

CBSE CLASS X
Social Science (087)

QUESTION PAPER
AI-generated question paper

Code: oZHNJV

Questions: 74

Maximum Marks: 222

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SELECTIONS USED

Subject	Social Science
Lessons	4 The Age of Industrialisation
Level of understanding	Thorough understanding
Question selection	Curated chapter coverage (~5 questions per section + 8 synthesis)
Model	claude-sonnet-4-6

Composition — Difficulty: 3 straightforward · 41 medium · 30 deep | Types: 47 Short · 14 Long · 11 MCQ · 2 Very short

Q1. medium thorough-understanding § Introduction [3]

The cover image of a 1900 music book depicted an 'angel of progress' surrounded by railways, cameras, printing presses and factories. What dominant idea about industrialisation did such imagery promote, and why might a historian find this portrayal misleading?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q2. deep thorough-understanding § Introduction [3]

In the image of the 'Two Magicians', Aladdin representing the East/past is contrasted with a modern mechanic representing the West/modernity. What assumptions about non-Western societies are embedded in this contrast? Using one or two examples from the chapter, explain how such assumptions distorted the actual history of industrialisation in regions like India.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q3. deep thorough-understanding § Introduction [5]

Industrialisation is often portrayed as a story of uninterrupted progress and prosperity. Critically examine this view by discussing at least two negative consequences of industrialisation — social, economic, or environmental — that this narrative tends to overlook.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q4. medium thorough-understanding § 1 Before the Industrial Revolution [3]

Why were merchants in seventeenth-century European towns unable to expand industrial production within the towns themselves, and how did they solve this problem?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q5. medium thorough-understanding § 1 Before the Industrial Revolution [3]

Proto-industrialisation drew poor peasants and cottagers into producing goods for merchants. What specific changes in the countryside made these rural households willing — even eager — to take up this work?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q6. medium thorough-understanding § 1 Before the Industrial Revolution [3]

A cotton mill brought all stages of cloth production under one roof, whereas the proto-industrial system spread the same work across the countryside. What specific advantages did the mill system offer that the proto-industrial system could not?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q7. deep thorough-understanding § 1 Before the Industrial Revolution [3]

Even at the end of the nineteenth century, less than 20 per cent of Britain's total workforce was employed in technologically advanced industrial sectors, and steam engines were very slow to be adopted across industries. What does this evidence reveal about the actual pace and nature of industrialisation in Britain during the nineteenth century?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q8. medium thorough-understanding § 1 Before the Industrial Revolution [1]

Which of the following best explains why industrialists in Victorian Britain were often reluctant to invest in new machinery despite its proven ability to increase output?

- (A) New machines required raw materials that were not yet available in Britain.
- (B) Abundant cheap labour made mechanisation less cost-effective than employing more workers.
- (C) The government had banned the use of steam-powered machines in certain industries.
- (D) Workers' unions had legally blocked the introduction of new technology in factories.

A Machines required raw materials that were difficult to obtain from the colonies.

B An abundant supply of cheap labour made the high capital cost of machines unnecessary.

C The government had placed restrictions on the use of steam-powered technology.

D Guild associations prevented factory owners from replacing skilled workers with machines.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q9. deep thorough-understanding § 1 Before the Industrial Revolution [5]

The proto-industrial system has been described as creating a 'close relationship between the town and the countryside.' Analyse how this relationship worked, and explain why it was different from earlier craft production that took place entirely within towns.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q10. medium thorough-understanding § 1.1 The Coming Up of the Factory [3]

Richard Arkwright's establishment of the cotton mill is regarded as a turning point in the history of cloth production in England. Explain how the mill system fundamentally reorganised production, and analyse the advantages this new arrangement offered to manufacturers compared with what came before it.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q11. medium thorough-understanding § 1.1 The Coming Up of the Factory [1]

Britain's raw cotton imports rose sharply from 2.5 million pounds in 1760 to 22 million pounds by 1787. Which of the following best explains this dramatic increase?

- (A) The invention of the power loom made weaving faster than spinning, creating huge demand for raw cotton
- (B) The abolition of the East India Company's trade monopoly opened new cotton-growing regions
- (C) Mechanised spinning inventions such as the Spinning Jenny and Water Frame greatly increased the speed of yarn production, raising demand for raw cotton
- (D) British colonies were compelled to export raw cotton instead of finished cloth under new trade laws

A The East India Company began directly supplying raw cotton to British mills at subsidised rates.

