

Florence Nightingale

Today we will be:

Investigating things that are different and things that are the same between medical care now and in Victorian times.

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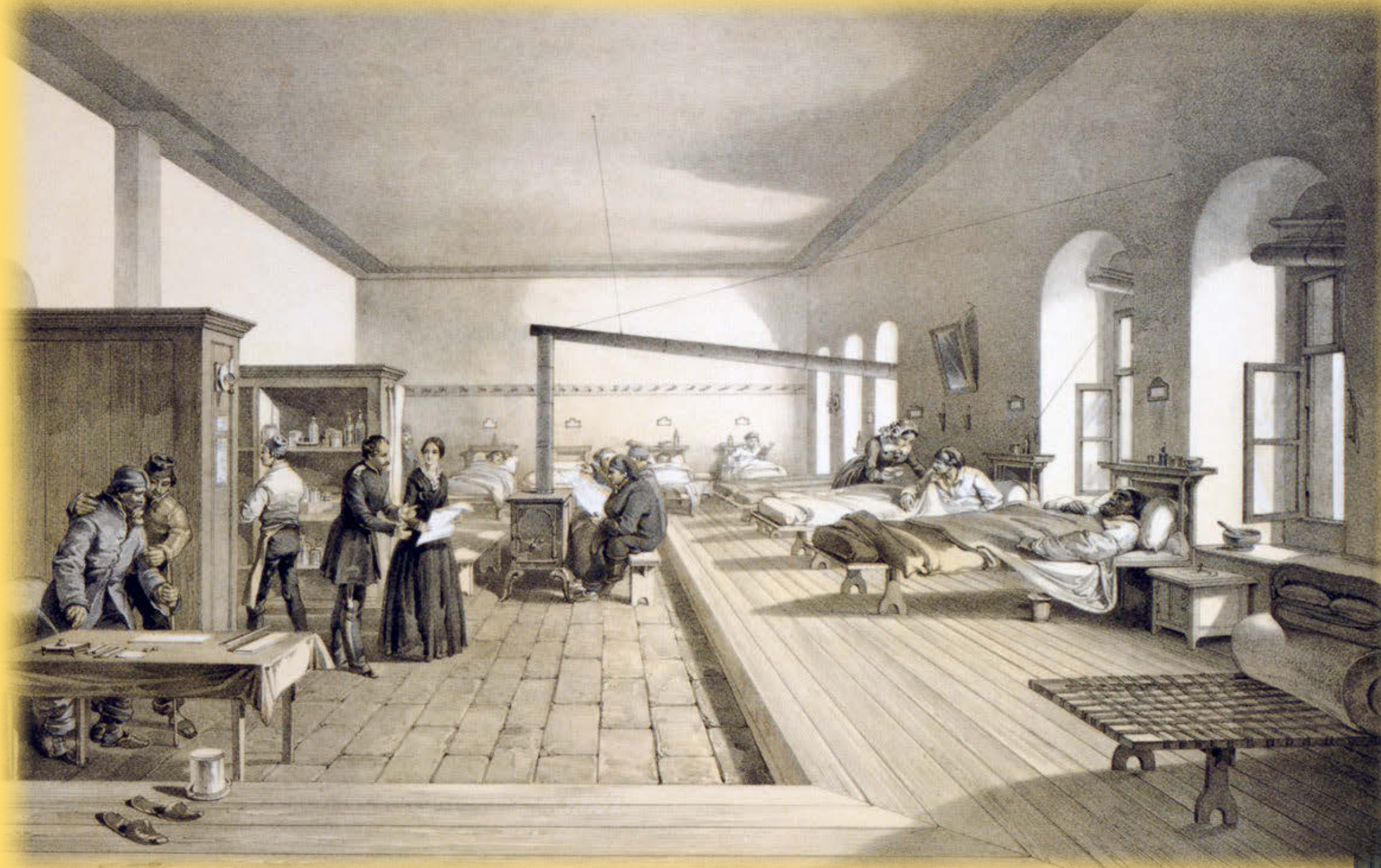
These two pictures show a nurse from Victorian times and a nurse today. How many differences can you spot between these two pictures?



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These pictures show the hospital ward in Scutari in 1854 and a modern hospital ward.



How many differences can you spot? What is the same in both pictures?

