## Industrialization Intro Name:

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| The Industrial Revolution is the second and most recent of the great societal shifts (along with the Neolithic Revolution). It has defined our modern era. Everything about your life is a product of the Industrial Revolution. Below are summarized 5 major areas of change involved in the Industrial Revolution. | |
| **Wealth**  The levels of wealth for most people in the industrial world has grown immensely. The average per capita GDP (gross domestic product) of people in the industrial world has increased massively since 1700. Per capita GDP is a measure of how much stuff is produced by each person in the population. From 1700-2001, that figure increased by 56x in the United States. Before that, it had changed only an estimated 0.2x in the prior 2000 years.  Thousands of new, useful products have become available to us—from dish washers to cars to cheap clothes to computers and phones and airplanes. These products have become central to our lives and most people in industrial countries no longer develop the skills needed to survive in a non-industrial world. | **How has wealth changed since industrialization? (list 3 facts)** |
| **Population**  Industrialization has so far gone hand in hand with an explosion in population. The population boom has not been caused by birth rates, which have actually declined in many industrial countries, but instead has been caused by lower infant mortality rates (the frequency in which children die) and a dramatic increase in life expectancy. Life expectancy, for instance, has doubled in western countries since 1750 while infant mortality rates are now 1/10th what they were in 1750.  As a consequence, the human population skyrocketed. Between 1000AD and 1500AD, the human population almost doubled. In the next 500 year period from 1500 to 2000, the population was increased by 12x. The population growth is expected continue for the foreseeable future—reaching estimated levels of 11-12 billion by 2100. It will be difficult to provide food, water, and land to all these people but not as hard as is often portrayed. Most futurists (those who predict and strategize for the future) are not concerned by population growth and say fears of overpopulation are more rooted in racism than in science. | **How has population changed since industrialization? (list 3 facts)** |
| **Politics**  Many industrial countries have adopted **capitalism**—an economic system in which the means of production (such as factories) are privately owned. Individuals can invest in business ventures. Businesses produce goods or services, which other people purchase, and people are free to purchase whatever goods and services they want, independent of government control. Businesses are run for profit. The idea of capitalism is to produce goods and services for a low cost and sell them for a higher price, keeping the profit. Prices must be competitive with other businesses in the market.  Another system developed called **Socialism**—which is an economic system designed to reduce the inequalities that naturally exist in capitalism. Socialism says that the means of production should be owned by the community, not individuals. This way the profits are shared amongst everyone, not just hoarded by a select few. In practice, there have been few if any true socialist countries. However, a number of hybrid systems have emerged such as State Capitalism in China and the Soviet Union, and the Nordic Model or Mixed Economy in Europe. | **Define Capitalism (in your words)**  **Define Socialism (in your words)** |
| **Environment**  One of the negative effects of industrialism is increased pollution. In Britain, factories were responsible for raising pollution levels. Two effects of industry on the environment include greenhouse gas emissions and land clearing.  Today, due to increased mechanization, pollution levels are higher and the environmental impacts are more apparent. The emission of greenhouse gases has played a major role in damaging the environment. Greenhouse gases are believed to contribute to global climate change. Greenhouse gases are emitted by motor vehicles and many industrial factories. Many scientists now predict a global environmental catastrophe sometime in the next hundred years. A rise in sea waters by even 4ft is estimated to displace almost a billion humans—which would be the worst humanitarian crisis in history. That level of rise is expected by 2100—although current research suggests we may be vastly underestimating the rate of sea level rise.  Other damage to the environment is caused by soil erosion and land degradation from land clearing. As cities grow, land is cleared to make way for houses and industrial estates. Soil erosion and chemical contamination destroys the soil. Land clearing also has an effect on biodiversity, as the natural environment of plants and animals is removed. | **How has the environment changed since industrialization? (list 3 facts)** |
| **Society**  Industrialism has altered social structure. Today, modern societies are 'mass' societies, made up of cities populated by millions of people. The majority of people in an industrialised society enjoy high standards of living, voting rights, education and welfare.  The gap between rich and poor in industrialised societies has grown. Unemployment and poverty are major factors for many industrial countries. People can fall into a poverty cycle. Without a job there is little chance of securing adequate shelter and food. Without shelter and food, there is little opportunity for people to gain employment. There are large groups of homeless and unemployed people in many industrial countries, which has been on the rise for the last 20 years. Some social problems are addressed by government legislation and social welfare groups. Most industrialised countries have welfare systems in place to assist the unemployed and homeless. | **How has society changed since industrialization? (list 3 facts)** |

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