B A series of inventions improved each stage of production, increased output per worker, and enabled the manufacture of stronger threads, boosting the cotton industry's capacity.

C The decline of the wool industry freed up existing machinery and warehouses for cotton processing.

D The British government banned imports of Indian finished textiles, forcing mills to import only raw cotton instead.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q12. deep thorough-understanding § 1.1 The Coming Up of the Factory [5]

Even as imposing new cotton mills became a striking feature of the early nineteenth-century English landscape, historians point out that this visible transformation gave a misleading picture of industrialisation as a whole. Using evidence from this period, explain why focusing only on the rise of factories distorts our understanding of how the English economy actually functioned.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q13. medium thorough-understanding § 1.2 The Pace of Industrial Change [3]

Which industry led Britain's industrialisation up to the 1840s, and which industry took over the leading role after that? What development drove the rise of the second industry?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q14. medium thorough-understanding § 1.2 The Pace of Industrial Change [3]

By the end of the nineteenth century, less than 20 per cent of Britain's total workforce was employed in technologically advanced industrial sectors. What does this tell us about the overall nature of the British economy at that time?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q15. medium thorough-understanding § 1.2 The Pace of Industrial Change [3]

James Watt patented an improved steam engine in 1781, yet steam-powered machinery remained rare across England well into the early nineteenth century. Why were industrialists slow to adopt even the most productive new technologies of the Industrial Revolution?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q16. medium thorough-understanding § 1.2 The Pace of Industrial Change [1]

Even as factories and steam engines multiplied in nineteenth-century Britain, many traditional industries continued to expand without mechanisation. Give two reasons why non-mechanised sectors remained significant and competitive during this period.

A The government had banned the use of steam engines in these industries to protect traditional crafts.

B Small innovations within these sectors drove their growth independently of the mechanised cotton or metal industries.

C These industries relied entirely on colonial raw materials that were unavailable to factory owners.

D Workers in these sectors refused to use any new technology and maintained entirely stagnant methods.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q17. deep thorough-understanding § 1.2 The Pace of Industrial Change [5]

A historian argues: 'The factory was the defining feature of the British economy in the mid-nineteenth century.' Using evidence from the pace of industrial change in Britain, assess whether this claim is justified.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q18. medium thorough-understanding § 2 Hand Labour and Steam Power [3]

In Victorian Britain, why did the abundance of cheap human labour make factory owners reluctant to invest in steam-powered machinery, even when such technology was available?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q19. medium thorough-understanding § 2 Hand Labour and Steam Power [3]

Many Victorian British industrialists preferred hiring seasonal workers over maintaining a permanent workforce. Analyse the economic logic behind this preference and what it reveals about the nature of industrial capitalism at the time.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q20. straightforward thorough-understanding § 2 Hand Labour and Steam Power [1]

Which of the following best explains why upper-class consumers in Victorian Britain preferred handmade goods over machine-made ones?

- (A) Machine-made goods were of inferior quality and broke easily
- (B) Handmade goods signified refinement, exclusivity, and the labour of skilled craftsmen
- (C) Machines could not yet produce goods in large enough quantities
- (D) The government imposed restrictions on the sale of machine-made luxury goods

A Machine-made goods were too expensive for regular purchase.

B Handmade goods symbolised refinement and were better finished and individually crafted.

C Machines could not yet produce textiles or consumer goods of any kind.

D The government had banned the sale of machine-made goods within Britain.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q21. medium thorough-understanding § 2 Hand Labour and Steam Power [3]

When the Spinning Jenny was introduced into the woollen industry, women hand-spinners attacked the machines. Using your understanding of the economic conditions of workers at the time, explain why this reaction was rational rather than simply ignorant or destructive.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q22. deep thorough-understanding § 2 Hand Labour and Steam Power [5]

Industrialisation in mid-nineteenth-century Britain is often pictured as a world of factories and steam engines. Analyse why this picture is misleading, using evidence about the actual composition of the workforce and the role of traditional industries.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q23. deep thorough-understanding § 2 Hand Labour and Steam Power [3]

In colonies and settler economies facing labour shortages, industrialists rapidly adopted mechanical power, while British industrialists with access to abundant cheap labour were far slower to do so. Using this contrast, explain how labour availability shaped the pace and pattern of technological change during industrialisation.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q24. medium thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [3]

Why did the actual chance of getting a job in a city factory depend heavily on a worker's personal connections rather than simply their skill or availability?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q25. medium thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [3]

A worker's nominal wages rose slightly in the early nineteenth century, yet historians argue that workers were not necessarily better off. What factor, other than the wage rate itself, explains this apparent contradiction?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q26. medium thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [1]

Which of the following best explains why industrialists in Victorian Britain often preferred hand labour over steam-powered machines, even when machines were available?