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Before Florence Nightingale, nursing as we know it today didn't really exist. She made a lot of changes, not only to nursing but to how hospitals were run and organised. She is remembered as the mother of modern nursing and many of her ideas are still used today.

This is what a doctor at the Scutari hospital might have said before Florence Nightingale arrived...

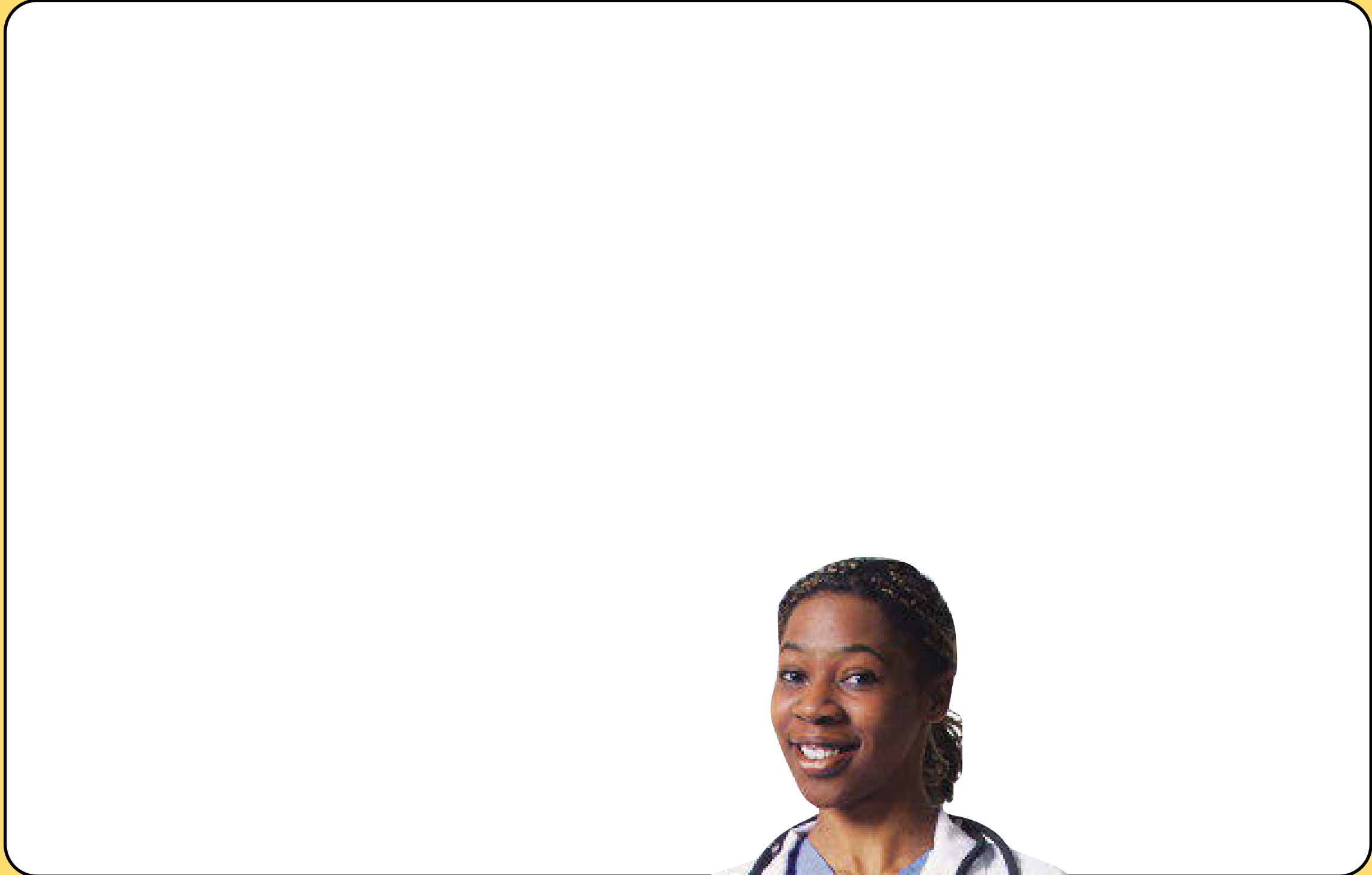
Oh dear, this soldier seems to have a rather large cut in his leg. Never mind, just wrap it with this cloth I was using to clean up that man over there who just died. That will stop the bleeding.



