did Isambard Brunel build? Tick two.

- schools
- tunnels
- steamships

5. Tick one word to complete the sentence. **Hertha Ayrton made streetlights quieter and**

\_\_\_\_\_.

- brighter
- smaller
- bigger

# Answers

1. Which Victorian inventions do we still use today? Tick two.

- phones**
- computers
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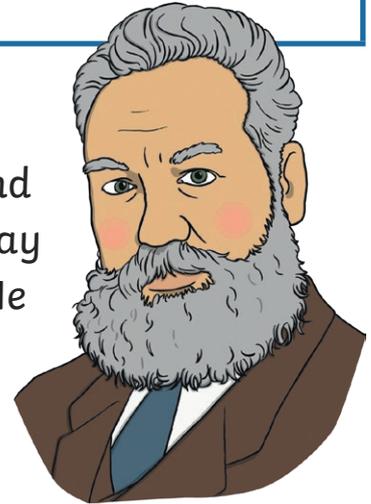
# Victorian Inventors



The Victorian age was an amazing time for inventors and inventions. Many Victorian inventions are things we still use today, like phones and light bulbs.

## Alexander Bell

Alexander was a Scottish scientist, engineer and inventor. He spent years trying to invent a way of sending the human voice through wires. He began working with the electrician Thomas Watson and together they made the first ever telephone call. Soon, thousands of people had a telephone in their homes!



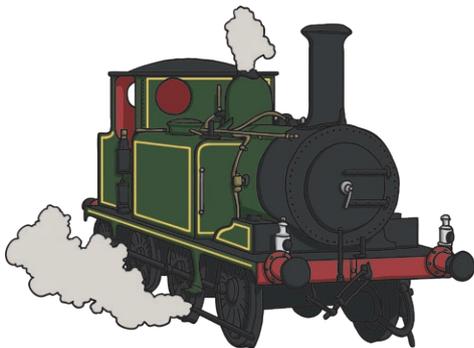
## Hertha Ayrton

Hertha was an engineer, mathematician and inventor. Lots of Victorians thought women couldn't do these jobs but Hertha showed that they were wrong!

Victorian streetlights were lit using noisy electric arcs. Hertha invented a new arc that made lights quieter and brighter. She went on to come up with 26 new inventions.

## Isambard Brunel

Isambard was a famous engineer and inventor who changed the way that Victorians travelled. Isambard built the Great Western Railway, making it easier to travel from London to the rest of the country. He built the world's largest steamship called the SS Great Eastern. He also built many tunnels and bridges that are still used today.





### Did You Know...?

- In the first ever phone call, Alexander said “Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you!”
- Hertha also fought for the law to be changed so women could vote.
- Isambard’s ship, the SS Great Eastern, was 210 metres long.

# Questions

1. Who did Alexander Graham Bell work with? Tick one.

- Hertha Ayrton  
 Isambard Brunel  
 Thomas Watson

2. Number these facts in the order you find them out in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.  
 The world's largest steamship was called the 'SS Great Eastern'.  
 1 The Victorian age was an amazing time for inventors.  
 Hertha Ayrton invented a new electric arc.

3. Draw lines to match these sentences about each inventor.

Hertha Ayrton

He changed the way Victorians travelled.

Alexander Bell

Thousands of people had his invention in their home.

Isambard Brunel

Not everyone thought she could do her job.

4. Find and copy what was said in the first ever phone call.

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5. What else did Hertha Ayrton do that was important?