- (A) Steam machines were frequently breaking down and were unreliable
- (B) Labour was abundant and cheap, making machines an unnecessary capital expense
- (C) The government imposed heavy taxes on the use of steam-powered machinery
- (D) Trade unions had legally banned the use of machinery in most industries

A Machines could not produce the volume of goods required for export markets.

B A large pool of cheap labour made the high capital cost of machines unnecessary and risky.

C The government had banned the use of steam engines in most industries.

D Hand-made goods fetched lower prices and were preferred by the poor.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q27. medium thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [3]

Women who spun yarn by hand were among the fiercest opponents of the Spinning Jenny when it was introduced in the woollen industry. Using your understanding of how workers' livelihoods were structured, explain why their reaction was so strong.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q28. medium thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [2]

Seasonal industries like gas works and breweries consistently chose hand labour over machinery for meeting peak demand. What specific characteristic of their production cycle made this choice more economical than investing in machines?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q29. deep thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [5]

The jobber system helped industrialists fill vacancies quickly, but it also created serious problems for workers. Analyse the jobber's role to show how the same system that gave workers access to employment also made them vulnerable.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q30. deep thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [3]

During the 1830s economic slump, unemployment in some regions of Britain rose to between 35 and 75 per cent. Beyond the immediate cause of the slump itself, what does this extreme figure reveal about the condition of the working class in early industrial Britain?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q31. deep thorough-understanding § 2.1 Life of the Workers [3]

After the 1840s, large-scale construction of railways, tunnels, and urban drainage created a surge in employment opportunities for workers. How does this development challenge the idea that industrialisation in Britain was driven solely by factory-based, steam-powered production?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q32. deep thorough-understanding § 3 Industrialisation in the Colonies [3]

Indian cotton weavers were hit by a severe shortage of raw cotton in the 1860s at the very same time they were already struggling against cheap Manchester imports. What was the cause of this raw cotton shortage, and how did it make the weavers' situation worse than if either problem had occurred alone?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q33. medium thorough-understanding § 3.1 The Age of Indian Textiles [3]

Before European companies gained dominance, Indian merchants controlled a vast network of textile exports linking interior weaving regions to coastal ports. Describe the layered roles different categories of intermediary merchants played in this network, and explain how goods moved from the loom to the ship.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q34. deep thorough-understanding § 3.1 The Age of Indian Textiles [3]

The decline of Surat and Hoogly as trading ports and the simultaneous rise of Bombay and Calcutta in the late eighteenth century reflected more than just a shift in geography. What does this shift reveal about the changing nature of control over Indian trade?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q35. medium thorough-understanding § 3.1 The Age of Indian Textiles [1]

Which of the following best explains why the pre-colonial port of Surat lost its commercial importance by the end of the eighteenth century?

- (A) A series of destructive floods ruined its harbour infrastructure
- (B) English and Dutch companies captured the oceanic trade, cutting off the credit and customs networks that sustained Surat's merchants
- (C) The Mughal Empire deliberately shifted its revenue collection to inland routes, bypassing Surat
- (D) Indian weavers preferred to sell directly to Calcutta-based traders who offered higher prices

A A severe earthquake destroyed Surat's harbour facilities, making the port unusable for large ships.

B European companies secured monopoly rights over trade and shifted commerce to new colonial ports they controlled, causing credit and export volumes through Surat to collapse.

C Indian merchants voluntarily moved their operations to Bombay because it offered lower customs duties.

D The demand for Indian textiles in West Asia and the Gulf declined sharply, removing the main purpose of the Surat trade route.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q36. medium thorough-understanding § 3.2 What Happened to Weavers? [3]

The East India Company introduced a system of advances to weavers in India. Explain how this system worked and the consequences it had for weavers who tried to sell their cloth to other buyers.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q37. medium thorough-understanding § 3.2 What Happened to Weavers? [3]

Earlier supply merchants and the Company-appointed gomasthas both supervised weavers and collected cloth. Why, then, did the arrival of gomasthas lead to conflict in weaving villages when the earlier merchants had not?

