

TEACHER DEBRIEFING SHEET**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How are population growth, urbanization, and industrialization related to one another? Can one exist without the other two? Explain.
2. What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of urbanization? For whom?
3. In what ways does urbanization affect people, culture, the economy, and the environment?
4. Describe the different factors that contributed to low life expectancy in London (and other cities) during the Industrial Revolution.
5. Is industrialization a problem, progress, or a promise? Justify your answer with specific evidence.

TASK:

Imagine that it is 1875 and your group owns an urban planning agency in industrial England. Your current assignment is to create a map of the ideal industrial city. Your ideal city must include all the advantages that urban life has to offer and must correct (fix) the disadvantages of urban life (consider social, cultural, economic, and environmental advantages and disadvantages). Your map must include a legend (map key) as well as “text bubbles” that explain your reasoning behind the inclusion and location of each item.

TASK EVALUATION CRITERIA



- Map of ideal city must include all the advantages that urban life has to offer and must correct (fix) the disadvantages of urban life (consider social, cultural, economic, and environmental advantages and disadvantages); map must include a legend (map key) as well as “text bubbles” that explain your reasoning behind the inclusion and location of each item.
- Map includes at least 5 historical facts (geography, events, data, people, etc.) related to the social, cultural, economic, and environmental effects of urbanization.
- Map makes use of at least three of the following: color, texture, shading, symbols, and/or scale.
- Map includes multiple perspectives (points of view) related to the advantages and disadvantages of urbanization.
- Presentation addresses whether industrialization is a problem, progress, or a promise.

EXTENSION QUESTIONS:

1. How were the lives of poor urban dwellers similar to and different from the lives of rich urban dwellers during the era of the Industrial Revolution?
2. Describe the state of the River Thames in the 1850s and explain how the Industrial Revolution and urbanization contributed toward The Big Stink.
3. Why do so many people move to cities given that city life presents so many challenges?
4. What are some social, cultural, economic, or environmental problems your city (or town) faces? What are some possible solutions to those problems?
5. How are the challenges faced by cities in developed countries different from the challenges faced by cities in developing countries?
6. What important innovations do you think would alter the poor living conditions of the industrial-era?
7. What are some of the reasons why cities are located where they are?
8. Would you prefer to live in a city or in a smaller community? Why?
9. Why do more people live in cities in some areas of the world, such as Europe and the Americas, whereas fewer people live in cities in other areas of the world, such as Africa and Asia?
10. In what ways did the Industrial Revolution change cities?

ACTIVITY TWO: URBANIZATION

ACTIVITY CARD

-  Read the CONTEXT-SETTING CARD. Then use the information on your RESOURCE CARDS to talk about the DISCUSSION QUESTIONS.
-  Examine the TASK and complete the project to meet all of the TASK EVALUATION CRITERIA.

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ACTIVITY TWO: URBANIZATION

CONTEXT-SETTING CARD

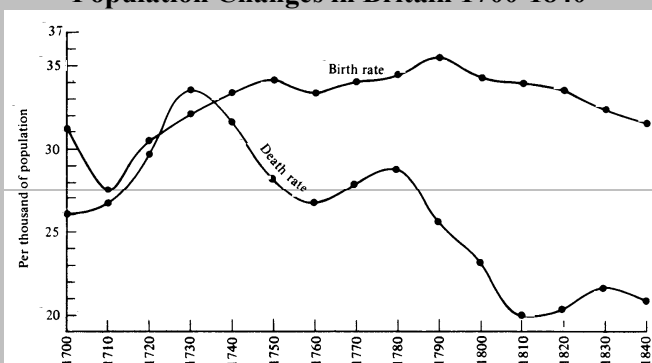
Rural: Of or relating to the countryside. Rural areas are sparsely (thinly) populated and are located far from large cities and towns. Inhabitants (residents) of rural areas live in small villages, on farms, or in other isolated (located far from anything else) homes. Development in rural areas is usually separated by great distances.

Urban: Of or relating to cities. Urban areas are usually densely (heavily) populated. Inhabitants (residents) of urban areas live in houses or apartments situated close together. Most of the land in urban areas is developed.

