

The Gladstone Family and Gloucester

The famous Gladstone family and Gloucester offer opportunities for student investigation. Read this link then answer the following questions:

www.sootallures.wixsite.com/topographersarms/post/the-gladstones-at-gloucester

1. What does the phrase 'principled opponent of imperialism' mean?
2. Which two important jobs did William Gladstone hold more than once?
3. What is a pseudonym?
4. What does John Gladstone's pseudonym connote?
5. Who did William Gladstone defend with his first speech in parliament?
6. Who was Gradgrind? Why do you think the writer has used this descriptor?
7. Why was John Gladstone feeling relieved?
8. Why has the writer used the phrase 'Stroud Scarlet army'?
9. What were spas? List three popular spas in the south-west.
10. What was the Middle Passage?
11. Why has the writer used the phrase 'crimson wake of the slave ships'?
12. How has the writer achieved a juxtaposition with the use of the phrase, 'As they enjoyed the balm of saline warmth'?
13. Why did John Gladstone come to Gloucester in 1825?
14. If you wanted to locate the site of Gloucester's spa waters and pump room, where would you go?
15. How did the youthful Gladstone spend his time at Gloucester and how did the adult Gladstone spend his time?
16. A three-line stanza illustrates the privilege of the Gladstone family. How?
17. How does the poem indicate that Britain's industrial revolution was stimulated by slavery abolition compensation?
18. What was the value of John Gladstone's estate (in today's values) on his death?
19. Read the letter at the end of the prose-poem and re-read the poem. Design an information plaque with wording that you think would be appropriate for the site of Gloucester's pump rooms.

20. Extra research: Find out about Liverpool University and the debate about the name 'Gladstone' at the university.