

## Year 8 History Home Learning 1: the Industrial Revolution

### **1) The Industrial Revolution**

A major period of change (late 1700s to mid-1800s) when Britain shifted from a rural, agricultural economy to one dominated by industry, machines, and factories. It led to mass production, urbanisation, and technological innovation.

### **2) Millowners**

Wealthy individuals who owned textile mills (factories). They played a central role in the Industrial Revolution and often held great economic and political power in their communities.

### **3) Work in 19th Century Mills**

Often hard, dangerous, and poorly paid. Workers (including children) faced long hours, strict discipline, and exposure to harmful machinery and conditions, with few rights or protections.

### **4) Living Conditions in Victorian Cities**

Overcrowded, dirty, and unhealthy due to rapid urbanization. Many working-class families lived in cramped slums with poor sanitation, leading to high disease and death rates.

### **5) Victorian Entrepreneurs and Capitalists**

Businesspeople who invested in and profited from industry and trade. Many were self-made and driven by ambition, helping build Britain's industrial economy while often exploiting cheap labor.

### **6) The Steam Engine**

A key invention that powered machines, trains, and ships during the Industrial Revolution. Invented by James Watt and others, it transformed transport and production.

### **7) Cottonopolis**

A nickname for Manchester in the 19th century, reflecting its role as the center of the global cotton textile industry; in the late 1800s Manchester made 80% of the world's cotton cloth! It became a symbol of industrial growth and urban development.

### **8) The Peterloo Massacre (1819)**

A peaceful protest for political reform in Manchester turned deadly when government troops charged the crowd, killing around 18 people. It highlighted the lack of democracy and the harsh repression of dissent.

### **9) The Great Reform Act of 1832**

A law that reformed Britain's electoral system by redistributing parliamentary seats and expanding the vote to more middle-class men, but still excluded most working-class people and all women.

### **10) Democracy**

A system where the people of a country get to choose their own government in elections. In Britain, we hold elections to our parliament approximately every 5 years. But in the 1800s, only very wealthy men could vote, whilst most men and all women were excluded from the process!

**Use your key words to complete the sentences**

1) I am an invention that provided power to machines and factories. I was powered by burning coal and began the industrial revolution. I am a \_\_\_\_\_

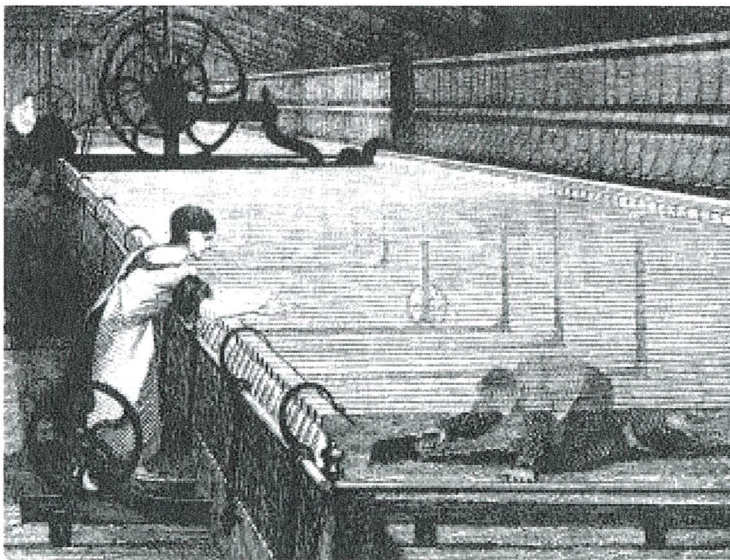
2) I am a system of government where the people choose their own leaders. I am \_\_\_\_\_

3) I am dirty, smelly, cramped and unsanitary. My slums spread disease like wildfire. Still, people are drawn to me by the prospect of employment in the mills. I am \_\_\_\_\_

4) I invested my capital in building a new mill. We make textiles which we export all over the world, making a very nice profit in the process. I am an \_\_\_\_\_

5) I am a peaceful protest for democracy. 18 people were killed when the government sent soldiers to break me up. I am \_\_\_\_\_

6) What does this image suggest about the need for reform in 19th century mills?



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# The Line: A Futuristic City in the Desert

Imagine a city with **glow-in-the-dark beaches**, **trains that zoom faster than planes**, and **no cars at all**. Sounds like a video game, right? Well, Saudi Arabia is planning to build something just like this in the desert. It's called **Neom**, and its most famous part is **The Line** – a straight city 170 km (105 miles) long!

## ***What is The Line?***

Instead of spreading out like normal cities, The Line will be built in a perfectly straight line. Everything people need – schools, shops, parks – will be just a **five-minute walk or bike ride away**. To travel longer distances, people will use high-speed trains, with no journey taking more than 20 minutes.

Developers say it will be a **green city** with no cars, no pollution, and powered by solar and wind energy. There are even plans for **floating cities on the sea** and giant greenhouses to grow food.

## ***Why is Saudi Arabia Building It?***

Saudi Arabia is very rich because of its **oil**, but the world is trying to use less oil to fight climate change. So the country wants to find new ways to make money and look more eco-friendly. Neom is part of “**Vision 2030**”, a plan to make the country less dependent on oil.

## ***The Big Questions***

Not everyone believes The Line will really work.

- Can a city in the desert grow enough food for itself?
- Can desalination (making sea water drinkable) be done without harming the oceans?
- Will renewable energy really be enough to power everything?

Some people also worry about **greenwashing** – when leaders make eco-friendly promises to look good, while still selling more oil.

## ***Human Rights Concerns***

The land chosen for Neom isn't empty. It's home to the **Huwaitat tribe**, who have lived there for generations. Reports say thousands of people have already been forced to leave their homes, and one man who refused to move was killed. Saudi officials deny wrongdoing, but human rights groups are alarmed.

## ***Who Will Live There?***

Promotional videos show futuristic towers, golf courses, and even palaces. Critics say the city might mostly benefit the rich and tourists, not ordinary people. Supporters, however, argue it will provide jobs and opportunities for everyone, from builders to billionaires.

## ***The Verdict***

Neom and The Line sound like something from science fiction. If it succeeds, it could change how cities are built in the future and help the planet. But for now, it's mostly **dreams and promises** – and there are big challenges to overcome.



 **Questions on *The Line: A Futuristic City in the Desert***



1. What is the name of the futuristic city Saudi Arabia is planning to build?
2. How long will The Line be?
3. What types of energy are planned to power the city?
4. What types of transport are they encouraging people to use?
5. Why does Saudi Arabia want to build The Line and other Neom projects?
6. What is "Vision 2030"?
7. What does "greenwashing" mean in this article?
8. What questions do experts have about food in The Line?
9. What is desalination, and why might it be a problem for the oceans?
10. Who currently lives on the land chosen for Neom and what has happened?
11. Why do some critics think The Line might mostly benefit the rich?
12. Do you think The Line is a good idea? Explain your answer with reasons.

