

Revolutions

AP World History ■ Unit 5

AP World History



What we will cover

- 1 The Enlightenment
- 2 Nationalism and Revolution
- 3 The Industrial Revolution Begins
- 4 Industrialisation Spreads
- 5 Government, Economy, and Reaction
- 6 Society in the Industrial Age



The Enlightenment

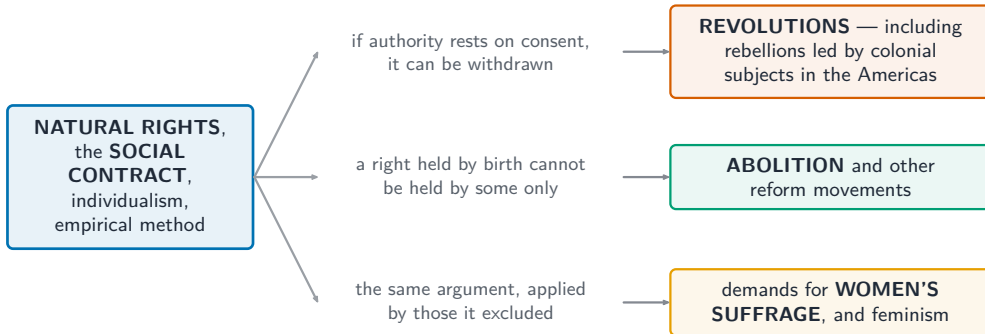
Unit 5 covers 1750 to 1900, and it has two engines running at once: an intellectual revolution that changed how people justified political authority, and an industrial revolution that changed how societies produced and lived. Most questions ask you to connect them.

- **Individualism** , **natural rights** , and the **social contract** .
- Calls for **religious tolerance** and limits on established authority.

The Enlightenment, continued

Those ideas influenced **reform movements** : the expansion of suffrage, the abolition of slavery, and **demands for women's suffrage** alongside an emergent **feminism** that challenged political and gender hierarchies.

Idea, reason, movement



The middle column is the marks. “Enlightenment ideas led to revolution” is the claim; the reason beside the arrow is the **explanation**



Nationalism and Revolution

Discontent with monarchist and imperial rule encouraged **revolution**. Enlightenment ideas, as reflected in revolutionary documents, justified those movements, and colonial subjects in the Americas led a series of rebellions inspired by them – the examinable set being the American, French, Haitian, and Latin American revolutions.

Answers that give only the idea, or only the grievance, explain nothing.

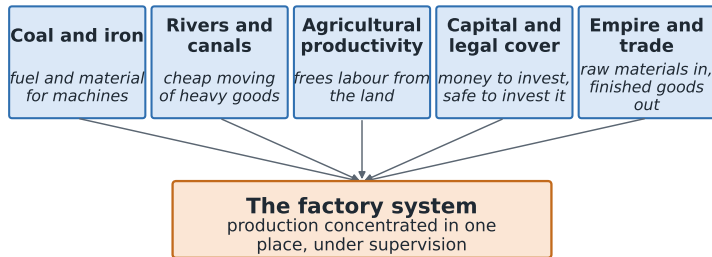


Why Britain, and what each factor supplied

A **variety of factors** contributed to the growth of industrial production: access to **coal** and **iron** , navigable rivers and canals, **agricultural productivity** that freed...

The **factory system** concentrated production in a single location under supervision, replacing dispersed household production.

Why Britain, and what each factor supplied, in detail



no single factor is sufficient - the answer to 'why here, why then' is the COMBINATION

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The Industrial Revolution Begins

A **variety of factors** contributed to the growth of industrial production: access to **coal** and **iron**, navigable rivers and canals, **agricultural productivity** that freed labour, **capital** and legal protection for it, urbanisation, and access to raw materials and markets through overseas empire.

That change – as much organisational as technical – is what made the scale of output possible.



a Boulton and Watt engine



Industrialisation Spreads

The rapid development of **steam-powered** industrial production in Europe spread to other regions, and as new methods became common, states that industrialised gained enormous advantages in wealth and military power over those that did not.

The first and the second, kept apart

- Workers organised, often in **labour unions** , and pressed for shorter hours, safety, and wages.
- **Alternative visions** of society emerged - **socialism** , **communism** , and **anarchism** - as critiques of industrial capitalism.

Two industrial revolutions, machine by machine

The steam engine

The **steam engine** freed the factory from the river: power could now be put where the coal and the labour were.

Railroads and steamships

Railroads and **steamships** cut the cost and the uncertainty of moving bulk goods – which is what made distant markets worth producing for.

