

To what extent did ordinary lives get better in the period 1500 to 1750?

Lesson Enquiry Question	Main disc. focus	Substantive knowledge covered	Key terms
What can a print from 1640 tell us about ordinary lives in the mid 17th century?	Evidential understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People in the 17th century were very religious. Sanitation in towns and cities was poor, which sometimes caused disease. Many people's jobs were labour intensive. Buildings were packed closely together in 17th century towns. Young people often had to work to support their families, rather than going to school. Women had to do hard labour connected with the household in the period, and they had no real status in 17th century society. 	apprentice, alehouse, hot-house, sanitation, patriarchal, gentry, yeoman.
Could you improve a museum exhibition on the Elizabethan poor?	Interpretations, Change and continuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth made the currency more stable than it had been under Henry VIII. Elizabeth tried to support the poor by ordering Justices of the Peace (JPs) to collect rates from local people to support them. Trade with other African kingdoms and with outside powers such as Portugal helped Benin to establish its power. Elizabeth's Poor Law of 1572 distinguished between different types of poor people: those who were beggars and criminals out of laziness, and those who were too old or weak to work. The Poor Law of 1572 still punished vagabonds (those wandering from place to place seeking work) harshly, although many people had only turned to the 'crime' of vagabondage because they had no work. A system called enclosures meant that land which had previously been used by everyone in the village to graze animals and grow vegetables was taken over. Towns grew considerably during Elizabeth's reign 	Poor Law, monasteries, Justice of the Peace, famine, enclosures, vagabond.
‘The most flourishing and opulent country in the world’: How much had England's economy really improved?	Causation, Change and continuity Interpretations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spices, tea and coffee came from across the world and were enjoyed by people in England. New trading companies started the triangular trade with Africa and the Americas which later became the slave trade. There was an increased population and the gap between rich and poor grew. London grew significantly. 	economy, trade, merchant, East India Company.
Why was Temperance Lloyd executed in 1682?	Evidential understanding Causation,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People were highly superstitious, believing in the existence of 'witches'. Protestantism brought new ideas and helped to 'confirm' the belief in witchcraft. 	hypothesis, gallows, colonise, Nonconformist
Why were so many Scottish women accused of witchcraft in the 17th century?	Causation Change and continuity Interpretations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ordinary women could be accused of witchcraft for a number of different reasons, many of these reasons reflecting the political, religious, social and economic context of the time. 	scapegoat, superstition, monarchy, Little Ice Age, famine, enclosures.

