

The Industrial Revolution

An Age of Revolutions
(1750–1914)



The Industrial Revolution

Effects of industrialization

Reform

Thematic Icons



Economics and business



Geography and environment



Historical concepts and questions



Politics, government and citizenship



Religion and thought



Society and culture



War, diplomacy and foreign policy

Icons: For more detailed instructions, see the *User Guide*



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page



By the end of this section, you will have learned about the effects of industrialization and be able to answer these key questions:

- How did industrialization change society?
- How did industrialization affect the way people lived and worked?
- Why were governments slow to improve working conditions?



Changes in the class system



The far-reaching effects of industrialization included some changes in class systems. See if you can drag the classes of industrial London into the correct order. Most of these classes existed before industrialization, but in industrial cities the classes expanded and diversified, and it became more acceptable for individuals to move from one social class to another.

Press **start** to begin.

start





As the 1800s progressed, the middle classes grew and diversified, adding new groups such as **white collar** workers. Overall income levels varied from the low middle class to the much wealthier upper middle class.

One thing this group had in common was an ever increasing **disposable income**. The desire to spend this money on consumer goods helped to drive capitalism and economic expansion.

The middle classes began to take a leading role in social reform, driving anti-slavery movements, women's rights movements, social reform, housing reform and campaigns to help the poor.





As industrialization spread, urban areas grew and larger populations began to inhabit cities. Watch the animation to find out more about this **urbanization**.

Press **start** to begin.

start





As industrialization continued to expand, people's overall standard of living improved.

- Healthcare improved.
- Life expectancy improved.
- More goods became available.
- Disposable income increased.
- Desire for goods increased.



In Britain, **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** rose from \$1,707 to \$3,191 between 1820 and 1870, and life expectancy rose from just 40 years in 1820 to 50 years in 1900.



GDP and life expectancy



The U.S.A., France and Germany also experienced rising standards of living during the 1800s. Drag these figures for GDP and life expectancy to the correct columns to show how the standard of living improved for people in these countries.

Press **start** to begin.

start





As standards of living rose, a **consumer culture** began to develop. The advertising and marketing industries grew, with manufacturers and merchants targeting the upper classes. They hoped this would create a desire among the middle class to be like the wealthy, and thus increase overall sales. Several famous department stores opened during the 1800s. Can you link each one with its location and year of opening?

Press **start** to begin.

start





Exploitation

Factories brought many problems. Unsafe working conditions were common, and as mechanization improved, the need for skilled labor decreased. Unskilled workers were also easy to replace if they were injured.

Women and children were increasingly used as workers. They were usually required to work 10 hour days and were paid considerably less than male workers.



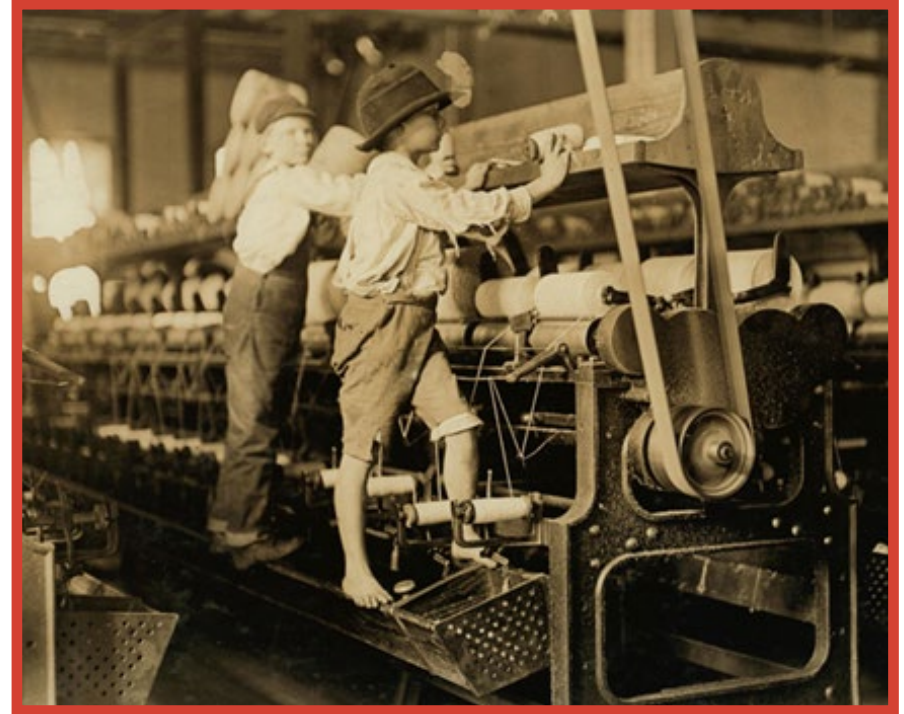
Industrialization also affected colonial possessions. European nations needed a steady supply of raw materials, so they often ensured that their colonial possessions and areas of influence in Africa and Asia remained **single product economies**.

What effects do you think this had on the colonies?



The negative effects of the Industrial Revolution forced governments to reexamine public policy and institute new laws.

In Britain the **Factory Act** of 1833 forbade child workers under the age of nine. Connecticut was the first U.S. state to regulate child labor by demanding in 1813 that all working children receive some education.



Police forces were also formed in 1828 in Paris, 1829 in London and 1849 in Berlin, to fight city crime.



New laws put in place in the 1800s protected workers to a certain degree, but **classical economic theory** would remain in control of economic and political decisions until the 1930s. Watch the animation to find out more about these theories and their influence.

Press **start** to begin.

start

