

## Grade 8 Social Sciences Worksheet

### Industrialisation



**Source 1:** Two different land areas close to Manchester, England. The one on the left is typical of farms before the Industrial Revolution, the one on the right of farms after the Industrial Revolution. On this scale 1 cm is about 100 m.

Refer to Source 1.

- 1.1 What is the main difference between the two areas before and after the Industrial Revolution? [2]
- 1.2 What factors caused this change in the way farmland was organised? [2]
2. What impact did the land reform have on the lives of peasant farmers? [5]
3. How did industry benefit from rural land reform? [4]
4. How did the level of skill of peasant farmers and cottage industry workers differ from that of industrial workers? [4]
5. How did the living conditions and standard of living of rural peasants differ from that of factory workers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century? [4]
6. How did factory production differ from the cottage industries in their methods? [4]

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**Source 2:** *Imagine the process of making bread in a cottage. The peasant farmer harvests the grain, grinds it in a hand mill and gives the flour to his wife. His wife mixes it with yeast and water to make dough and divides it into baking pans. She leaves it overnight to 'rise'. The farmer cuts some wood and lights the fire beneath the clay oven early in the morning. As soon as the oven is hot, the farmer's wife puts the loaves (probably only two or three) into the oven. While the bread is cooking, the children collect the eggs from the hen house. The wife carves a few slices of bacon off the ham hanging in the cooling shed. When the farmer comes in from milking the cows, he is served a wonderful breakfast of eggs and bacon, home-made bread, butter and jam, and hot milk.*

Refer to Source 2.

- 7.1 How many different skills did the farmer and his wife have between them that are mentioned in the paragraph? [10]
- 7.2 What other skills do you think they had? [2]
- 8.1 Do you think they were ever in a situation where they had no food? Explain your answer. [2]
- 8.2 Do you think they ever had a lot of money? Explain your answer. [2]
- 9.1 How many different kinds of workers do you think work in a modern bread factory? [4]
- 9.2 What skills do you need to work in a modern factory bakery? [2]
- 10.1 Do you think the factory workers were ever in a situation where they had no food? Explain your answer. [2]
- 10.2 Do you think they ever had a lot of money? Explain your answer. [2]

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### Suggested Solutions

- 1.1 Before the industrial revolution, the lands were divided into small plots. After the revolution the farms and the lands were much bigger.
- 1.2. The Land Enclosure Act allowed landowners to fence off common land for their own use, to farm bigger pieces of land more efficiently. This allowed landowners who previously relied on the tenant farmers to provide them with food to farm big farms for profit for themselves, so forcing the tenant farmers and peasants off the land.
2. The peasants had nowhere to farm if they could not get employment on the big farms. They were poorly paid on the farms and had lost their own farm plots, and so many were forced to go and seek work in the cities in the new factories.
3. Rural land reform created a large pool of cheap labour from the unemployed peasants.
4. Cottage industry workers followed the complete process themselves, whether weaving wool or baking bread. Industrial workers might not even have known what they were making, just assembling one or two bits or working one machine that only did one step of the process.
5. Rural peasants had a simple, hard life, but it was in a clean healthy environment and they were almost never short of food, clothing and shelter. Factory workers were very poorly paid, they could lose their jobs in an instant if the markets were down, and they lived in cramped, unhygienic conditions full of disease and crime.
6. Cottage industries: everything was done by hand using very simple tools. Each person produced the complete product, such as a loaf of bread, on a small scale. Factories: By using machines and 'mass production', workers only did one of many steps in the process of making things, so that the factory produced much more per worker than the cottage industry.
- 7.1 Harvesting, milling, making ham/bacon; woodcutting, making and firing an oven; mixing bread, baking bread, cooking, milking cows, butter making, raising poultry.
- 7.2 Jam making, weaving, sewing, ploughing, etc.
- 8.1 No, because they produced their own food and they had enough land to do so.

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- 8.2 No, because they did not produce a lot extra to sell on the market.
- 9.1 Many. There are people to receive the loads of flour, people to mix the flour with other ingredients, people to load the dough-making machines, people to put the dough in the baking pans, to put the pans into the ovens, to unload the pans from the ovens, to take the bread out of the pans and pack it into plastic bags, to load it onto trucks, plus managers and accountants, secretaries, order clerks, etc. Important to understand that no one factory worker is highly skilled.
- 9.2 Very little. It is more important to be able to take instructions and do what you are told.
- 10.1 Yes, if they get retrenched, or if they borrow too much money to buy things that they can't really afford and can't pay it back.
- 10.2 No, unless they get promoted into a more senior position, which can happen, but not often.