

The Age of Industrialisation

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Very Short Answer Type Questions _____ (1 mark each)

Q. 1. Name the two industrialists of Bombay who built huge industrial empires during nineteenth century.

[CBSE OD, Set 1, 2020]

Ans. Dinshaw Maneckji Petit and Jamsetjee Nusserwanjee Tata.

Q. 2. Define the term 'Carding.'

[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2020]

Ans. Carding is a mechanical process that disentangles, cleans and intermixes fibers such as cotton or wool to produce

a continuous web suitable for subsequent processing like spinning.

Q. 3. Why were merchants from towns in Europe began to move countryside in seventeenth and eighteenth centuries?

[CBSE, 2018]

Ans. In seventeenth and eighteenth century merchants from the towns in Europe began to move country side, supplying money to peasants and artisans persuading them to produce for an international market.

Short Answer Type Questions-II _____ (3 marks each)

Q. 1. Why did the elite of Britain prefer hand made goods in the mid-nineteenth century ? Explain.

[CBSE OD, Set 1, 2020]

Ans. The elite of British prefer hand made goods in the mid-nineteenth century because of following reason :

- (i) Handmade products came to symbolise refinement and class. Handmade clothes were costlier and of better quality.
- (ii) They were better finished, individually produced and carefully designed.
- (iii) Machine-made goods were for masses in the colonies not for classes.

Q. 2. Why did the export of Indian textile decline at the beginning of the

nineteenth century? Explain any three reasons. [CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2020]

Ans. The export of Indian textile decline at the beginning of the nineteenth century because of following reason:

- (i) Britain imposed import duties on cotton textiles, thus export market got declined.
- (ii) Exports of British goods to India increased. The Manchester goods flooded Indian markets.
- (iii) The machine made goods were cheaper and weavers could not compete with them.
- (iv) Raw cotton exports from India to Britain shot up the prices of cotton.
- (v) By 1850, exports from most weaving regions got declined and desolated.

Q. 3. Describe any three major problems faced by Indian cotton weavers in nineteenth century. [CBSE, 2018]

Topper's Answers

Introduction : Weavers in India faced a
th century that
led to further eroding of it.

(a) The Indian market flooded with cheap, machine-made goods from Manchester. It led to decline in domestic market.

(b) Traders in Britain persuaded the govt to impose import duties. This led to decrease in international market.

(c) Trade depression in America led to decrease in cotton supply to Britain. So, now it turned to India for raw cotton supplies. As the supplies of raw cotton boomed, prices rose and weavers had to buy cotton at such high prices.

(d) After that in late nineteenth century, Indian factories set up and weavers faced stiff competition.

Conclusion : In such unfavourable conditions, how could they flourish. It suffered a major setback.

Ans. The problems faced by the cotton weavers in India during 19th century are as follows:

- (i) A long decline of textile exports from India made them jobless and revenue less. Weaving regions of India narrated sorrowful stories.
- (ii) The local market shrank, being glutted with Manchester imports. The imports from Manchester were considered superior. They had thus monopolized the market and this further resulted in decrease in their sales.
- (iii) Produced by machines at lower costs, the imported cotton goods were so cheap that weavers could not easily compete with them.
- (iv) By the 1860s, the weavers began to face a new problem. They could not

get sufficient supply of raw cotton of goods quality. Civil War had broken out and cotton supplies from the US were cut off and then Britain had to turn to India for raw cotton. As cotton exports from India increased, the price of raw cotton shot up. Weavers in India were starved of supplies and forced to buy raw cotton at exorbitant prices. In this situation they suffered heavy losses and problems.

- (v) Factories in India began production, flooding the market with machine goods increasing more problems.

Q. 4. Highlight any three benefits of industrialisation on the society.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2016]

Ans. Three benefits of Industrialization on the society are as follows:

- (i) New railway stations came up and railway lines were extended, tunnels were dug up.
- (ii) Building activities were intensified in the cities, opening up greater opportunities of employment for youth.
- (iii) Roads were widened to make transport facility better.

Q. 5. Why were there clashes between the weavers and the Gomasthas? Explain.

Ans. Clashes between the weavers and the Gomasthas can be explained as follows:

- (i) As we know that earlier merchants had often lived within the weaving village, and had a close relationship with the weavers, looking after their needs but the new Gomasthas were outsiders with no long term social link with the village, they acted arrogantly, marched into villages with sepoys and peons, and punished weavers for delay in supply.
- (ii) The weavers lost the space to bargain for prices and sell to different buyers;

the price they received from the company was miserably low.