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What do you think Florence Nightingale would have said instead? How would she have treated the soldier with a cut? How would a modern doctor treat the soldier? Discuss your ideas then write a response in each of the speech bubbles...

A large, empty white speech bubble with a black border, intended for writing a response related to Florence Nightingale.A large, empty white speech bubble with a black border, intended for writing a response related to a modern doctor.

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This time the doctor in Scutari has a patient who needs to have his arm amputated because it is infected.

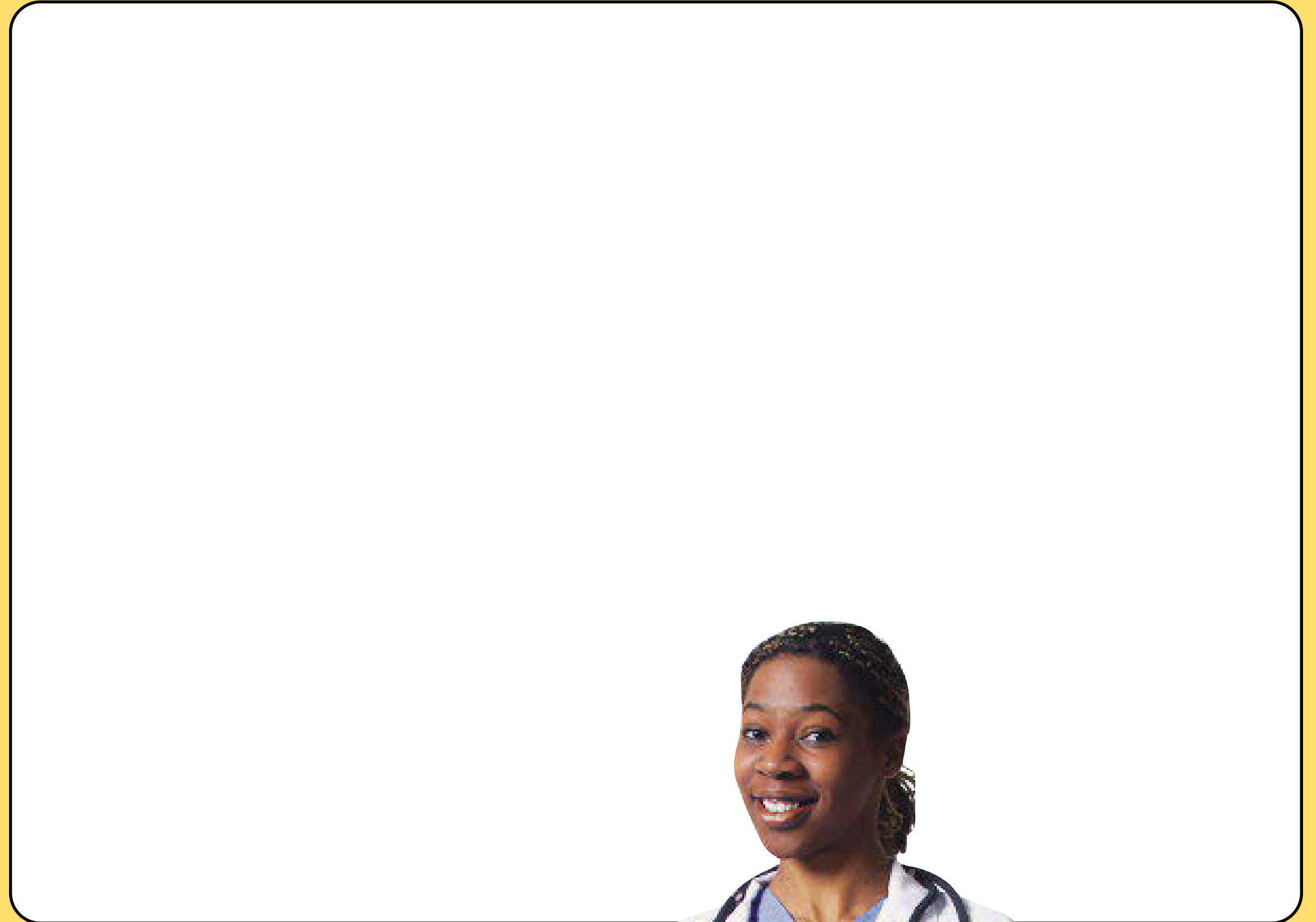
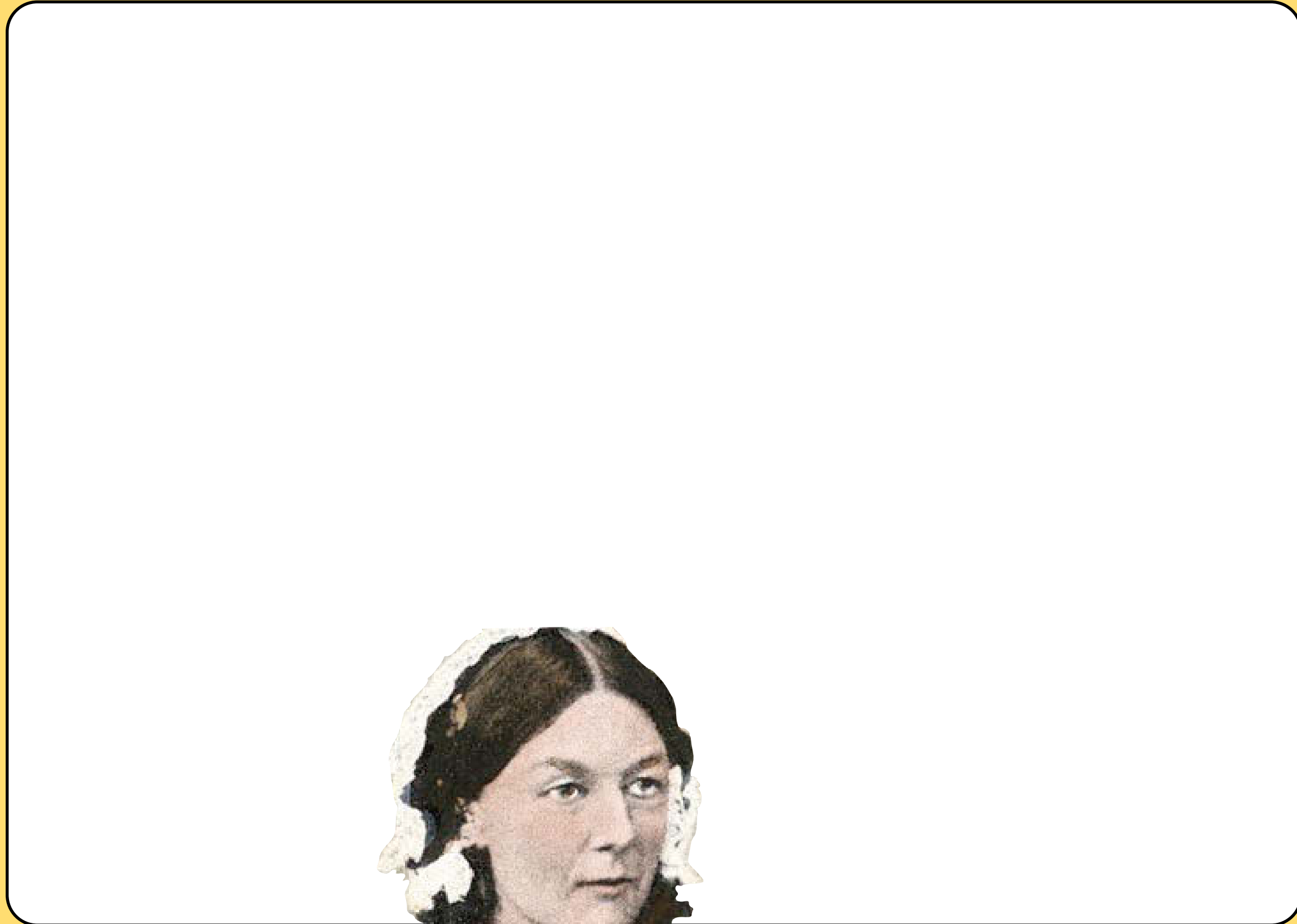
Sir, I need to chop your arm off as it is gangrenous. Pop this wooden spoon in your mouth and bite down when you feel the saw. Now, where is the saw? There it is under all those bloody and dirty bandages. Right then, let's strap you to the bed and get this arm off. Ready?



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What do you think Florence Nightingale would have said instead? How would she have done the procedure differently? How would a modern doctor perform this surgery?



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