

The Agricultural Revolution

NOTES

The Agricultural Revolution

- early 1700s/ industrialization started in Eng.
- wealthy landowners purchase land from small farmers
- “enclosure mov’t” = enclose land w. fences/ hedges
- Privatized public lands → ↑ wealth / landowners
- farming methods = Four-Field System + crop rotation → ↑ food supply
- farmers lost land → moved to cities = urban labor force
- urbanization = ppl moved to the cities for jobs

II. Agricultural Improvements

- Early Agr. Rev. → ↑ food production
- breeding of animals → ↑ livestock
- farm tools = seed drill + modified plow + moldboard + harvesters
- farming techniques + tools → ↑ food supply + pop.
- desire for new products → ↑ factories

ADAM SMITH

I. Mercantilism

- 1600s / Economic sys./ gov’t controlled
- new business + joint-stock companies → investing / exploration + markets
- Sys. → European nations = GB + Fra. Spain built empires + colonies
- mother country / resources + materials from colonies → ↑ wealth
- Mother country creates a favorable balance of trade
- Sys. = unfair
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II. Adam Smith

Smith = political economist/ Enlightenment

book = *The Wealth of Nations*/ protested mercantilism

III. Smith’s Ideas

- Laissez-faire = no gov’t interference / business
- Free Market = businesses operate for profit w/o gov’t
- Free market → more goods + lower prices
- Capitalism = economic sys./ supported private ownership of goods + prod
- Competition → quality goods / lowest price
- Capitalism → Industrial Revolution/ 1800s

The Industrial Revolution

NOTES

I. Reasons the I.R. Began in England

- 1700s/ Agr. Rev. → changes in farming → ↑ food prod
- farmers moving to cities → labor supply → industrialization
- Eng/ natural resources = coal + iron ore
- resources → ↑ factories → entrepreneurs investing in new businesses
- British gov't passed numerous laws to protect business

II. Changes of the I.R.

- Pre I.R. goods made at home = domestic sys.
- factories replaced human + animal power w. machines
- I.R. → factory sys. = goods made in factories
- Factory sys. → ↑ demand for goods

III. Innovations of the I.R.

- Eli Whitney's cotton gin = machine that separated seeds from cotton
- Faster cotton harvest → ↑ textile industry
- Inventions = flying shuttle + spinning jenny + spinning mule → ↑ prod./ textiles
- dynamo = 1st electrical generator
- Railroads → fast shipping of goods
- steam engine powered locomotives + steam ships

Negative Impact of the Industrial Revolution

I. Negative Effects of City Life

- factories → urbanization
- farmers began to work in factories
- ppl moved into crowded cities → ↑ disease/ unsanitary conditions
- working families lived in slums/ poor sanitation + 50% of infants died young
- pollution from factories → ↓ life expectancy

II. Negative Effects of Factory Life

- factories = dangerous/ no safety guidelines
- Men + women + children worked 14-16 hour days/ low pay
- workers experienced accidents = crushed + mutilated by machines
- coal mines + textile mills → health issues + early death
- child labor in factories → early injuries + deaths

III. Negative Economic Effects

- Workers could not afford new products
- rent = high → families live together to share responsibilities
- capitalist system → ↑ wealth for factory owners
- gap btw rich + poor → resentment amongst the classes
- need for resources → imperialism
- imperialism = policy when a strong nation conquers a weaker one + drains its natural resources
- imperialism → pd of widespread conquest → Eur. Pwrs exploiting weaker nations in Africa + Asia

Positive Impact of the Industrial Revolution

I. Positive Economic Impact

- Factories offered decent wages
- Goods made faster + cheaper → minor luxuries for ppl.
- ↑ food prod. → ↑ pop. + expanded the labor force
- capitalism → banking systems
- investments ↑ eco.
- new transportation + communication revolutionized business
- economic boom ↑ standard of living/ working families

II. Positive Social Impact

- Improvements to living conditions → sewage systems + water to the cities
- cities = safe from disease
- Medical changes → discovery of germs
- ppl bathed + change their clothes more often
- Hospitals = improved
- Doctors developed vaccines for rabies + used anesthesia to relieve pain during surgery
- antiseptics → sterilized instruments for surgeries → prevention of infections
- ↑ school → widespread edu.

III. Positive Political Impact

- wealthy middle class wanted political rights → Reform Bill of 1832
- extended suffrage to wealthy upper class men
- created police forces + fire protection
- Worker's rights ↑ → unions
- union = an org. designed to protect workers' rights
- Factory Act of 1833 = laws that protected workers
- limited worker's hour's + allowed children to attend school

Karl Marx and the Communist Manifesto

I. The Industrial Revolution and Capitalism

- Smith's laissez-faire capitalism → Ind. Rev
- ↑ economic growth/ nations
- capitalist free market → tensions btw social classes + probs/ society

II. Karl Marx

- Karl Marx = German economist + philosopher /disagreed w. Smith
- Marx + Friedrich Engels wrote a book = *The Communist Manifesto*.
- workers = abused + exploited by capitalism
- capitalism → gap btw rich + poor
- probs for working class → revolt + control of the means of prod. + overthrow capitalism
- gov'ts + courts + police + church = instruments of pwr. → resentment

III. Marx's Impact

- Marx's ideas = foundation for comm.
- Communism = sys. in which property + prod. controlled by ppl
- society based on equality
- Marx predicted a revolution = class struggle btw. wealthy + workers
- revolution would occur in industrialized Eur.
- revolution happened in Russia/ early 1900's