

# 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 19<sup>th</sup> century reforms and be able to answer these key questions:

- How did the problems caused by industrialization contribute to the formation of communist and socialist groups?
- What other groups rose up to try to bring about change?
- How and why did governments eventually start to improve conditions for workers?



In 1836, **William Lovett** and other London artisans formed the **London Working Men's Association**.

In 1838 the group issued a **charter** with six points of reform:

- universal male **suffrage**
- yearly elections to the House of Commons
- a secret ballot in elections
- equally distributed electoral districts
- salaries for members of the House of Commons
- elimination of property restrictions for voting.

The charter failed to pass Parliament three times, but it did gain a great deal of public support.





The earliest **socialists** were supporters of the advancements being made through the Industrial Revolution, but they disagreed with the classical economic theories of Smith, Malthus and Ricardo.

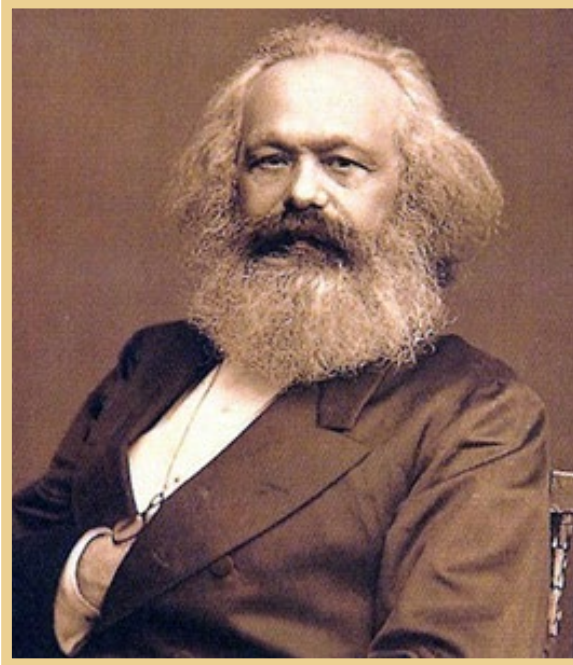
Press **start** to learn more.

**start**

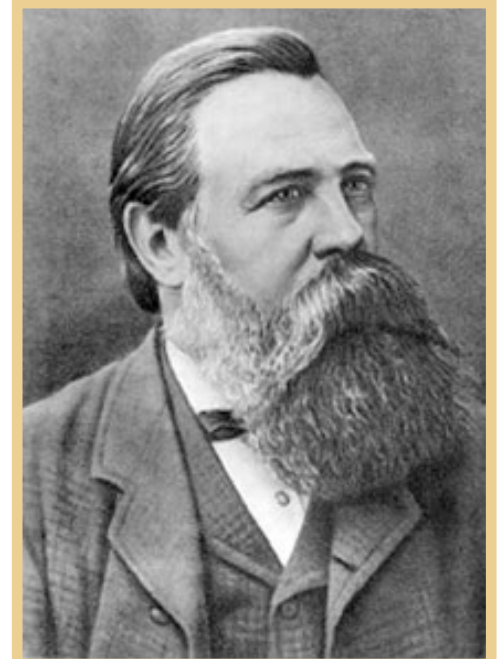




**Karl Marx** was born in Germany in 1819. He moved to France in the 1840s and there met fellow German revolutionary socialist **Friedrich Engels**.



*Karl Marx*



*Friedrich Engels*

They worked together to develop an economic and political theory, and in 1848 published the **Communist Manifesto**.





# The Communist Manifesto



Read this passage about the  
*Communist Manifesto* and select the  
correct word to fill each gap.

Press **start** to begin.

start





Marx and others formed the **International Workingmen's Association (IWA)** – also known as the **First International** in 1864 to try to unite socialist, communist and anarchist groups from different nations in order to prepare for the revolution of the proletariat.

However, there were internal conflicts between the socialists, led by Marx, and the anarchists, led by **Mikhail Bakunin**, which ended the IWA in 1876.



The **Second International** was formed in 1889 as a congress of socialist parties throughout Europe. The members agreed that **capitalism** was the root cause of social ills and needed to be combated, but disagreed about how to combat it.







Two schools of socialist thought grew out of Marxism: **fundamentalist** Marxism and **revisionism**. Drag each fact into the correct place in this table to sort the distinctions between them.

Press **start** to begin.

**start**





**Fabianism** was a British socialist group founded in 1884, whose members worked within the political system to institute reform.

The Scottish poet and playwright **John Davidson** was one of the first members of the Fabian Society.

Members took on public issues only when they knew they had a good chance at victory.

They sought to solve the social problems brought about by industrialization through political means. This method was very effective but also very slow.





Slowly, public policies began to change.  
Voting rights were expanded and  
governments started making efforts to  
clean up cities. Press each year on the  
timeline to find out more.

Press **start** to begin.

start





Industrialists and businesses in the U.S. often used **trusts** in order to help them increase and preserve their wealth. Watch this animation to find out what trusts were and how they worked.

Press **start** to begin.

**start**

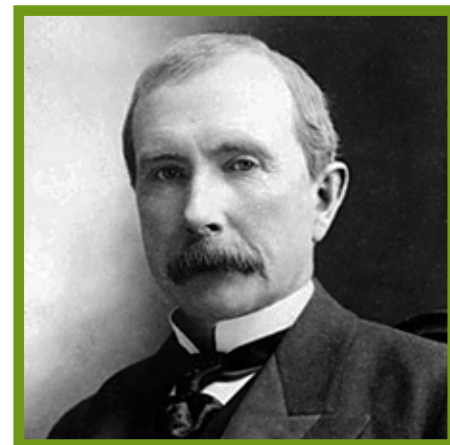




# Trustbusting

As trusts and mergers became more common, people grew angry that increasingly few people controlled all the business interests of the country.

Men like **John D. Rockefeller** and **Andrew Carnegie** had no real competition, which meant that the natural regulation of price and supply could not occur.



Eventually the government intervened. The trusts were broken up through a series of laws passed by the U.S. government, including the **Sherman Antitrust Act** of 1890 and the **Clayton Antitrust Act** of 1914. The creation of new trusts was also made illegal.



**Trade unions** had been illegal in many countries throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but they were legalized in Britain in 1871, in France in 1884 and in Germany in 1890.

At first unions focused on skilled laborers, but by the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, unskilled laborers were being included.

The unions tended to stay out of the political arena. They worked to obtain shorter hours, better pay and safer working conditions through negotiations with companies and through strikes. Strikes were often long and violent, but many resulted in improvements for workers.

In 1900, the **Labour Party** formed in Britain. It was the first political party with policies based on workers' rights.





What can you remember about the reforms that took place during the 1800s?  
See if you can identify each person or group by their beliefs and achievements.

Press **start** to begin.

**start**





Test your knowledge of the Industrial Revolution with this quiz. Choose the correct answer to each question to see how much you can remember.

Press **start** to begin.

**start**







Test your understanding of the Industrial Revolution by recapping key terms and important people using this glossary. Press on the tabs and then each term to see a definition.

Press **start** to begin.

**start**