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q38. medium thorough-understanding § 3.2 What Happened to Weavers? [1]

The Company offered weavers loans (advances) to secure cloth supply. Which of the following best explains why these loans ultimately worsened the weavers' condition?

- (A) The loans were given in foreign currency, causing exchange losses
- (B) Weavers were bound to sell only to the Company at prices the Company fixed, preventing them from profiting from market competition
- (C) The loans carried very high interest rates that quickly exceeded the value of the cloth produced
- (D) Weavers had to use the loans to buy raw materials from Company-controlled stores at inflated prices

A The loans forced them to abandon their land and devote all their time to weaving, making them entirely dependent on the Company's low prices.

B The loans were given in raw cotton rather than cash, making it hard to buy food.

C The Company used the loans to force weavers to move from their home villages to factory towns.

D The interest rates on the loans were so high that weavers could never repay them from their wages.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q39. deep thorough-understanding § 3.2 What Happened to Weavers? [5]

In the 1750s India's textile trade was thriving, yet by the early nineteenth century textile exports had collapsed. Trace the chain of events — from the rise of European company power to the arrival of Manchester cloth — that caused this collapse, and explain why Indian weavers were hit from two directions at once.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q40. deep thorough-understanding § 3.2 What Happened to Weavers? [3]

When faced with the pressures of Company control, some weavers deserted their villages and migrated, some revolted, and others eventually abandoned weaving for agricultural labour. What does the variety of these responses tell us about the options that were — and were not — available to weavers at the time?

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q41. medium thorough-understanding § 3.3 Manchester Comes to India [3]

Between 1811–12 and 1850–51, India's share of piece-goods in its total exports fell from 33 per cent to just 3 per cent. Identify the two simultaneous market pressures on Indian cotton weavers that caused this collapse, and explain how each one worked.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q42. straightforward thorough-understanding § 3.3 Manchester Comes to India [1]

Despite India's long tradition of cotton weaving, the Indian market itself began to be flooded with Manchester cloth by the mid-nineteenth century. Explain the structural reasons — economic, technological, and political — that made this possible.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q43. medium thorough-understanding § 3.3 Manchester Comes to India [2]

How did the American Civil War, which took place thousands of miles from India, end up worsening the condition of Indian weavers?

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q44. deep thorough-understanding § 3.3 Manchester Comes to India [3]

An Indian merchant in the 1820s argues: 'India has always dominated global textile trade — our cloth is unrivalled and our weavers are skilled. No foreign power can displace us.' Using evidence from the collapse of India's textile exports between the 1810s and 1850s, critically examine this claim, identifying the forces the merchant failed to anticipate.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q45. deep thorough-understanding § 3.3 Manchester Comes to India [5]

The decline of India's textile export trade in the nineteenth century was as much a result of political decisions as of technological change. Analyse this statement with reference to the roles played by the British government, the East India Company, and the rise of machine industry in England.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q46. deep thorough-understanding § 4 Factories Come Up [3]

Indian industrialists in the late nineteenth century largely avoided producing cotton fabric and instead focused on spinning yarn. What two market realities made yarn a safer choice than cloth at that time, and how did the First World War eventually change this calculation?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q47. medium thorough-understanding § 4.1 The Early Entrepreneurs [3]

Why did many Indian merchants who became industrialists in the nineteenth century first build their wealth through the China trade rather than through domestic commerce?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q48. deep thorough-understanding § 4.1 The Early Entrepreneurs [3]

European Managing Agencies controlled a large sector of Indian industries, yet it was often Indian financiers who provided the capital. What does this arrangement reveal about the nature of colonial economic power in India?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q49. medium thorough-understanding § 4.1 The Early Entrepreneurs [1]

Which of the following best explains why Indian weavers and artisans lost their export markets in the second half of the nineteenth century?

- (A) They refused to adopt new weaving techniques introduced by the colonial government
- (B) Machine-made British cloth flooded Indian and global markets, undercutting handmade goods on price
- (C) The colonial government imposed high export duties specifically on Indian handloom products
- (D) Indian merchants chose to focus exclusively on the China trade rather than exporting textiles

A Indian merchants lacked the capital or skills needed to produce manufactured goods for export.

B Colonial control over trade barred Indian merchants from trading manufactured goods with Europe, pushing them toward raw material and food grain exports.

C Indian industrialists voluntarily chose to focus on raw materials because the profit margins were higher than in manufacturing.

