

Coal Mining Worksheet

Section 1 – Jobs

Look at Source 1A.

1. Read about Janet Cummings in paragraph 20.

Janet worked _____ hours a day.

2. The creel that Janet carried was _____.

3. Janet did/did not like her job because the source tells us that _____

4. Read about Isabella Read in paragraph 21.

Isabella fell asleep during her work because she was h-- and t---d.

5. It was uncomfortable for Isabella to work underground because she was f _____ in w _____ up to the calves of her l _____.

When the w _____ was warm, Isabella had difficulty b _____.

Word box

Breathing Water Legs Weather Frequently

6. Read about Agnes Moffat in paragraph 22.

Place a tick next to the true statements (3).

Agnes Moffat's evidence agrees with the evidence given by Janet Cummings and Isabella Read because she says that:

- She works at least 10 hours every day.
- She works less than 10 hours every day.
- Her mother made her work in the mine.
- Her father made her work in the mine.
- She says the lassies she works with enjoy their work.
- She says the lassies she works with hate their work.

Look at Source 1B.

1. Read paragraph 29 and look at the drawings.

Which of the following statements describes the work of a putter? _____

A. A putter cuts the coal from the coal face.

B. A putter carries the coal from the bottom of the coal shaft to the surface.

C. A putter drags the carts containing the coal from the coal face to the pit bottom.

D. A putter opens and closes doors to allow the carts to pass through.

2. Source 1B is useful as evidence of the work done by children in mines in 1842 because it is an official report to the _____

_____, therefore the source is likely to be accurate.

This source is also a _____ source as it was written at the time children worked in mines. The source is also useful because it tells us that _____

Section 2 – Dangers

Look at Source 2A.

1. Read section 614 and complete this table.

Name of person injured	Description of injury
Robert Sneddon (brother of Mary Sneddon)	Killed instantly by ...
Robert Russell	Crushed by ...
William Blair	Crushed to death by...

Read Source 2B.

1. John Findlay died on ____ December 18 ____.
2. Read the section which begins “The jury unanimously find...”
John Findlay died between _____ and _____ o’clock forenoon.
3. John Findlay was killed instantly by _____

4. Source B2 is reliable as evidence of dangers for miners in the late nineteenth century because it is a report of a F---- A----- I-----, therefore it is likely to be accurate. The source is p----- evidence as it was written at the time miners were exposed to danger in mines. The source is also useful because it tells us that _____

Section 3 – Working Conditions

Look at Source 3A.

1. Look carefully at section II.
How many days was each pitman expected to work each week?
A. 3
B. 4
C. 5
D. 7
2. Look at section VII.
The _____ was responsible for the upkeep of the house. The _____ would look after the roof.
3. Source C1 is useful for investigating the hours and wages of miners in the nineteenth century because it is a _____ source, written when miners were working underground. The Source is an agreement between the owner of _____ Colliery and his workmen and it tells us that _____.
This source is however limited in use for investigating the hours and wages of miners as it does not mention _____.

Look at Source 3B.

1. How many days a fortnight was a miner at Grange Colliery expected to work?

- A. 6
- B. 7
- C. 9
- D.10

2. Section 3 of this source and section V of Source C1 agree that a miner had to give up their h---- when they left their job. The line from Source 3A which tells me this is “such possession shall...

The line from Source 3B which agrees with this is the house “shall be quitted...

3. Miners were expected to obey the instructions of the overseer without
_____.

Section 4 - Housing

Look at Source 4A.

1. Describe the living conditions in this miner’s house.
(Think about the ceiling, the wallpaper, the window and the bed.)

2. (Think about the following points to help you answer this question:

- Is this Source primary or secondary?
- What does the photograph show you?
- This is a photograph of one miner’s house. Does this make it less reliable as evidence of living conditions for all miners?
-

Source 4A is reliable as evidence of living conditions for miners in the 1930s because _____

Look at Source 4B.

1. This picture of miners' rows at Standburn shows _____

2. Source 4B does/does not support the evidence about housing conditions shown in Source 4A because _____

Section 5 – Improvements

Look at Source 5A.

1. Houses in Lanarkshire had been improved to prevent dampness because r----- had been added to carry away roof water.

2. The Medical Officer thought that some improvements were still needed.

- There was a need for a plentiful supply of p--- w-----.
- Houses needed to be larger to stop o-----g.

Look at Source 5B.

1. Describe the inside of this miner's house. (Think about the fire, the window and the furniture.)

2. Try to complete this table which show the differences between Source 4A and Source 5B.

Source 4A	Source 5B
Small window	
	Well decorated
Looks dirty	
Has a bed in the room where the family eats.	

