

Preparing for Work - Girls at Work worksheet

When the girls left the homes they were usually found jobs as maids in large houses or as laundry workers.

1. Looking at the three photographs showing laundries and laundry work, what do you think laundry work would have been like before the invention of the washing machine?

Hint: Look at the equipment, the surroundings and the clothes they are wearing.

2. Imagine you are that strong, hardworking girl of nearly seventeen in the extract from Fareham. How would you feel about:

Being found a job?

Leaving the home?

Going to a new place to live?

3. The letter from Islington is the kind of letter that would have been read out to the children at meal times. What hopes would this letter give them for the future?