

CBSE CLASS-X Social Science
Important Questions
History Chapter-5
The Age of Industrialization

5 marks Questions

1. Describe any five characteristics of the proto-industrialization system.

Ans. 1. Even before factories began to dot the landscape in England and Europe there was large scale industrial production for an international market which was not based on factories. This phase of industrialization is known as proto-industrialization.

2. Merchants from the town in Europe began moving to the countryside, supplying money to peasants and artisans, persuading them to produce for an international market.

3. With the expansion of world trade and the acquisition of colonies in different parts of the world, the demand for goods began to increase.

4. But merchants could not expand production with in towns. This was because; here urban crafts and trade guilds were powerful.

5. In the countryside poor peasants and artisans began working for merchants. This was a time when open field were disappearing and commons were being enclosed.

2. Explain the five causes of industrial revolution in England.

Ans. 1. A series of invention in the eighteenth century increased the efficacy of each step of the production process and paved the way for industrialization in England.

2. There had been enormous expansion in overseas trade of Britain; this was one of the major causes of technological revolution.

3. The vast amount of capital which England had accumulated out of profits of her growing trade enabled her to make large expenditure on the machinery and building. This led to new technological developments.

4. The geographical location of England greatly helped in industrial revolution.
 5. It had extensive coastline and many navigable rivers when water was the easiest means of transportation.
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3. Describe any five major problems faced by new European merchants in setting up their industries in towns before the industrial revolution.

Ans. 1. Due to expansion of world trade the merchants wanted to expand their production. But trade and craft guilds were very powerful.

2. They could create many problems for the merchants in their towns.
 3. Rulers had granted the monopoly rights to different guild to produce and trade in specific products.
 4. In the countryside, peasants and artisans were available for work.
 5. Craft guilds were very powerful. They maintain control over production, regulated completion and prices and restricted the entry of new people in to the trade.
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4. Why did the poor peasants and artisans in the countryside begin to work for the merchants from the towns?

Ans. 1. Open fields were disappearing and commons were being enclosed.

2. Tiny plots of land did not provide enough for the family.
 3. By working for merchants, peasants could remain in the countryside and cultivate their land.
 4. Income from proto-industrial production supplemented their income from cultivation.
 5. The family labour resources could be fully used.
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5. How were the lives of workers negatively affected due to abundance of the labour? Explain.

Ans. 1. The abundance of labour in the market affected the lives of workers adversely. When there is plenty of labour wages are low.

2. The actual possibility of getting a job depended on existing networks for friendship and kin relations.

3. Many job seekers had to wait weeks, spending nights under bridges or in night shelters.

4. Seasonality for work in many industries means prolonged periods without works.

5. Although, wages increased somewhat in the early nineteenth century but they tell us little about the welfare of the workers.

6. Explain any five reasons why the industrialists in Europe prefer hand labour over machines.

Ans. 1. Industrialists had no problem of labour shortage or high wage costs.

2. In many industries, the demand for labour was seasonal. Gas works and breweries were especially busy through cold months. So they needed more workers to meet their peak demand.

3. Book binders and printers, catering to charismas demand to needed extra hands before December. All those industries where production fluctuated with the season, industrialist usually prefer by employing workers for the season.

4. A range of products could be produced only with hand labour.

5. In Victorian Britain the upper classes –aristocrats and bourgeoisie- prefer things produced by hand. Handmade products came to symbolize refinement and class.

7. Why were hand made products preferred in Victorian Britain? Explain any five reasons.

Ans. 1. Handmade products came to symbolize refinement and class.

2. They were better finished.

3. They were individually produced.
 4. They were carefully designed.
 5. Machine made goods were for the export to the colonies.
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8. What problems were faced by the Indian cotton weavers in the nineteenth century? Explain.

- Ans.**
1. Their export market collapsed due to increase in import duties on them in England.
 2. Their local market shrank as they were flooded with cheap Manchester imports.
 3. They could not get sufficient supply of raw cotton of good quality.
 4. When the Americans civil war broke out and cotton supplies from the US were cut off, Britain turned to India. Indian weavers were forced to buy cotton at very high prices.
 5. By the end of nineteenth century, factories in India began production and flooded the market with machine goods. This created the problem of survival for weaving industries.
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9. How did East India Company procure the regular supply of cotton and silk goods?

- Ans.**
1. The East India Company had to face obstacle to procure regular supply of cotton and silk textiles from Indian weavers.
 2. The French, Dutch, Portuguese as well as the local traders competed in the market. However, the East India Company establishes political power and asserted monopoly right to trade.
 3. The company tried to eliminate existing traders and have direct control over the weaver and appointed a paid servant called Gomasthas to supervise and collect supplies.
 4. It prevented company weavers from dealing with other buyers. One way of doing was through the system of advances.
 5. Those weavers, who took loans, had to hand over the cloth they produced to the Gomasthas. They could not take it to any other trade.

10. Explain how the conditions of the workers steadily declined in the early twentieth century of Europe.

Ans. 1. Workers travelled great distances in the hope of work in the mills.

2. For workers, getting jobs was always difficult, even when mills multiplied and the demand for workers increased.

3. The numbers seeking work were always more than the jobs available.

4. Entry into the mills was also restricted. Industrialists usually employed a jobber to get new recruits.

5. The Jobber therefore became a person with some authority and power. He began demanding money and gifts for his favour and controlling the lives of workers.
