



A-level HISTORY

Component 1F Industrialisation and the people: Britain, c1783–1885

Wednesday 24 May 2023 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/1F.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

Industrialisation quickly broke up traditional social patterns which had existed for centuries. Living conditions in industrial towns, even more than working conditions, created new and terrifying problems. The new urban environment, affecting a steadily rising proportion of the nation, brought problems of poor living conditions and of social controls, just as much as factory employment brought the problems of discipline and regularity in work. Industrialists solved their problems more efficiently than local government, police and public administrators solved theirs. 5

However, the evidence of bad conditions of work and life compiled by government commissions and reformers did show a determination to get things changed. The self-help movement appeared from the 1830s as a spontaneous phenomenon, with the rapid creation of societies to implement it – even though these ideas had been preached by the upper classes to the poor for a very long time. By the 1850s, two-thirds of the employed population in Lancashire were on the books of such organisations. 10

Adapted from P Mathias, *The First Industrial Nation, an Economic History of Britain, 1700–1914*, 1969

Extract B

The Industrial Revolution brought both social and economic changes. Fear of redundancy hung over the working population, who were forced to accept harsher work discipline. The employer acknowledged no responsibility to care for his workers. Some workers hoped for improvement in their economic conditions through legislation. Having been excluded from the franchise in the 1832 Reform Act they turned to political movements, particularly during times of depression. However, the number of people actively engaged in political movements was small. Drink, cruel sports or evangelical religion probably attracted larger and more permanent bodies of supporters. Perhaps the greatest change brought by industrialisation was the movement to form combinations among workers with a view to improving their wages and conditions of employment. But the idea of a union as a permanent body with a national membership and a defined strategy was to emerge only slowly. Employers were hostile to unions, and many potential union leaders were distracted by the variety of other social and political campaigns in the years 1832 to 1860. 5

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Adapted from R Tames, *Economy and Society in Nineteenth Century Britain*, 1972

Extract C

In the 1830s, there were many urban workers, but most people still lived and worked in the countryside. It was not until after 1851 that the majority of the British population was urban. Society did not change very much before the middle of the century, even if jobs, such as metal-working and engineering, had altered radically by the 1850s.

Communities generally handled the impact of new working and living conditions easily, 5

and the move towards an urban society was slow and smooth. An important theme of the mid-nineteenth century was the balance between social continuity and economic innovation and change. The economy and society of the 1830s were not greatly changed by 1860. Factory industry and urban concentrations were present, but did not completely replace the familiar world of farm and workshop, village and small town. 10
Because of this, it made sense to leave authority in the hands which had held it for generations, those of landowners, clergy, lawyers, and merchants. Society did not experience a disastrous social revolution.

Adapted from F Thompson, *The Rise of Respectable Society: A Social History of Victorian Britain 1830–1900*, 1988

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to the changes caused by industrialisation in the years 1832 to 1860.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'Pitt's main achievement, in the years 1783 to 1806, was to reform the administration of government.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

'In the years 1812 to 1832, governments were only concerned with the need to limit disorder.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4

How successfully did the Conservatives deal with the political and economic challenges they faced in the years 1832 to 1868?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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