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## Additional Activity – Women in Education

<b>Title of Activity</b>	“You can be a teacher or a nurse”
<b>Type of Activity</b>	Multi-grade (9-12) Critical thinking , Comparative Study Journal entry
<b>Suggested Subjects</b>	Social Sciences and Humanities, Communications, English, History, Business Studies

<p><b>Description of activity</b></p>	<p>In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, women could be nurses, teachers or secretaries. Most of the doors to a post-secondary education were closed.</p> <p>compare education that was available to women 100 years ago to now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- which careers could women enter?</li> <li>- how and when did this change?</li> <li>- what are some of the social, economical and political implications of these changes?</li> </ul> <p>Here are some resources that may help with initial research  <a href="#">Article Rural Teachers in Canada</a>  <a href="#">Looking Back: Women's History in Ontario Teacher Federations</a>  <a href="#">Women's education grew in the 19th Century as attitudes changed, but challenges remained</a>  <a href="#">A Brief History of Women in Higher Education</a></p> <p><u>Women as teachers:</u>  The following are the rules that teachers were forced to follow at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Canada.  (link: <a href="https://vancouver.sun.com/news/staff-blogs/rules-for-teachers-then-and-now">https://vancouver.sun.com/news/staff-blogs/rules-for-teachers-then-and-now</a>)</p> <p>These rules were posted in the handbook for teachers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. You will not keep company with married men.</li> <li>2. You will not marry during the term of the contract.</li> <li>3. You must be home between the hours of 8 pm and 6 am.</li> <li>4. You must not loiter downtown in any of the ice cream stores.</li> <li>5. You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have the permission of the chairman of the board.</li> <li>6. You may not ride in carriage or automobile with any man unless it be your father or your brother.</li> <li>7. You may not smoke cigarettes.</li> <li>8. You may not dress in bright colours, and you may not under any circumstances dye your hair.</li> <li>9. You must wear at least two petticoats, and your dresses may not be shorter than two inches above your ankles.</li> <li>10. You must keep the school neat and clean, sweep the floor at least once daily and scrub the floor at least once a week with hot, soapy water.</li> <li>11. You must clean the blackboards once a day, and start the fire at 7 am so the room will be warm at 8 am.</li> </ol> <p>Women were forced to leave the profession once they chose to get married.</p> <p>What jobs are closed to women in the present day?</p>
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What are the social, emotional, political and economic implications of these changes?

Consolidating learning:

Imagine you are a teacher in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Write a **journal entry** about what your day would have looked like. How much free time did you have? Consider writing one entry in the spring/summer months (May or June) and then one in January or February.

What were you thinking as a teacher? Were you content with the restrictions, or were you wishing life was different.

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<b>Notes</b>	
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