The telegraph

The **telegraph** separated the message from the messenger for the first time in history, so prices and orders could travel faster than ships.

The second industrial revolution

The **second industrial revolution** added steel, chemicals, electricity and the **internal combustion engine** – and it was led by Germany and the United States, not Britain.

Standards of living rose over the century and fell in the first decades of it – which is why the timeframe of the question decides the answer.

The first and the second, kept apart, in detail

	THE FIRST	THE SECOND
WHAT DRIVES IT	coal and the steam engine	electricity, oil, the internal combustion engine
WHAT IT BUILDS	the factory system; textiles and iron	steel, chemicals, and the goods made from them
WHAT IT MOVES	railroads and steamships	the telegraph — information, faster than any vehicle

The first industrial revolution and the second, kept apart so evidence can be dated



Government, Economy, and Reaction

As industrial influence grew, a small number of **states sponsored industrialisation** directly – the standard examples being Meiji Japan, Russia under state-led programmes, and Egypt under Muhammad Ali.

- Workers organised, often in **labour unions** , and pressed for shorter hours, safety, and wages.
- **Alternative visions** of society emerged – **socialism** , **communism** , and **anarchism** – as critiques of industrial capitalism.
- Some governments passed **reform legislation** on working conditions, child labour, and public health.
- The expansion of industrialising states led to **internal reform movements** elsewhere in Asia, as states tried to respond to new pressure.

Government, Economy, and Reaction, continued

Western European countries began abandoning **mercantilism** and adopting **free trade** policies, and the global nature of trade and production contributed to the proliferation of **transnational businesses** and new financial instruments.

Correct the system, or replace it?

IMPROVE IT

LABOUR UNIONS —
bargain inside the system

REFORM LEGISLATION —
the state limits the worst of it

REPLACE IT

SOCIALISM — the productive
property should be held in common

COMMUNISM and **ANARCHISM**
— the order itself has to go

The split is not how **angry** each response is – it is whether industrial society is to be corrected or ended

The Enlightenment, nationalism, and industrial society

the Enlightenment

philosophies applied new ways of understanding and **empirical approaches** to both the natural world and human relationships

the political effect

individual rights, the social contract, and the questioning of inherited authority

nationalism

became a major force: people developed a **new sense of commonality** based on language, religion, social customs and territory

its two uses

it built states out of fragments, and it broke empires apart

urbanisation

rapid, with overcrowding and disease – and changes in **family structure and gender roles**

the response

public health reform, unions, and the political movements of the industrial working class

The same Enlightenment method produced arguments for reform and arguments for empire. Saying *who used it and to what end* is the analysis.



Society in the Industrial Age

New **social classes** formed, including a **middle class** and an **industrial working class**, each with its own culture and politics.



Continuity and Change in the Industrial Age

The unit's reasoning skill is **continuity and change**.

Production and class structure changed fundamentally, while imperial competition, coerced labour in colonised regions, and inequality persisted in new forms.

Worked example – explaining a social change

“Explain one way in which industrialisation changed social structures” between 1750 and 1900.

- **Full marks:** *“Industrialisation created a large industrial working class, because the factory system concentrated production in single locations and drew rural labourers into cities to work for wages, replacing household production and the rural social order that depended on it.”*
- **Explain** requires the mechanism: factory system, urban migration, wage labour.

“New social classes appeared” is the claim. The marks are for what produced them.

Exam tips

- Answer "why Britain first" with **several factors at once** – coal, capital, agriculture, empire – not one cause.
- The **factory system** is an organisational change; say what it replaced.
- For revolutions, pair an **idea** with a **grievance**. Either alone explains nothing.
- **State-sponsored industrialisation** (Meiji Japan, Russia, Egypt) is the contrast to the British pattern.
- Give the reactions as a set: **unions**, **socialism and communism**, and **reform legislation**.
- Living standards rose **eventually and unevenly**. Saying so is what makes an answer an evaluation.



Unit 5 – key takeaways

1

Britain

coal, capital, agriculture, empire –
several at once

2

Factory

an organisational change: say
what it replaced

3

Revolutions

pair an idea with a grievance

4

Reactions

unions, socialism/communism,
reform legislation

Check yourself

- 1 Why Britain first – how many factors?
- 2 What kind of change is the factory system?
- 3 What pair explains a revolution?
- 4 Name the three reactions as a set.

Answers: several at once ■ organisational ■ idea + grievance ■ unions, socialism, reform laws