Q. 6. Why was getting jobs in the British mills always difficult for the workers in the 19th century? Give reasons.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2015]

Ans. It was very difficult to get jobs in the British mills in the 19th century even after the number of mills had multiplied. This can be explained as follows:

- (i) Jobs were always less than the demands of it.
- (ii) In the 19th century, agricultural sector was suffering loss. So, the unemployed villages started to move into the cities in search of employment.
- (iii) Industrialists provide the right to recruit workers to the jobbers. Jobbers were the trusted workers or employees for them. Jobbers recruited their known people to work in industries. So, it was very difficult for the new worker to get job opportunities in British mills.



Long Answer Type Questions _____ (5 marks each)

Q. 1. Describe the life of workers during the nineteenth century in England.

[CBSE OD, Set 1, 2019]

Ans. The life of the workers in the 19th century was miserable. They were given lower wages and were made to work for longer hours. This was the reason poverty was more prominent in cities as compared to villages. They had to work in factories where the working environment was hazardous. They dealt with machines without proper training and education, which was dangerous.

People from countryside rushed to cities in search of new jobs. Only few of those, whose friends and relatives were already working in the factories could get jobs. The living conditions were very down trodden that it was expected of such people to die in a workhouse, hospital or lunatic asylum rather than in some decent working areas. Nearly 1 million Londoners (about one-fifth of the population of London at the time)

were very poor and living in uninhabitable conditions.

The over-congestion was leading to epidemic diseases in the whole city. There was an urgent need to increase the number of rooms in which these labourers were living. Sometimes, there was no proper drinking water available. Life expectancy of these poor people was nearly 29 years of age, while it was near about 55 years of age for the middle and upper class people.

Q. 2. "Indian trade had played a crucial role in the late nineteenth century world economy." Analyse the statement.

OR

"Series of changes affected the pattern of industrialisation in India by the early twentieth century." Analyse the statement. [CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2019]

Ans. Indian trade has definitely played a crucial role in the late nineteenth century world economy.

- (i) Britain had a trade surplus with India, which was used to balance its trade deficits with other countries.
- (ii) Britain's trade surplus in India also helped to pay the so called 'home charges' that included private remittances by British officials and traders, interest payments on India's external debts and pensions of the British officials in India.
- (iii) In the nineteenth century, thousands of Indian and Chinese labourers went to work on plantation, in mines, and for roads and railways construction projects around the world.
- (iv) India also provided raw materials to the developing industries of the world.
- (v) India became a major market for the final goods especially for cotton textile industry of Britain.

OR

As the Swadeshi movement gathered momentum, nationalists mobilised people to boycott foreign cloth. Industrial groups organised themselves to protect their collective interests, pressurising the government to increase tariff protection and grant other concessions. From 1906, moreover, the export of Indian yarn to China declined since produce from Chinese and Japanese mills flooded the Chinese market. So, industrialists in India began shifting from yarn to cloth production. Cotton piece goods production in India doubled between 1900 and 1912. Yet, till the First World War, industrial growth was slow. The war created a dramatically new situation. With British mills busy with war production to meet the needs of the army, Manchester imports into India declined. Suddenly, Indian mills had a vast home market to supply. As the war prolonged, Indian factories were called upon to supply war needs: jute bags, cloth for army uniforms, tents and leather boots, horse and mule saddles and a host of other items. New factories were set up and old ones ran multiple shifts. Many new workers were employed and everyone was made to

work longer hours. Over the war years, industrial production boomed.

Q. 3. How did cotton factories become an intimate part of the English landscape in the early 19th century? Explain.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2016]

Ans. Cotton factories became an intimate part of the English landscape in the early 19th century. This can be explained as follows:

- (i) Series of inventions in the 18th century increased the efficiency of carding, twisting, spinning, etc.
- (ii) Creation of cotton mill by Richard Arkwright.
- (iii) Centralised and integrated process.
- (iv) Proper supervision and control.
- (v) New mills and new technologies.

Q. 4. How did cotton factories become an intimate part of the English landscape in the early century? Explain.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2015]

Ans. Cotton factories became an intimate part of the English landscape in the early 19th century. In 19th century, a series of inventions took place and it increased the efficiency of production at every step of the production process, especially in the field of cotton textiles.

The production of cotton involves many steps like (1) Carding, (2) Twisting, (3) Spinning, (4) Milling etc.

- (i) Due to industrialisation, production output per worker increased and also the quality of thread and yarn improved.
- (ii) Cotton mills were created by the Richard Arkwright. It increased the cloth production all over the world.
- (iii) New machines were purchased by the factory owners and they setup these machines under one roof. The process became more centralised and was managed well.
- (iv) Careful supervision was more needed then in the field of quality, regulation of labour etc.
- (v) In the early 19th century, new mills and factories with advanced technology became visible.