

## Industrial Revolution Key Terms

**The Industrial Revolution** – The Industrial Revolution began in England from the 1700s to the middle 1800s when new power driven machines replaced hand tools. New methods and machines changed factory work and travel.

**Industrialisation** – Industrialisation is the process of developing machine production of goods.

**Watt's Steam Engine** – The steam engine improved by James Watt in 1775 created enough power to move many machines. Factories were powered by this engine for quick production.

**Entrepreneur** – A person who organises, manages and takes on the risks of a business.

**Factory Act 1832** – The Factory Act restricted working age and hours but despite this Act children still did dangerous work in many factories. The Act also made 2 hours of education a day compulsory for children working in factories. There were many changes in Education after that date.

**'The British Miracle'** – What people called the result of Britain's new methods of manufacturing goods.

**Water Transportation** – Water Transportation is where people and goods are transported on water, e.g. canals to transport heavy goods and the first successful steam engine powered boat in 1807.

**Road Transportation** – In the early 1800s John McAdam improved roads by adding a special design which allowed roads to drain quickly so that heavy wagons would not sink into the mud.

**Railway Transportation** – In the 1800s there was 'railway mania' where George Stephenson and Brunel invented the British Railway network.

**The Principle of Population** – In 1798 Thomas Malthus said that the population was going to increase faster than the food supply. Without wars to kill off people most were destined to be poor and miserable. These predictions came true in 1840.

**Bourgeoisie** – The middle class employers and business men were given this nickname as they controlled production and were wealthy because of this.

**Proletariat** – The lower class workers were called this as they performed back breaking labour under terrible conditions.

**Royal Mail** – Royal Mail made communications easier as it was a national post service that operated regularly so that people could contact friends and relatives more easily.

**Social Groups** – In the Industrial Revolution society was divided into 4 classes: the aristocracy, the middle class, the working class and the poor.

**The Mines Act** – In 1842 the government passed The Mines Act which stopped women and children under 10 from working in mines.

**The 10 hours Act** – In 1847 the government passed The 10 hours Act which limited the workers to 10 hours a day so they worked 58 hours a week.

**The Housing of Working Classes Act** – In 1890 the government passed The Housing of Working Classes Act to make sure that employees got decent homes for them and their families.

**Trade Unions** – Trade Unions were forbidden until 1824. Trade Unions were formed to improve conditions of the workers, e.g. improve wages.

**The Electoral Reform** – The Electoral Reform meant that many working class men got the vote in 1867 or 1884.

**Scientific and technological developments** – there were many famous inventions of the era, such as Henry Talbot invented photography. Coca Cola was invented in 1886 before Albert Einstein developed the general theory of relativity in 1916.

**Spinning Jenny** – This machine spun more than one yarn at a time to speed up the production of cloth.

**Spinning Mule** – This machine was a mix between the Spinning Jenny and the water frame which produced a stronger and finer thread. This machine was also more efficient.