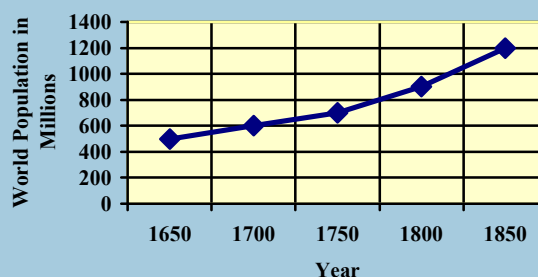
Urbanization: The growth of cities. Cities grow when population increases, more and more people move into the same areas, and the economy develops. People move to urban areas (cities) from rural areas (the countryside) and/or from other countries.

Rapid population growth and urbanization characterized the Industrial Revolution. Beginning in the 1700s, the population of Europe increased dramatically. Two factors contributed to this rapid increase in population. First, changes made to farming practices (such as the introduction of the seed drill that sowed seeds faster and produced more crops) allowed for people to live longer and healthier lives. Second, advances in sanitation (such as the discovery that disease is spread by microscopic germs) and medicine (such as the introduction of rabies and smallpox vaccines) helped to reduce the number of deaths caused by disease. As people lived longer and death rates (the number of people who die each year) fell, the number of people alive at any given time grew. More people meant greater demand for products, including food and clothing. The Industrial Revolution was both caused and sustained (maintained) by population growth, since more demand meant more production and increased production meant a need for more workers, and the labor supply (available workers) was constantly growing.

Population Changes in Britain 1700-1840



World Population, 1650-1850



Social and cultural life in the newly emerging industrial cities had its advantages and disadvantages. Urban centers offered jobs as well as abundant leisure (free time) activities such as sporting events, museum exhibits, plays held in theaters, and concerts held in music halls. At the same time, however, rapid population growth presented challenges to builders who could not provide housing fast enough to keep up with all of the new city residents. The combination of hastily (quickly) constructed housing structures, factories that caused much pollution, and the lack of sewer systems made urban centers ripe (ready) for major problems.

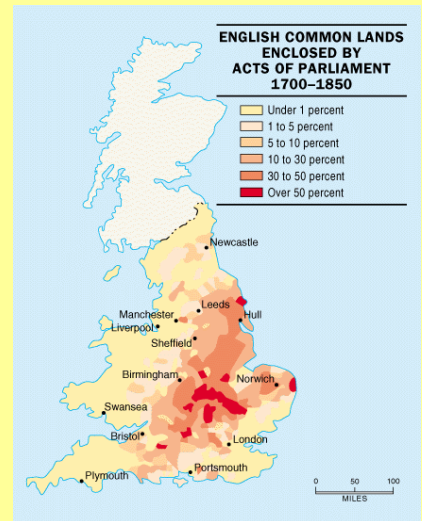
RESOURCE CARD 1 (OF 4)
Rural to Urban Migration

The Industrial Revolution brought rapid urbanization, or the growth of cities. As the population growth rate increased, it caused more demand for products and resulted in an expansion (growth) of industry (business). As new factories opened, many job opportunities were created and filled by immigrants and by inhabitants of industrial countries who migrated (moved) from rural areas to the cities.

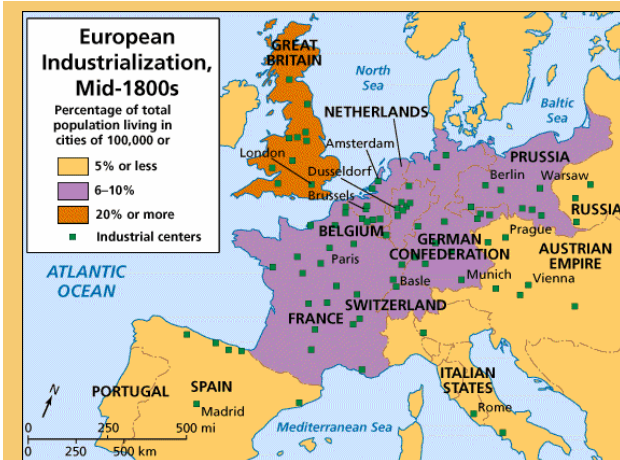
In England, much of the rural to urban migration was caused by both the job opportunities that lured (attracted) people to the cities and by the Enclosure Movement (see box below) that drove people from the countryside to the cities. This population shift from rural to urban areas was quite dramatic. For example, in pre-industrial England, more than three-quarters of the population lived in small villages. By the mid-nineteenth century, however, half of England's population resided in cities.

