**The Chief Features of the Industrial Revolution**

**Activities**

Complete the following notes. They will give you an outline of the information contained in the passage. The main points, **relations of cause-effect**, illustrations etc. are clearly indicated in the text by logical connectors. Look out for them.

•  (par. 1) The Industrial Revolution consists in the substitution of competition for the medieval regulations that had previously controlled the production and distribution of wealth. It is not only one of the most relevant aspects of English history but Europe thanks to it had

led to growth of two systems of thought:

1) Economic science

2) Socialism

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| a) Adam Smith |
| b) Malthus |
| c) Ricardo |
| d) John Stuart Mill            |

 • (par. 2-3) Facts of Industrial Revolution.

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| 1) Rapid growth of population |
| 2) Decline of agricultural population  |

• (par. 4) Decrease in rural population.

causes:     1)  Destruction of the common field system of cultivation;

     2)  Enclosures of common and waste lands;

     3)  Consolidation of small farms into large.

• (par. 5) Agricultural advance.

cause — more scientific approach:

e.g.

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| Improvement of the breed of cattle |
| Introduction of the rotation of crops |
| Invention of the steam-plough |
| agricultural societies |

• (par. 6-7) Growth of industry.

causes;

1) mechanical inventions in textile industry

e.g.

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| Spinning-jenny |
| Water-frame |
| Crompton’s mule |
| Self-acting mule |

most important:

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| steam engine |
| Power loom |

2) mechanical revolution in iron industry

e.g.

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|  Smelting by pit-coal |
|  Application of the steam engine to blast furnaces |

3) improved means of communication

e.g.

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| Water-way  |
| Turnpike road |
| railroad |

results:   1)  Extraordinary increase in commerce

     2) substitution of factory system for domestic system.

• (par. 8) Revolution in distribution of wealth:

rise in rents caused by

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| 1) money invested in improvements |
| 2) enclosures system |
| 3) consolidation of farms |
| 4) high price of corn |

social changes in country life:

• (par. 9) Social changes in manufacturing world: development of the new social class of great capitalists employers that made enormous fortune. They took a little or no part personally in the work of their factories; their workmen were individually unknow to them.

consequences:

 1) the old relations between masters and men disappeared

2) “cash nexus” was substituted for the human tie

3) class conflict.

• (par. 10) Misery of working people often caused by:

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| 1) the conditions of labour under the factory system |
| 2) the rise of prices |
| 3) fluctuations of trade  |

Conclusion: The effects of the Industrial Revolution demonstrate that free competition may produce wealth without producing well-being.