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1. Industrial Revolution is a term to describe the revolutionary changes that were brought about in the methods of industrial production in the eighteenth-century Britain.
  2. British government encouraged the growth of trade and commerce by establishing an effective banking system and by developing the credit market.
  3. Capitalism was the new economic system that came up in Britain as a result of the rising industrialization. In this system, the means of production was in the hands of the private owners whose main motive was to gain individual profit.
  4. Trade unions were set up by workers to protect themselves from the exploitation of the factory owners and to fight for better working conditions.
  5. Imperialism was the policy of extending a country's power and influence by colonizing other territories using military force and other means.
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1. The Industrial Revolution in Britain was made possible due to the many scientific discoveries and innovations that took place in the latter half of the eighteenth century. These discoveries and innovations encouraged people to find out new ways of dealing with mechanical and technological challenges. The invention of spinning and weaving machines, like the flying shuttle by John Key and the spinning jenny by James Hargreaves, brought about a major transformation in the textile production of Britain, as it now became easier to produce better-quality cloth on a large-scale.
  2. The advent of the eighteenth century brought about a marked improvement in the transport system. This period witnessed the invention of the steam engine by James Watt in 1782, which led to the introduction of railways. George Stephenson later designed the first model of a locomotive engine. The spread of railways was important for the development of the Industrial Revolution as it facilitated the transportation of raw materials and finished products to the interior parts of the country. The invention of the steam engine was also crucial for the development of steamboats and steamships that were largely used during the Industrial Revolution.
  3. The Industrial Revolution had a great-scale impact on Britain. Following are some of the changes that took place in Britain due to the advent of the Industrial Revolution:
    - The Industrial Revolution in Britain led to a search for cheap raw materials and an extended market, end of feudalism, and the rise of a new economic system called capitalism. In this new

system the means of production was in the hands of the private owners, known as capitalists, whose main motive was to gain individual profit. In order to gain profit they often exploited their workers and made them work for long hours at very low wages.

- Other than capitalists, the Industrial Revolution also gave birth to a new professional social class known as the middle class. They were in between the capitalists and the working class. The middle class included clerks, accountants, skilled workers, and managers.
  - The Industrial Revolution led to the emergence of many new towns and cities. The establishment of factories and the lack of opportunities in rural areas compelled many to migrate to cities to look for means of livelihood.
  - Living conditions in most of these new towns and cities were harsh as they grew rapidly without any proper planning and lacked basic facilities, like proper sanitation. The lack of amenities made these places unhygienic and unhealthy to live in. People living in cities and towns often suffered from diseases, such as cholera, smallpox, and typhoid.
  - Surplus labour made it easier for factory owners to find cheap labour. The workers working in these factories had no job security. They were paid extremely low wages and were forced to work in inhuman conditions for long hours.
  - To protect themselves from the exploitation of the factory owners, many workers formed labour unions. These unions fought for better working conditions for the workers. The unions faced strong resistance from the employers. Their attempts were finally acknowledged in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries when various factory laws were passed to protect the workers.
4. Following are the factors that led to the rise of imperialism:
- The large-scale industrial development in Europe led to new lands being conquered by these industrialized countries. These conquered territories not only provided the colonizers with raw materials, but they also served as markets for their finished goods.
  - Conquering weaker nations and accumulating colonies became a symbol of power and influence. Exercising political authority on conquered territories was seen as national pride by many.
  - The European nations considered themselves as the superior race, who had the responsibility to civilize the backward or inferior people of the colonies. They justified their policy of imperialism as a moral obligation to civilize the uncivilized parts of the world, such as Asia, Africa, and Latin America.
  - Imperialism was also used by the European nations to spread Christianity to different parts of the world by setting up Christian missionaries in the colonies.
  - Technological innovations and improved medical facilities led to an increase in imperialistic endeavours. Inventions, like steamboats and telegraph, improved the lines of transport and communication, making it easier for the colonizers to respond to situations when their supremacy over the colonies was under threat. Technological advancements in weaponry also helped the colonizers to secure their power in the colonies.

5. Imperialism had a large-scale impact on the colonies. One of the most important being the end of the local industries of the colonies. As the main objective of the imperial colonizers was economic, they made sure that local industries were not able to survive so that the colonies were only engaged in those activities that served the purpose of the colonizers. Changes were also seen in the administrative structures of these colonies as the European colonizers took measures to distance the native people from the administration of their own country. Slave trade also increased during this period as the European nations started buying and selling native people as slaves. As the western nations considered themselves superior to the native people of the colonies, they tried to bring in their religion and thoughts and often forced them on the local people. This led to racial segregation and discrimination between the European colonizers and the local people. Imperialism was also responsible for introducing the western concepts of democracy and nationalism in the colonies. Technological innovations, like railways, helped to bring people living in the colonies together. This helped them to fight for their independence in a more unified way.

## Clues to the Past

1. John Key
2. James Watt
3. capitalism
4. imperialism