Enclosure Movement

Prior to (before) the 17th century, English land consisted of open pastures and meadows that were used by local villages to graze animals and grow small plots of fruit and vegetables. As farming became more profitable, the system of farming for communal survival (survival of the community) was replaced by a system of private land management for profit. The wide open pastures and fields were divided up, with the approval of the British Parliament, into fenced, walled, or hedged (surrounded by high bushes) fields. This process was known as the Enclosure Movement. By the end of the 19th century, the Enclosure Movement was complete, placing much of the land of England into the hands of wealthy landowners.



Enclosure had both positive and negative outcomes. The main positive outcome of enclosure was the massive (large) increase in agricultural productivity and output. This increase enabled (allowed for) better health and nutrition and resulted in continued population growth. A negative outcome of enclosure was that most villagers received minimal compensation (payment) for their land. As a result, many villagers were forced to flee to cities to find work in the emerging factories in order to provide for themselves and their families.



Cities have always been founded near waterways to allow for trade. During the Industrial Revolution, cities continued to be built near waterways, since water powered the first factories. As more and more factories were built, people migrated to the cities to take advantage of the job opportunities that were available there.

Along the River Seine, the population of Paris, France increased by one million in less than 25 years. The population of Berlin, Germany, located on the River Spree, increased by one and a half million in the span of 50 years.

ACTIVITY TWO: URBANIZATION

RESOURCE CARD 2 (OF 4) Cultural & Social Life in the City

The urbanization of the Industrial Revolution thrust people of all social, cultural, and economic backgrounds together in the cities. City dwellers (residents) from all walks of life held in common the need for entertainment during their leisure (free) time. Urban centers of the Industrial Revolution offered many pastimes (activities) for residents, including, among other things, concerts, operas, plays, museum exhibits, and horse races. Cities also offered parks for residents to enjoy.

One of the most popular forms of entertainment in the cities was music. During the early part of the industrial era, people would crowd into taverns to listen to singers, who also served as waiters and received a percentage of all the beer sold. As the popularity of these musical performances increased, many cities built music halls to accommodate (allow space for) larger crowds.



“A Summer's Day in Hyde Park” by John Ritchie 1858.

Peter Cunningham, Hand-Book of London, 1850:

“[Hyde Park is] One of the lungs of London, connecting the Green Park with Kensington Gardens, and thus carrying a continuous tract [area] of open ground... The Park is accessible [open] for private carriages but hackney-coaches and cabs are excluded. ... A review of troops in Hyde Park is a sight worth seeing...”

Gustave Dore and Blanchard Jerrold wrote about the London Derby (horse racing) in 1872:

“On the Downs [location of horse races] London is in the highest spirits, and all classes are intermingled [together] for a few hours on the happiest terms. Strolling amid the booths and tents we find elbowing each other, bantering [chatting], playing, drinking, eating and smoking; shoals [a coming together] of shopboys and clerks, tradesmen in fast attire, mechanics in holiday dress, wondering foreigners, gaudy [tasteless] ladies, generally of loud voice and unabashed [shameless] manner.

Clear the course! We suddenly, find the crowd tighten about us. A flutter goes through the sea of heads on the Grand Stand: the men climb to the roofs of the carriages: the general murmur deepens: the betting men are in a fever of excitement: a fight or two may be descried [seen] from the vantage-ground of a rumble. They're off!”