D The East India Company actively encouraged Indian merchants to modernise and move into factory production.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q50. deep thorough-understanding § 4.1 The Early Entrepreneurs [5]

After colonial control tightened, Indian merchants were gradually pushed out of shipping and restricted in trade with Europe. Yet some of them went on to become major industrialists. Analyse how the contraction of their trading opportunities may have actually redirected entrepreneurial energy toward building industries inside India.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q51. medium thorough-understanding § 4.2 Where Did the Workers Come From? [3]

Over 50 per cent of workers in the Bombay cotton mills in 1911 came from the neighbouring district of Ratnagiri, yet many of them regularly returned to their villages during harvests and festivals. What does this pattern of movement tell us about the relationship these workers maintained with rural life, and how might it have affected the mills' ability to maintain a stable workforce?

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q52. medium thorough-understanding § 4.2 Where Did the Workers Come From? [3]

Despite the rapid growth of mills and rising demand for labour in colonial India, workers without social connections found it nearly impossible to secure factory employment. Explain the system that made personal ties more important than skill or availability in getting hired.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q53. deep thorough-understanding § 4.2 Where Did the Workers Come From? [3]

The jobber in Indian factories started as a trusted worker who helped new recruits settle in, but eventually became someone who demanded money and controlled workers' lives. What structural feature of the recruitment system allowed this shift in the jobber's role to happen?

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q54. medium thorough-understanding § 5 The Peculiarities of Industrial Growth [3]

European Managing Agencies in colonial India tended to invest in tea, coffee, mining, indigo and jute rather than in industries that served the Indian domestic market. What does this pattern of investment reveal about their priorities, and how did it shape the nature of industrial growth in India?

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q55. medium thorough-understanding § 5 The Peculiarities of Industrial Growth [5]

The First World War is often described as a turning point for Indian industry. Explain the chain of events through which the war led to a boom in Indian industrial production, and why Manchester could not recapture its earlier dominance in India after the war ended.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q56. medium thorough-understanding § 5 The Peculiarities of Industrial Growth [1]

[mcq] Despite cheap machine-made cloth flooding Indian markets in the nineteenth century, handloom cloth production continued to grow well into the twentieth century. Which of the following best explains how handloom weavers managed to survive competition from mill-made cloth?

- (A) The government imposed heavy tariffs on mill-made cloth, making it unaffordable for most buyers.
- (B) Weavers adopted new technologies, carved out niche markets with finer weaves, and catered to demands mills could not meet.
- (C) Mill owners voluntarily withdrew from segments of the market traditionally served by handloom weavers.
- (D) Colonial administrators passed legislation reserving certain cloth types exclusively for handloom production.

A The colonial government banned the import of mill-made cloth to protect Indian weavers.

B Weavers adopted technological improvements like the fly shuttle and focused on specialised products that mills could not easily replicate.

C Handloom weavers lowered their prices below those of mill-made goods to retain customers.

D Indian mills shifted entirely to yarn production, leaving the cloth market open for handloom weavers.

◆ **The Age of Industrialisation**

Q57. deep thorough-understanding § 5 The Peculiarities of Industrial Growth [3]

A student argues: 'By 1931, since factory industries were growing steadily in India, the majority of industrial workers must have been employed in registered factories.' Using evidence about the structure of Indian industry at the time, explain why this argument is incorrect and what it overlooks.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q58. medium thorough-understanding § 5.1 Small-scale Industries Predominate [3]

In the early twentieth century, even as factory industries grew in India, the majority of industrial workers were NOT employed in registered factories. What does this tell us about the nature of Indian industrialisation compared to the popular image of industrialisation as being driven by large-scale mechanised production?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q59. medium thorough-understanding § 5.1 Small-scale Industries Predominate [3]

Cheap machine-made thread destroyed India's spinning industry in the nineteenth century, yet handloom cloth production nearly tripled between 1900 and 1940. What made it possible for weavers to survive competition from mills when spinners could not?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q60. deep thorough-understanding § 5.1 Small-scale Industries Predominate [3]

A student argues: 'Because mill-made cloth was cheaper, it would always eventually replace all handloom products, regardless of which type of cloth it was.' To what extent does evidence from Indian textile production between 1900 and 1940 support or challenge this view? Explain with specific examples.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q61. deep thorough-understanding § 5.1 Small-scale Industries Predominate [5]

