

The Industrial Revolution

How ideas, industry and empire changed Britain, 1745–1901



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Today we will…

WE ARE LEARNING TO

- Explain why factories grew first in Britain
- Describe how town life and work changed
- Link industry, empire and votes for change

SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

- ✓ I can compare making goods at home and in factories
- ✓ I can explain one cause and one effect with evidence

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From cottage to factory

Before: at home

- Hand tools in cottages made cloth slowly
- Most families lived in countryside villages
- Work used muscles, animals and waterwheels

After: in factories

- Machines in mills made goods fast
- Workers moved to smoky industrial towns
- Work ran on coal and steam power

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CITY LIFE HAD A PRICE

50,000

deaths in England cholera outbreak from 1831

Dirty water and packed back-to-back houses spread disease quickly.



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Think, pair, share

Would you leave your farm for a factory job in Manchester? Why?



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Why Britain first?



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Spot what Britain had: coal, inventions and markets
- Listen for how empire helped sell factory goods

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Thread to trains to votes

1764
Spinning jenny spins many threads at once

1769
Water frame and Watt steam engine patented

1829
Stephenson's Rocket shows railway power

1832
Great Reform Act gives Manchester its own MPs

1833+
Factory Acts begin to limit working conditions

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Towns, mills and hard lives



▶ 0:00 – 4:35

- Watch how fast towns grew around mills
- Notice jobs for women and children in factories

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Your task

In pairs, decide: did industrialisation improve ordinary lives? Make a two-column case.

1. Pick one good change and one bad change
2. Give evidence: inventions, housing, health or votes
3. Agree a verdict: mostly progress or mostly price?

15 min

In pairs

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How mass making worked

1. Coal burned to make steam power
2. Steam drove spinning and weaving machines
3. Textile mills made cotton and wool fast
4. Canals, railways and ships moved goods worldwide

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What could this be?

Crowded, noisy, fast — women and children worked here. What building is this?

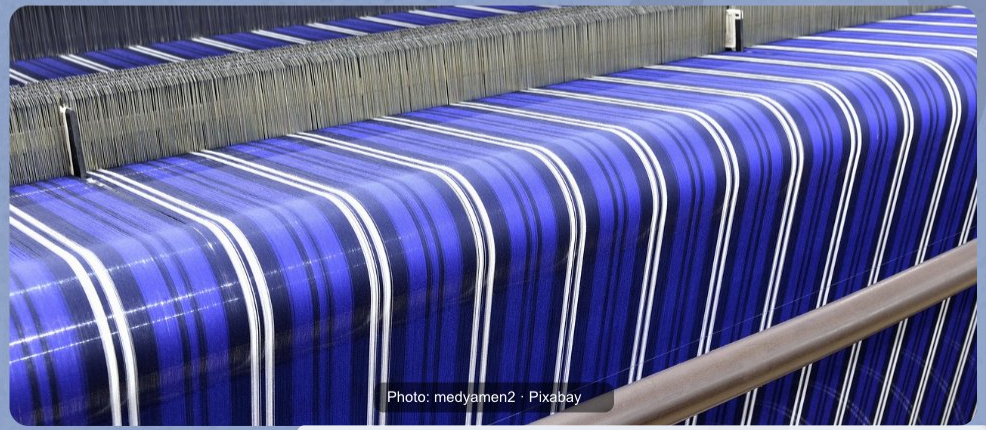


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True or false?

The Industrial Revolution began in Britain in the mid-1700s.

Before factories, most goods were made by hand at home.

The 1832 Great Reform Act abolished the monarchy.

Packed housing and dirty water helped cholera spread.

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