“The Derby Day”
by William Powell Frith 1856-58

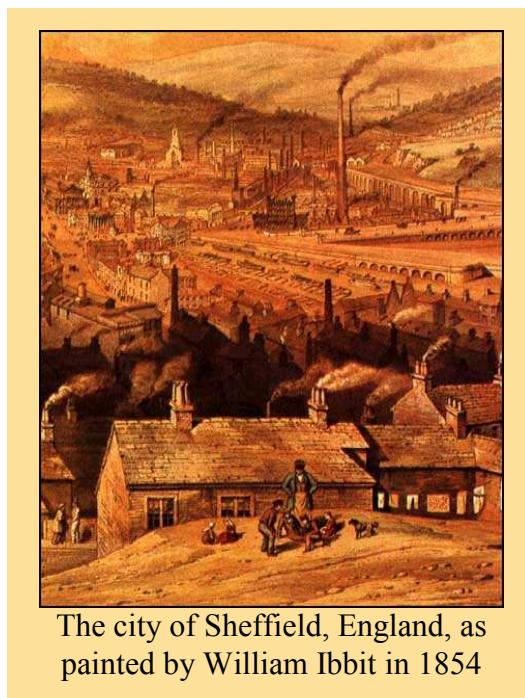


RESOURCE CARD 3 (OF 4) Challenges of Urbanization

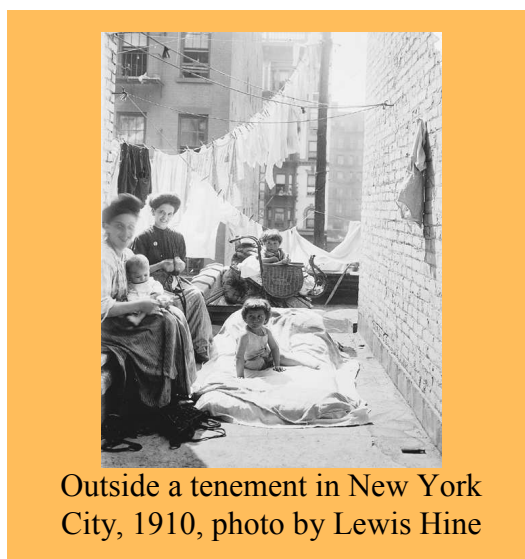
The Industrial Revolution brought rapid urbanization as people left the rural countryside and moved to cities in search of work. Small towns located near coal or iron mines quickly grew into big cities and businessmen turned quiet market towns into bustling (busy) cities with the development of numerous (many) factories. For example, the market town of Manchester, England started with a population of 17,000, and with the growth of factories and available jobs, the number of people soared to 70,000 in a span of only fifty years. Unfortunately, these new urban centers were not ready for the population explosion and their inhabitants (residents) quickly became subject to miserable living conditions.

Housing and sanitation could not keep up with the rate of population growth. In an effort to keep up with rapid urbanization, industry owners constructed high-rent, sub-standard (poor quality) housing. Many urban residents crowded into tiny rooms in tenement (high-rise apartment) buildings or lived on the streets. In some areas, tenements were built back-to-back and oftentimes next to a factory. The result was that residents could rarely catch a clean breath of air, and some contracted (became sick with) rickets, a bone disease caused by lack of sun – in some tenement neighborhoods, the closely constructed buildings blocked the sun from the street.

Many urban dwellers did not have clean drinking and bathing water, or sewage and sanitation systems. In most cases, residents would drink and bathe in the same water used for dumping garbage and personal waste. These unsanitary conditions led to the spread of disease such as cholera because at the time, it was not known that the disease was spread through unsanitary water conditions. In 1831, the disease spread rapidly through Britain and by 1849 killed nearly six thousand people in London alone. As living conditions worsened, urban growth slowed.



The city of Sheffield, England, as painted by William Ibbitt in 1854



Outside a tenement in New York City, 1910, photo by Lewis Hine

In his book, The Conditions of the Working Class in England (1887), Friedrich Engels wrote about slum housing in Manchester, England:

“In one of these courts there stands directly at the entrance, at the end of the covered passage, a privy [toilet] without a door, so dirty that the inhabitants can pass into and out of the court only by passing through foul pools of stagnant urine and excrement.”