Analyse how the adoption of the fly shuttle by handloom weavers illustrates a broader principle about how craft industries responded to industrialisation in twentieth-century India. In your answer, also explain the limits of this adaptation — why expanded production did not necessarily mean prosperity for the weavers.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q62. medium thorough-understanding § 6 Market for Goods [3]

Manchester industrialists printed labels bearing images of Indian gods and goddesses on cloth bundles sold in India. Why would such images be more effective at winning Indian consumers than simply printing 'MADE IN MANCHESTER' in bold text?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q63. medium thorough-understanding § 6 Market for Goods [3]

When Indian manufacturers advertised their products in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, they used a distinctly different appeal compared to Manchester manufacturers advertising in India. What was that difference, and why was it effective in the Indian context at that time?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q64. straightforward thorough-understanding § 6 Market for Goods [1]

[very_short_answer] What specific characteristic of calendars made them a uniquely effective advertising medium for manufacturers selling products in late-nineteenth-century India?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q65. deep thorough-understanding § 6 Market for Goods [5]

Manufacturers in Britain placed images of Indian royalty and nawabs on their advertisement calendars and cloth labels sold in India. Analyse the underlying logic of this strategy. What assumption did these manufacturers make about Indian consumers, and how does this reflect the broader relationship between colonial manufacturers and the Indian market?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q66. deep thorough-understanding § Conclusion [3]

Despite the continued existence of hand technology, cottage industries, and small workshops throughout the industrial age, industrialisation became synonymous in popular and historical imagination with large factories and machines. Why did this selective perception take hold, and what does it reveal about how economic and technological change is understood and recorded? Support your answer with specific examples from the chapter.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q67. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

Both proto-industrial merchants in Europe and the East India Company in India used a system of giving advances to rural producers. What was the key difference in the power relationship these two systems created with the producers they employed?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q68. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [5]

Trace how the fate of Indian cotton weavers changed across the nineteenth century by identifying THREE distinct pressures they faced, each arising from a different cause.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q69. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

Despite the rapid growth of factories in both Britain and colonial India during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the majority of workers in both countries continued to labour outside factories. Explain why non-factory production persisted in each country, and identify what both situations had in common despite having different underlying causes.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q70. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [1]

Which of the following best explains why Indian handloom weavers managed to survive competition from mill-made cloth in the early twentieth century, while Indian spinners had been largely wiped out in the nineteenth century?

- (A) Weavers shifted to producing coarse cloth for rural markets, while spinners could not adapt to machine-spun yarn prices
- (B) The colonial government imposed tariffs protecting weavers but not spinners
- (C) Indian mills produced yarn but not cloth, so weavers had no domestic competition unlike spinners
- (D) Weavers adopted the fly shuttle, doubling output and reducing costs enough to match mill prices, while spinners had no comparable innovation

A Weavers received government subsidies whereas spinners did not.

B Weavers adopted labour-saving devices and produced specialised cloth that machines could not replicate, whereas spinning was a uniform process easily mechanised.

C The swadeshi movement specifically protected weaving but ignored spinning.

D Weavers exported their goods to China while spinners depended only on the local market.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q71. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [5]

The shift of India's thriving export trade from the ports of Surat and Hoogly to Bombay and Calcutta is often described as more than just a change of geography. Justify this claim by explaining what the shift represented in terms of who controlled trade and how it affected Indian merchants and weavers.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q72. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

In nineteenth-century Britain, workers violently resisted the Spinning Jenny, yet by the twentieth century Indian handloom weavers willingly adopted the fly shuttle. What does this contrast reveal about the circumstances under which workers accept or resist new technology?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q73. deep thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [3]

Manchester cloth manufacturers printed images of Indian gods, goddesses, and historical rulers on their product labels when selling in India, while Indian mill-owners used swadeshi nationalist imagery in their advertisements. What do these contrasting strategies reveal about the different challenges each group of manufacturers faced in winning over Indian buyers?

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

Q74. medium thorough-understanding § (whole-chapter synthesis) [1]

Consider the following two statements:

Assertion (A): The First World War proved to be a turning point for industrial growth in India, after which Manchester could never fully recapture its earlier dominance in the Indian market.

Reason (R): During the war, British mills were diverted to war production, allowing Indian mills to supply the home market; after the war, Britain's own industrial economy weakened and could not compete with newer industrial powers.

Choose the correct option:

- A Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B Both A and R are true, but R is NOT the correct explanation of A.
- C A is true but R is false.
- D A is false but R is true.

◆ The Age of Industrialisation

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