

The Industrial Revolution

Recap: What does the word “Revolution” mean?

- **Revolution** – a sudden change

What do you think the “Industrial Revolution” was?

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Efq-aNBkvc>
- **Industrial Revolution** – a sudden change in **Britain’s** industries beginning in the **late 1700s**.
The economy shifted from farming and handicrafts to manufacturing using machines and factories.

Why Great Britain?

There are 5 main reasons that the Industrial Revolution took place in Great Britain.

1. The Agrarian Revolution
2. The Enclosure Movement
3. Wealth
4. Natural Resources
5. Customers

1. The Agrarian Revolution



Agrarian - Farming

1. The Agrarian Revolution

- Farming improved because of:
 - Expansion of farmland
 - Good weather
 - Better transportation and equipment
 - New crops (like the potato)
- More food
 - ↳ cheaper food
 - ↳ more money to spend on factory-made goods

- Larger farms

- ↳ Fewer farmers needed

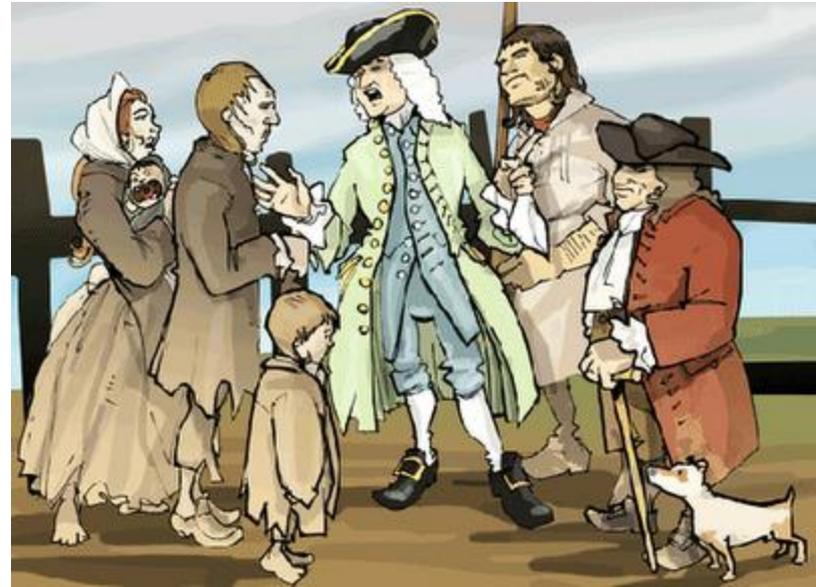
- ↳ Unemployed farmers moved to the city to work in factories

2. The Enclosure Movement



2. The Enclosure Movement

- More food also = more people.
- As the population grew, Parliament passed laws that forced landowners to fence off their land. Land that was once shared, was now private property. Landless peasants were forced to move to towns and cities to find work in factories.



3. Wealth

- Many people of Great Britain were very wealthy and could afford to invest lots of money in new technology and factories.



4. Natural Resources

- England had many **colonies** overseas where they could get resources.
- **Colony** – a settlement that is governed by a “parent country”



4. Natural Resources

- England has access to:
 - **Iron** for manufacturing
 - **Coal** for energy
 - **Cotton** to make fabrics

[North and South Clip](#)

Episode 1, ~40 min mark



5. Customers

- Great Britain had many people to sell their products to.
 - Wealthy British Aristocracy had money to burn
 - Peasants had more money in their pockets because food was cheaper due to the Agrarian Revolution
 - English colonies around the world could buy products.