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# Answers

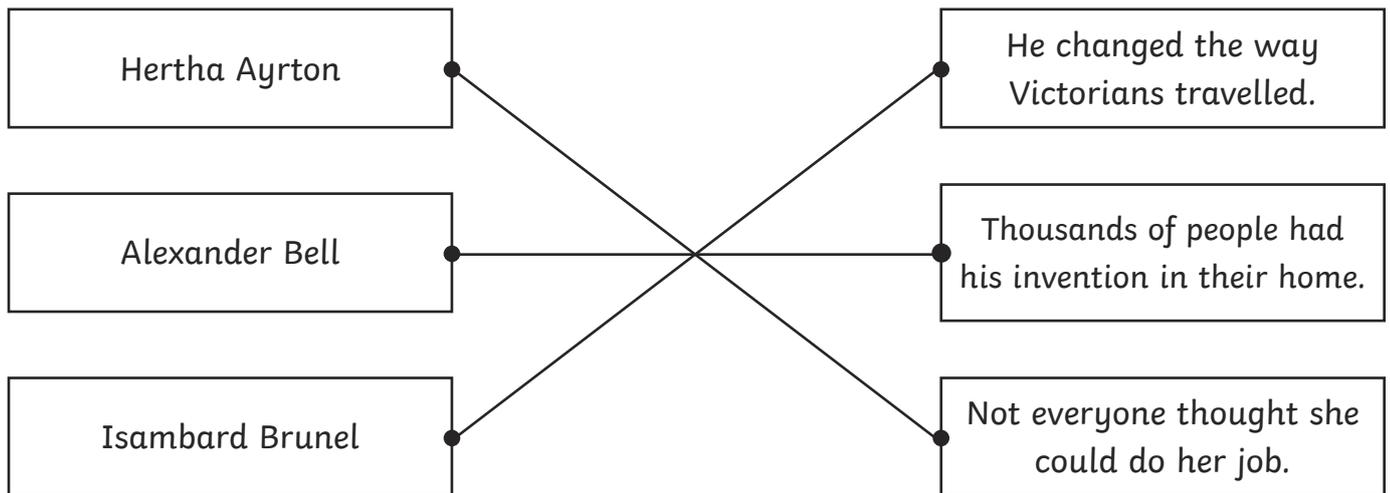
1. Who did Alexander Graham Bell work with? Tick one.

- Hertha Ayrton  
 Isambard Brunel  
 **Thomas Watson**

2. Number these facts in the order you find them out in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- 2 Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.  
 4 The world's largest steamship was called the 'SS Great Eastern'.  
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 3 Hertha Ayrton invented a new electric arc.

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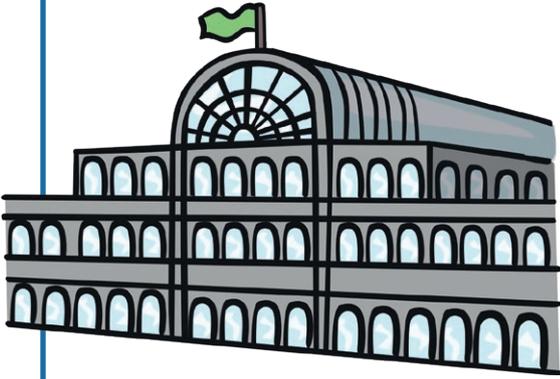
4. Find and copy what was said in the first ever phone call.

**"Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you!"**

5. What else did Hertha Ayrton do that was important?

**Hertha Ayrton also fought for the law to be changed so women could vote.**

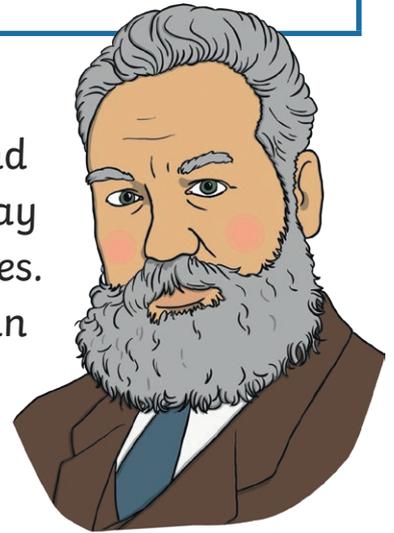
# Victorian Inventors



The Victorian age was an amazing time for inventors and inventions. In 1851 Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, held the Great Exhibition to display new technology from around the world. Many Victorian inventions are things we still use today, like photographs and telephones.

