

## AQA Question 2: 'Explain the significance of anaesthetics in the development of medicine.' (8 marks)

AQA Paper 2: Shaping the nation, health and the people, c1000 to the present day

### Lesson context

Following a class visit to Thackray Medical Museum, images and artefacts from the museum prompt students to display deeper understanding and more detailed contextual knowledge in their answers to 8 mark AQA exam style utility questions.

### Learning

- Tips on answering an AQA exam style Question 2 on significance.
- Planning 3 paragraphs and a conclusion explaining:
  1. what operations were like before an anaesthetics,
  2. the immediate impact of the introduction of anaesthetics,
  3. the longer term impact of anaesthetics,
  4. A conclusion judging the significance of anaesthetics in the development of medicine.

### Lesson preparation

- Print off a class set of AQA Question 2, stapling the two pages together.
- Assess the time required to work through page 1 as a class and set students to work on the practice question on page 2. Incorporate this time into your lesson plan.

### Suggestions

- Work through page 1 of AQA Question 2 as a class. Discuss the Thackray images and the impact that the lack of anaesthetics had on Hannah Dyson. Consider the difference, had her accident happened after 1847.
- Discuss the meaning of 'significance'. Point out that an innovation has both short term and long term significance.

More able students may point out that chances of survival worsened after the introduction of anaesthetics (the Black Period of Surgery).

Set students to work on answering Q2, using page 2 of the worksheet.