

Short-Answer Questions

1. What do you mean by the Industrial Revolution?

Ans. The Industrial Revolution is a term which is used to express the change which was responsible for the adoption of the system of making things on a large scale in large factories with the aid of steam power, as opposed to the old system, which was generally followed up to the middle of the 18th century of making goods in cottages or shops of workers.

2. How did the increase in the demand of the English goods lead to the invention of new machines?

Ans. England manufactured cheap and very useful goods such as woollen and linen cloth and iron and wooden articles. The demand for English goods went on increasing. In order to meet this demand and produce goods in large quantities, the Englishmen made new machines and invented new techniques of production.

3. In which way the naval supremacy of the English led to the rise of the Industrial Revolution?

Ans. The English naval supremacy was helpful in the development of industries. The articles manufactured in the English factories could be easily transported to the various parts of the world and sold profitably. Her navy at the same time, helped her to prevent her European rivals from exploiting overseas market.

4. In which way the colonial empire of the English promoted the rise of the Industrial Revolution?

Ans. England had a large colonial empire. From her colonies she could get different raw materials at cheaper rates for her factories. These colonies also served as markets for English manufactured goods.

5. How did the availability of coal and iron facilitate the rise of Industrial Revolution?

Ans. Iron and coal were available in England in large quantities and, moreover, the iron and coal mines were situated near each other. Iron was used in making machines and coal provided cheap fuel for running machines and factories. Both these factors helped in the development of industries.

6. How did electricity prove useful in the development of industries in England?

Ans. Electricity proved to be very useful in the development of industries in England. Earlier manpower was used to work. Later the steam engine helped to run machines and finally, electricity was discovered. It helped in the rapid growth of industries in England and helped in the Industrial Revolution there.

7. How did the Napoleonic wars give a great impetus to English commerce and industry?

Ans. The Napoleonic wars completely disrupted the peace and prosperity of different European countries. England, however, remained aloof from the rest of the continent and carried on her economic activities undisturbed. Napoleon enforced the Continental System to check the export of English goods to European countries but it proved an utter failure. England brought raw materials from her colonies and sold her manufactured goods there. Moreover, different European countries were dependent on English goods. They were forced to smuggle the English goods by one way or the other. Instead of ruining the English commerce and industry, the Napoleonic wars gave a great impetus to them.

8. Name any two effects of the Industrial Revolution in the economic field.

Ans. (i) Increase in the National Income: The Industrial Revolution led to the mass production of goods which began to be sold in other countries. It increased the national wealth of the industrialised countries, particularly that of England.

- (ii) **Improvement in the Standard of Living:** People became rich due to the Industrial Revolution. Good quality of goods were now made available at cheaper rates. It raised the standard of living.

9. Mention any two effects of the Industrial Revolution in the social field.

- Ans.** (i) **Two classes of Society:** As a result of the Industrial Revolution the Society was divided into two distinct classes the capitalists and the socialists who took up the cause of labourers.
- (ii) **Exploitation of Women and Children:** Women and children were employed in large numbers in factory as they were cheaper and easy to manage.

10. Why could not the Factory Act of 1802 prove so useful?

- Ans.** As a result of the Factory Act of 1802 the working hours for the cotton and woollen mill workers at the maximum was fixed up to twelve and they could not be forced to work after 9 PM. For the execution of this law supervisors were appointed in each region. But this act could not prove so useful because supervision work was not done properly by the supervisors.

11. Give any two provisions of the Factory Act of 1937 passed in England.

- Ans.** (i) The Factory Act of 1937 laid down that children below 14 years could not be employed.
- (ii) Special rules were also made for sanitation, light, air, temperature and first aid.

12. Mention any two evil effects of the Industrial Revolution.

- Ans.** (i) Women and Children were employed in large numbers in factories as they were cheaper and easy to manage. They had to work for long hours in dirty, insanitary and ill ventilated factories.
- (ii) A large number of people shifted from villages to industrial towns and as such the latter became overcrowded. There was no arrangement for sanitation, drainage, ventilation etc.