## Alexander Graham Bell

Alexander was a Scottish scientist, engineer and inventor. He spent years trying to invent a way of sending the human voice over electrical wires. In 1847, he began working with the electrician Thomas Watson. On 10<sup>th</sup> March 1876, Alexander made the first ever telephone call to Thomas.



The Bell Telephone Company was set up in 1877 and by 1886 over 150,000 people had a telephone in their home!

## Hertha Ayrton

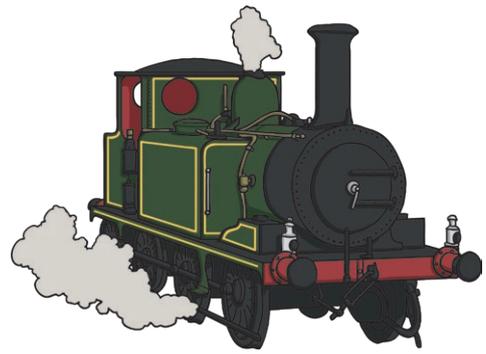
Hertha was an engineer, mathematician and inventor. In Victorian times, many people thought women couldn't do these jobs but Hertha proved them wrong!

In the 1890s, streetlights were lit using noisy electric arcs. Hertha invented a new

electric arc that made the lights quieter and brighter. She went on to register patents for 26 inventions. Hertha was given a medal for her work on electricity in 1906.

### Isambard Kingdom Brunel

Isambard was a famous engineer and inventor who transformed the way that Victorian people travelled. Isambard built the Great Western Railway connecting London to the rest of the country. He created steamships that travelled faster than sailing ships and built the world's largest ship called the SS Great Eastern. He also built many tunnels and bridges that are still used today.



### Did You Know...?

- In the first ever phone call, after spilling acid on his leg, Alexander shouted “Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you!”
- Hertha was also a suffragist, meaning she fought for the law to be changed so women could vote.
- Isambard’s ship, the SS Great Eastern, was 210 metres long and could carry 4,000 people.

# Questions

1. What year did the Great Exhibition take place? Tick one.

- 1951  
 1851  
 1581

2. Number these events 1-4 in the order they happened in the life of Alexander Graham Bell.

- Alexander started working with Thomas Watson.  
 The Bell Telephone Company was set up.  
 Alexander spent years trying to invent a way of sending the human voice.  
 Alexander made the first ever telephone call.

3. What did Hertha Ayrton invent to improve streetlights?

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4. Find and copy one adjective that describes **what kind of time it was for inventors in the Victorian age**.

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5. **Isambard was a famous engineer who transformed the way that Victorian people travelled.** What do you think the word **transformed** might mean?

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6. Which inventor do you think worked the hardest? Give two reasons for your answer.

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# Answers

1. What year did the Great Exhibition take place? Tick one.

- 1951  
 **1851**  
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2. Number these events 1-4 in the order they happened in the life of Alexander Graham Bell.

- 2** Alexander started working with Thomas Watson.  
**4** The Bell Telephone Company was set up.  
**1** Alexander spent years trying to invent a way of sending the human voice.  
**3** Alexander made the first ever telephone call.

3. What did Hertha Ayrton invent to improve streetlights?

**Hertha invented a new electric arc to improve streetlights.**

4. Find and copy one adjective that describes **what kind of time it was for inventors in the Victorian age.**

**amazing**

5. **Isambard was a famous engineer who transformed the way that Victorian people travelled.** What do you think the word **transformed** might mean?

**I think the word transformed means changed.**

6. Which inventor do you think worked the hardest? Give two reasons for your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Hertha Ayrton worked the hardest because she registered patents for 26 inventions and also lots of people thought she couldn't do her job so she had to work hard to prove them wrong.**