

Industrialization and Its Effects

AP European History

Contextualizing Industrialization

Unit 6 covers **c. 1815 to c. 1914** and rests on three claims the CED states as key concepts:

- The **Industrial Revolution spread from Great Britain to the continent**, where **the state played a greater role** in promoting industry.
- Everyday experience was shaped by industrialisation **depending on the level of industrial development** in a particular location - so the answer to “what was life like” is always *where, and how far along*.
- Political revolutions and the complications of industrialisation **triggered a range of ideological, governmental, and collective responses**.

That third claim is the unit’s spine. Industrialisation created problems; the ideologies and reforms of the nineteenth century are the answers people proposed to them.

The Spread of Industry Throughout Europe

Britain led, and the CED gives the reasons as a set:

- Ready supplies of **coal, iron ore**, and other raw materials.
- Mechanisation of **textile production**, iron and steel, and the development of **machine tools**.
- **Economic institutions and human capital** - engineers, inventors, and capitalists.
- A **parliamentary government** that promoted commercial and industrial interests because those interests were **represented in Parliament** - the political condition, and the one students leave out.

The continent then diverged, which is the examinable comparison:

- **France** industrialised **more gradually**, with **government support** and with **less social dislocation** 社会失序 than Britain.
- Elsewhere, a combination of **geography, lack of resources, the dominance of traditional landed elites**, and the persistence of serf-like labour relations **slowed industrialisation**.
- Because more primitive agricultural practices and landholding patterns persisted, **some areas of Europe lagged** behind entirely.

WHAT BRITAIN HAD

coal and iron ore, close together
economic institutions and human capital
a parliamentary government in which
commercial interests were represented

WHY OTHERS DIFFERED

geography, and a lack of the resources
the dominance of traditional landed elites
France industrialised more
gradually, with government
support and less social dislocation

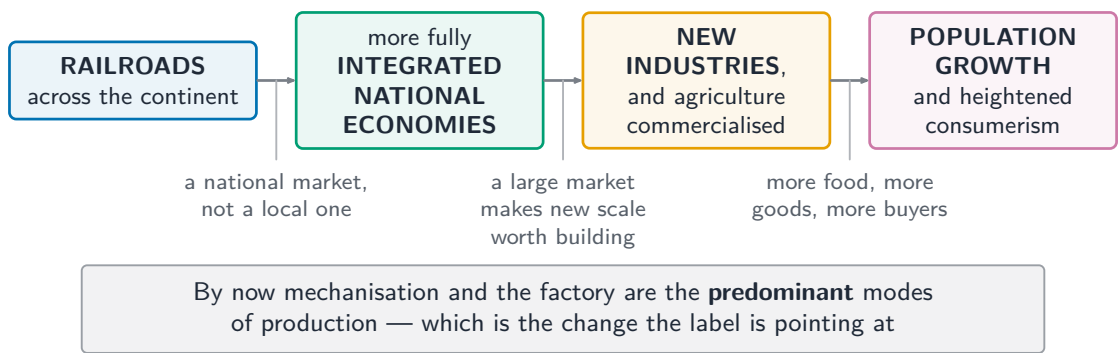
France is not a **failure** — it is a different path, with the state
doing what British institutions did. That contrast is the answer



Second Wave Industrialization

By 1914 **mechanisation and the factory system had become the predominant modes of production**. During the **second industrial revolution** 第二次工业革命 (c. 1870-1914) industrial activity spread across more of Europe, and:

- New technologies and means of communication and transport - notably **railroads** 铁路 - produced **more fully integrated national economies**.
- Efficient transport and other innovations **created new industries** and improved the distribution of goods.
- Together with better harvests from the **commercialisation of agriculture**, industrialisation **promoted population growth** 人口增长.
- A **heightened consumerism** 消费主义 developed.



Social Effects of Industrialization

- In industrialised western and northern Europe, socioeconomic change created **divisions of labour** leading to an **entrepreneurial and professional middle class** and an **industrial working class**.
- In less industrialised areas, the **dominance of agricultural elites continued into the twentieth century**.
- **Class identity** 阶级认同 developed and was reinforced through participation in **philanthropic, political, and social associations**.
- Rural-to-urban migration produced **urban overcrowding** 城市拥挤 while affected rural areas suffered population loss.
- **Bourgeois families** focused on the **nuclear family** and the **cult of domesticity** 家庭崇拜, with distinct gender roles.
- By the century's end, **higher wages, laws restricting the labour of children**

and women, social welfare programmes, and improved diet raised living standards.

- Economic motives for marriage diminished as the middle-class notion of **companionate marriage** 伴侣式婚姻 spread.
- **Leisure time** centred increasingly on the family or small groups, with new activities and spaces built for it.

The Concert of Europe and European Conservatism

The **Concert of Europe** 欧洲协调, or Congress System, sought to **maintain the status quo** through **collective action** and adherence to conservative principles.

Conservatism 保守主义 in this period is a genuine ideology, not merely resistance: it supported traditional political and religious authorities on the ground that society is an organic whole with a natural hierarchy, which cannot be redesigned by abstract reason without harm.

