

## The Panopticon today

### Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- understand the importance of the Panopticon today.

Using the link below, complete questions 1 to 17 that follow.

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/jul/23/panopticon-digital-surveillance-jeremy-bentham>

1. What was Bentham a founder of?
2. What is UCL's PanoptiCam project?
3. Why is it appropriate that the camera is in the glass case containing Bentham's body?
4. Briefly describe the structure of the Panopticon.
5. Why is it still relevant today?
6. Where did the original idea for the Panopticon come from?
7. Which was the first prison built in the Panopticon style?
8. According to Foucault, what did the Panopticon illustrate?
9. What is meant by asymmetrical surveillance? What is its impact?
10. In what way is the Panopticon similar to today's CCTV?
11. What might be the impact of citizens not knowing they are being watched?
12. How does state surveillance on the internet differ from the Panopticon?
13. Why might self-surveillance not take place when browsing the internet?
14. In what ways is data on the internet surveilled and by whom?
15. Note down all the 'Data on data' facts. (You should keep clicking on 'Next fact >'.)
16. What is the problem of the increased interconnectedness of our electronic devices?
17. What was Bentham's anti-Panopticon and why did he develop it?