

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

UNIT 7: THE INDUSTRIAL ERA
Industrial Revolution Webquest

Step 1: Go to <http://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/indrevtabs1.asp>

1. By how much did the pig iron industry in the UK grow between 1781 and 1914?

2. By how much did the cotton industry in the UK grow between 1834 and 1913?

3. By how much did the railroads system in the UK grow between 1840 and 1900?

Step 2: Go to <http://spartacus-educational.com/IRchild.htm>. Follow links from this page to answer questions 4-12. Do not worry about learning every detail but scan through and read enough information from the various biographies, eyewitness accounts, and descriptions to respond well.

Life in Factories - Read "Working Hours", "Punishments", "Factory Pollution", and "Accidents".

4. What conditions do you believe were abusive, cruel, or unjust in these factories? Be specific.

Factory Workers - Read "John Allet", "Elizabeth Bentley", "Stephen Binns", "David Bywater", "Matthew Crabtree", "Alexander Dean", and "Joseph Habergam".

5. What are the significant differences in the working conditions various workers faced?

Supporters of Child Labor - Read "Edward Baines", "Archibald Buchanan", "William Bolling", George Courtauld, "Francis Egerton", "James Heywood", "Henry Thomas Hope," and "William James".

6. What various reasons do factory owners give for using child labor or at least not supporting legislation to limit it?

7. Do the arguments make sense? Is child labor necessary?

Factory Reformers - Read “Abraham Whitehead”, “Richard Oastler”, and “Robert Owen”,

8. What reasons did reformers cite for making the factories better places for children to work?
9. How did Robert Owen improve conditions at his factory?
10. What else might have reformers done to improve factory conditions?

Tactics and Issues - Read “Short Time Committees” and “Factory Inspectors”.

11. What strategies were used to improve the lives of children in factories?
12. Do you believe the tactics went far enough in improving conditions? Explain.

Step 3: Visit these websites to read about child labor today: <http://www.ilo.org/ipec/lang--en/index.htm> and <http://mallenbaker.net/article/clear-reflection/nike-and-child-labour-how-it-went-from-laggard-to-leader>

13. What is the status of child labor today? Be specific and extensive.