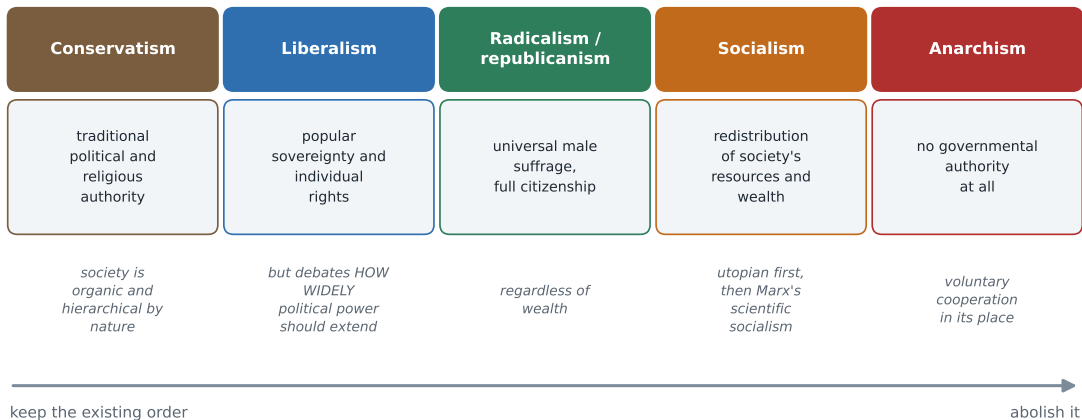
Reactions and Revolutions

In the first half of the nineteenth century, revolutionaries attempted to **destroy the status quo**. The **revolutions of 1848** 1848 年革命, triggered by **economic hardship and discontent with the political order**, challenged conservative power across Europe - and largely failed, which is itself examinable.

In **Russia**, autocratic leaders pushed through **reform and modernisation** from above, including the **emancipation of the serfs** 农奴解放 - reform used as an alternative to revolution rather than a concession to it.

Ideologies of Change and Reform Movements

One question - who holds power, and what should the state do?



Questions ask you to distinguish these, so learn them as a set rather than one at a time

The CED names five positions, and they are best learned as answers to one question: *who should hold power, and what should the state do?*

- **Liberals** 自由主义者 emphasised **popular sovereignty, individual rights, and enlightened self-interest**, but debated **how far all groups should share political power**.
- **Radicals** in Britain and **republicans** on the continent demanded **universal male suffrage** 男性普选权 and full citizenship without regard to wealth.
- **Socialists** 社会主义者 called for the **redistribution of society's resources and wealth**, evolving from **utopian** to **Marxist scientific socialism**.
- **Marx's scientific socialism** 科学社会主义 provided a systematic critique of capitalism and a deterministic analysis of society and historical change.
- **Anarchists** 无政府主义者 asserted that **all forms of governmental authority were unnecessary** and should be replaced by a society based on voluntary cooperation.

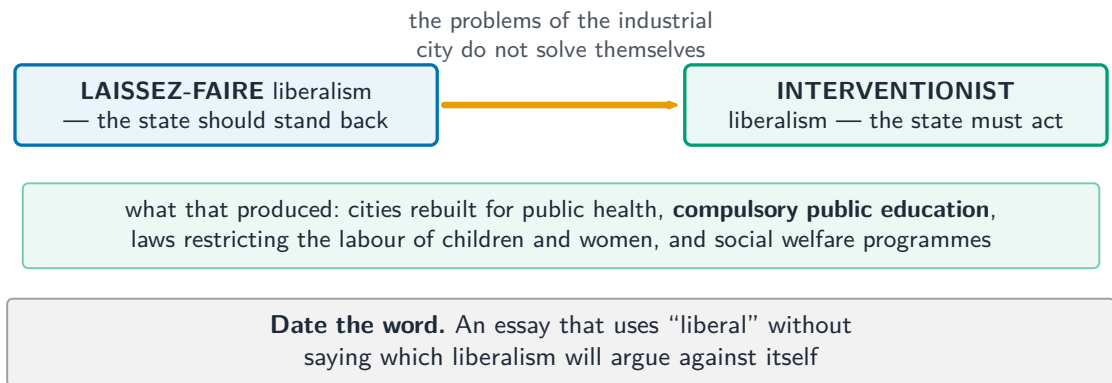
19th-Century Social Reform and Institutional Responses

Political movements and social organisations responded to the problems of industrialisation. The institutional side is equally examinable:

- **Liberalism shifted from laissez-faire to interventionist** economic and social policies in response to industrialisation's challenges. This is the unit's most important intellectual change - the ideology that began by wanting the state out ended

by using it.

- Reforms **transformed unhealthy and overcrowded cities** by modernising infrastructure, regulating public health, and reforming prisons.
- Reformers promoted **compulsory public education** 义务教育 to advance public order, nationalism, and economic growth. Note all three motives - the CED lists them, and none is purely benevolent.



Causation in the Age of Industrialization

The unit’s reasoning skill is **causation**.

Worked example (a real AP exam question). AP European History short-answer questions here ask, for example, to “*Explain one way in which industrialisation contributed to the development of new political ideologies in the nineteenth century.*” A full-mark answer traces the link: “*Industrialisation created a large urban working class with common conditions and no political representation, which gave socialists a constituency and an argument: that the wealth produced by industry was distributed by ownership rather than by labour. Marx’s scientific socialism turned that observation into a systematic critique of capitalism, and the concentration of workers in factories and cities made organising around it possible.*” Notice that the answer explains **why the idea found an audience**, not only that it existed.

Exam tips

- Britain’s advantages include a **political** one - industrial interests were represented in Parliament. Most answers list only resources.
- **France industrialised gradually with state support and less dislocation.** That contrast answers many comparison questions.

- Learn the **five ideologies as a set**, distinguished by who holds power and what the state does.
- **Liberalism's shift from laissez-faire to intervention** is the century's key ideological change. Name it.
- Compulsory education had **three motives** - order, nationalism, growth. Give all three.
- Living standards rose **by the end of the century**, after decades of hardship. Timing is the mark.