Profit rose for manufacturers, and population growth became desirable to provide a new labour force.

**Institutional capitalism**

By the 18th Century, the English Parliament was firmly under the control of the capitalist classes. As a result, there was a veritable array of parliamentary legislation that favoured mercantile interests.

The enclosure laws of the eighteenth century saw an increase in agricultural production and turned the established rules of land ownership on their head.

Lands previously held in common by tenant farmers changed into large private farms, worked by a smaller labour force. This increased the agricultural production and caused the displaced peasants to head for the cities. Subsequently, there was an abundant labour supply to mine coal and iron, and man the factories.

The revolution moved economic power away from the aristocratic classes and into the hands of the new middle class, the bourgeoisie.

This new force in society was intent on making money, as much and as quickly as possible. Adam Smith’s account, The Wealth of Nations, proposed that the only legitimate goal of government and human activity is the steady increase of the overall wealth of the nation. Wealth had replaced religion, politics and power as the driving force of society.

**Legacy**

The Industrial Revolution has changed the face of nations, giving rise to urban centers requiring vast municipal services.

It created a specialized and interdependent economic life and made the urban worker more dependent on the will of the employer than the rural worker had been.

Relations between capital and labour were aggravated, and Marxism was one product of this unrest. Doctrines of laissez-faire, developed in the writings of Adam Smith and David Ricardo, sought to maximize the use of new productive facilities.

But the revolution also brought a need for a new type of state intervention to protect the labourer and to provide necessary services. Laissez faire gradually gave way in the United States, Britain, and elsewhere to welfare capitalism.

The Industrial Revolution also provided the economic base for the rise of the professions, population expansion, and improvement in living standards. These remain primary goals of less developed nations.

The Industrial Revolution

In your notebooks/binders, answer ALL the following questions:

1. Why would some historians not call it a "revolution"?
2. Where did most people think it got started?
3. Why is James Watt so famous?
4. What other machines mark the beginning of the Industrial Revolution?
5. How did trade impact the Industrial Revolution?
6. What is the influence of Population on the Industrial Revolution?
7. How did the change in land ownership affected the Industrial Revolution?
8. What is the legacy of the Industrial Revolution?

*YES, you either copy the question, or use the question as part of your answer in a complete sentence.*