

# History Knowledge Organiser HT1 and HT2 - How did society change during the Industrial Revolution?

## What was England like in 1750?

### Political:

Only 5% of the population could vote in elections. Women could not vote, nor could the working class. Voting was not secret; bribery was common. Not all areas were represented by an MP.

### Society:

Most people lived in the countryside. The whole family worked but many lived a subsistence lifestyle. Population of England was 5.5 million. The majority of children did not go to school and life was hard for working-class people. There was very little leisure time. Working class people had a short life expectancy. There was a big gap between the rich and poor

### Economy:

The most important work was farming, producing food and wool. Industries were small scale and done in people's homes. This was known as the domestic system. The machines were powered by hands and feet or by

## Key developments that drove the Industrial Revolution:

### Growth of towns

People migrated from the countryside to the towns in search of work. People lived in overcrowded and squalid conditions and disease was rife.



### Factories

Manchester and the North West were at the centre of the cotton industry. Factory conditions were tough with long hours, low pay and strict discipline. Child labour was common and factories took on pauper apprentices who lived and worked at the mills.



### Machinery

Steam power was discovered. This powered machinery in factories and led to the invention of the steam engine.

## Throughout the Industrial Revolution, many changes occurred in society:

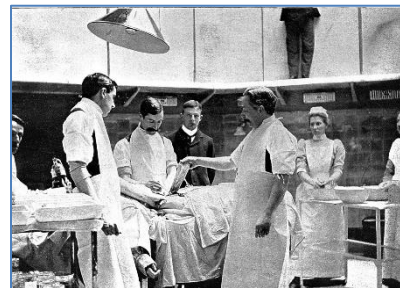
- The **population** 'exploded'!
- Rural to urban **migration**
- **Growth of towns**
- **Factories** sprang up
- **Coal mines** were constructed
- **Child labour** became the norm
- **Steam power** was developed
- People started to **demand change**



## How had Britain improved by 1900?

### Politically, socially, economically...

- Improvements in public health and medicine
- More people had the right to vote
- Working conditions improved
- People could travel around the country more easily
- Education became compulsory
- Sport and leisure time increased



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horses. Some machines were powered by waterwheels.

### **Coal mining**

Coal was used to power the new machinery. The coal industry created many jobs and was vital to the growing success of the textiles industry.

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