Why was Britain the First Industrial Nation?

Britain is not the biggest country on earth, nor are our people any more clever than any other nation. So why did this country have an industrial revolution before any other country? The answer is that a large number of factors all came together at the same time. See the diagram below:



Causes of the Industrial Revolution

Homework task

- Cut out the diagram above and stick it in your book. Draw a line between any factors that you think were connected at the time. Some connections have already been done for you. For example, the Agricultural Revolution created cheap food. Because there was more cheap food, less people died of bad diet, so the population rose.
- 2 Explain any two connections that you have drawn.
- 3 Explain why the factors marked with a star * on the diagram were needed for an industrial revolution to happen.
- 4 *Either* choose one of the factors and explain why it was the most important factor in causing the Industrial Revolution. *Or* explain fully why it is impossible to choose any one factor to be the most important in causing the Industrial Revolution.

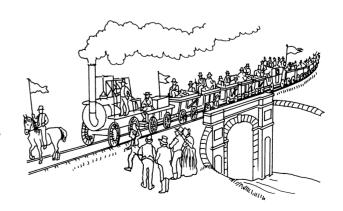
Industry and Transport Timeline, 1750-1850

Homework task

- Using a ruler, draw a line of 20 centimetres down one side of a page. Mark the dates 1750 at the top of the line and 1850 at the bottom. Mark 1760 2 cm from the top, and then mark the dates for every ten years every 2 cm down the page, to 1850.
- 2 Put the following events in the correct place on your timeline:

1764	Bridgewater Canal finished
1825	Stockton to Darlington railway
1804	Trevithick's first steam locomotive
1771	Arkwright's factory at Cromford
1789	Edmund Cartwright's power loom
1790	Peak of turnpike trust road building
1815	Humphrey Davey's miners' safety lamp
1793	Peak of canal mania
1838	First ship across the Atlantic using only steam
1764	James Hargreaves' spinning-jenny
1845	Peak of railway mania
1769	Josiah Wedgwood's pottery factory
1826	Menai Straits suspension bridge
1784	Henry Cort's puddling and rolling (iron)
1785	Steam power first used in spinning cotton
1759	'Iron Mad' Wilkinson sets up factory

- 3 Shade the entries to do with industry in one colour and those to do with transport in another colour.
- 4 a What advantages did canals have over roads when carrying raw materials or products of factories?
 - b What advantages did railways have over canals when serving factories?



Holocaust – The Final Solution



The facts

Hitlers 'final solution' to the Jewish 'problem' was to wipe out all Jews, including babies, children, women and very old people.

- About 6 million Jews from all over Nazi-occupied Europe were murdered. Many died of starvation or overwork.
- At first the Jews were shot at the edge of pits, and buried in the pits where they fell. But this was too slow.
- Later, the Jews were herded into gas chambers disguised as showers, up to 2000 at a time. They were poisoned with a gas called Zyclon B. It took about 15 minutes to die. When the screaming stopped, the men sent in to take out the bodies would find them in a pyramid, as the dying scrambled on top of each other to try and escape.
- The bodies were shaved, had gold and false teeth extracted, and had internal searches for valuables. Then they were cremated in giant ovens.

Homework task

- Some people in recent years have written that the Holocaust never took place and that 6 million Jews were never murdered. Why would they want to write such a thing?
- Why do you think that it is important that we study the Holocaust, over 50 years after it happened?
- There have been arguments in Germany recently about what memorials to the Holocaust should be like. Your task is to design or create some type of memorial to help people remember the Holocaust. Here are some ideas:
 - Design a statue or large memorial to go in a city centre or a country location.
 - Draw up plans for a museum. What would you put in it?
 - Write a poem. Where would you want to print it to make people remember?
 - Write a prayer for school assemblies or church services.
 - Draw a picture or poster. Where would you want to display it?

You do not need to use any of these ideas if you have your own.

The Cold War

The Cold War was a state of emnity without open direct fighting. It was between the USSR backed by the Communist countries grouped together by the Warsaw Pact, and the capitalist countries led by the USA, banded together in NATO. What caused the Cold War?

The American View:

"The Cold War has been caused by the Russians.

They have not allowed the people of Eastern

Europe to choose their own governments. Instead
they have imposed communism on them, and
stopped them trading with the free world. They have
built the Iron Curtain and tried to starve Berlin.

Communism is a bad system – the government
takes everyone's businesses and property away,
and makes everyone a slave of the government.

Communists want to infect the whole world with
their ideas. Stalin is ruthless – he has killed millions
of his own people just to stay in power, so he would
kill millions of foreigners to take over more of the free world."



Harry S Truman, President of the USA

The Russian View:

"The Cold War is the fault of the West. Even before the Second World War was over, the Americans and British were plotting on how to divide Europe up, without consulting us. We fought the toughest battles against Germany, and lost millions of our men in two wars against Germany. We cannot let it happen again, and so we need friendly communist countries between us and Germany. The capitalist countries want to destroy us by flooding Europe with money – the Marshall Plan is a bribe to poor countries to become capitalist and to be dependant on trade with the USA. Capitalism is a bad system –



Stalin, Russian leader

it makes a few people and countries very rich, and keeps everyone else poor. The USA has threatened us by exploding atom bombs and forming NATO, so we have had to build our own atom bombs and to form the Warsaw Pact."

Homework task

- 1 Explain the differences between the two sides about:
 - a political ideas.
 - b what should happen to Eastern Europe after the Second World War.
- 2 Why would neither side get into an open war?
- For which side do you feel the most sympathy Capitalists, Communists, both, or neither? Explain your choice.