13. Name any two effects of the Industrial Revolution in the political field.

- Ans. (i) The Capitalists Became the Political Leaders:** The Capitalists became so rich that they began to dominate the political life and use their wealth for seizing the political power.
- (ii) Nationalism and Internationalism:** New means of transport and communication such as the railway, steam-boats, automobiles, telegraph and telephone, etc. brought different parts of the countries nearer to each other and as such deepened the sense of national unity. They also linked up the whole world and made its various parts inter-dependent.

Structured Essay-Type Questions

1. With reference to the causes of the Industrial Revolution, explain the following :

- (a) Increase in the demand of English goods.
- (b) Ample capital
- (c) Naval supremacy

- Ans. (a) Increase in the Demand of English Goods:** England manufactured cheap and very useful goods such as woollen and linen cloth and iron and wooden articles. The demand for English goods went on increasing. In order to meet this demand and produce goods in large quantities, the Englishmen made new machines and invented new techniques of production. On the other hand, France manufactured luxury goods for the rich and naturally the demand for them was limited.
- (b) Ample Capital:** England had ample capital for large enterprises. England's supremacy overseas, her naval power greatly encouraged sea-trade and commerce. As a result the Englishmen amassed a great wealth through their trade and industry. There was a lot of surplus capital available in the country and that could be used for investment in different industries and installing new factories.

- (c) **Naval Supremacy:** The English naval supremacy was also helpful in the development of industries. The articles manufactured in the English factories could be easily transported to the various parts of the world and sold profitably. Her navy, at the same time, helped her to prevent her European rivals from exploiting overseas markets.

2. With reference to the impact of the Industrial Revolution, explain the following ;

- (a) Large scale production
- (b) Unsatisfactory condition of factory workers
- (c) Insanitary conditions in the towns.

- Ans. (a) Large Scale Production :** The use of machinery and division of labour now manufactured goods more rapidly and on a much larger scale than under the domestic system. At the same time the cost of production was very low per unit. Production of goods was standardised also. Now the consumers could get quality goods at cheaper rates.
- (b) **Unsatisfactory Conditions of Factory Workers:** In order to make huge profits the employers exploited the workers to the maximum. Workmen had to work in factories which were poorly ventilated, poorly lighted and were extremely unhealthy. They had to work for 16 hours without any break. Most of the factories were located in dirty and unhealthy places, so they caused many diseases and led to premature death of the workers. The workers were very low-paid and they found it very difficult to make their both ends meet.
- (c) **Insanitary Conditions in the Towns:** A large number of people shifted from villages to industrial towns and as such the latter became overcrowded. There was no arrangement for sanitation, drainage, ventilation, etc. The workers lived a miserable life in dark, dingy, dirty and congested houses. As the population increased, the number of slums also went on increasing. It has

been rightly remarked, "The workers too often lived in miserable little houses that looked for all the world like cheese-boxes set in a row, without space for gardens, lawns or trees and without proper ventilation. Many a damp and dark cellars served as home for an entire family. Fevers and other diseases played havoc in towns like Manchester and Birmingham."

3. With reference to the impact of the Industrial Revolution, explain the following ;

- (a) How did the Industrial Revolution lead to Socialism?
- (b) How did the Industrial Revolution give rise to capitalism?

Ans. (a) Two Classes of Society: As a result of the Industrial Revolution the society was divided into two distinct classes — the capitalists and the socialists who took up the cause of labourers. Because of their selfish interests the capitalists began to exploit the workers. They paid them low wages and made them work for long hours. They amassed great wealth and began to lead luxurious life at the cost of the workers. The rich were becoming richer and the poor still poorer. This gulf went on widening and created social disharmony and ultimately led to struggle between the two classes. The socialists took side of the workers and tried to save them from the exploitation of the capitalists.

- (b) **The Capitalists Became the Political Leaders:** The capitalists became so rich that they began to dominate the political life and use their wealth for seizing the political power. In England, the capitalists dominated the Parliament for a very long time. Similar was and is the case with many of the modern capitalist countries.