Average Life Expectancy, 1842
Selected British Cities
(figures given in years)

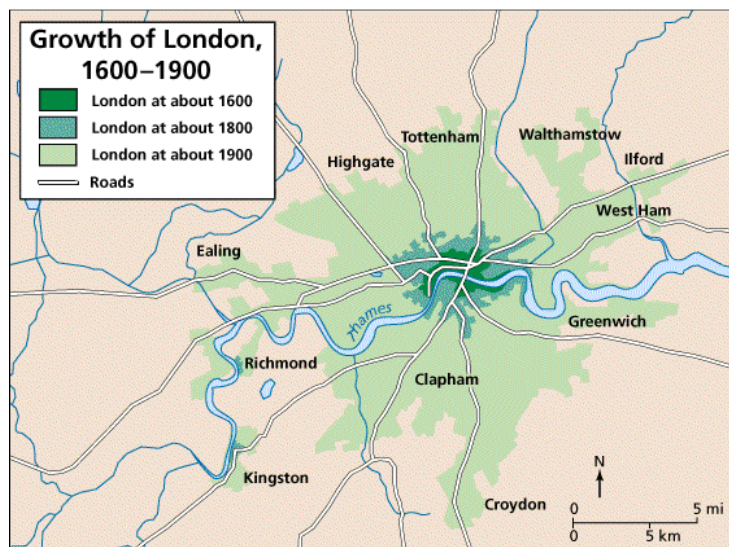
City	Professionals	Laborers
Leeds	44	19
Liverpool	35	15
Manchester	38	17

ACTIVITY TWO: URBANIZATION

RESOURCE CARD 4 (OF 4)

Case Study: Urbanization in London

During the 19th century, urbanization transformed (changed) London into the world's largest city. The population of London grew from one million in 1800 to six million nearly a century later. While the city of London was the capital of the richest empire in the world (the British Empire) it left much to be desired for the citizens who worked in the factories and inhabited the slums.



In the 1850s, the rapid expansion of London's population and poor attention to water and sewer systems led to what was called the “Year of the Big Stink” (1858). An engineer, Joseph Bazalgette, described the London stink:

The whole of the sewage passed down sewers from the high ground at right angles to the Thames [the river that flows through London] into the low grounds [next to] the Thames, where at high water it was pent up in the sewers, forming great... cesspools of stagnant [unmoving] sewage, and then when the tide went down ..., that sewage was poured into the river...

As a result of these unsanitary conditions that had been brewing for decades, waterborne diseases such as typhoid fever and cholera were common in London. The combination of filthy living quarters and unsafe work environments severely affected the livelihood of working-class London: the average life expectancy was just 18, the death rate was 35.3 per 1,000 citizens, and 437 out of every 1,000 children born died before the age of two years old.

Henry Mayhew, Life and Labour of the London People, 1861:

“We were led to a narrow, closed court, where the sun never shone. We then passed along the reeking banks of the sewer. In the bright light the water appeared the colour of strong green tea. Indeed, it was more like watery mud than muddy water, and yet we were told this was the only water the wretched people had to drink. As we gazed in horror at the pool, we saw drains and sewers emptying their filthy contents into it. We heard children bathing in it. In this wretched [awful] place we were taken to a house where an infant lay dead of cholera. We asked if they really did drink the water. The answer was, ‘We have to drink from the ditch unless we can beg or steal a bucketful of the river Thames’.”

ACTIVITY TWO: URBANIZATION

INDIVIDUAL REPORT

Describe the advantages and disadvantages of life in an industrial-era city.

Evaluation Criteria

- Response describes at least two advantages and at least two disadvantages of life in an industrial-era city.
- Response must include at least three reasons for each advantage and each disadvantage; each of which must be supported by specific historical evidence (geography, events, data, people, etc.).
- Response includes multiple perspectives (from people of different social, economic or cultural backgrounds).
- Response addresses whether industrialization is a problem, progress, or a promise.