

Industrial Revolution

During the 18th century there was a quickening in economic activity in the western world.

Historians call this the time of the **Industrial Revolution**. The process continued during the 19th century, with an even greater quickening of invention and scientific discovery.

Developments in the 19th-century included:

1. A great **explosion of industry** (and industrial diseases such as dermatitis, lung disease and 'phossy jaw').
2. **Urbanisation** (and public health problems that included 'filth diseases' such as cholera and typhus).
3. The **growth of empires** (and contact with new diseases such as yellow fever).
4. The **growth of immense wealth**, based on trade and industry.
5. Great **advances in technology**.
6. **Improved communications**.
7. The **growth of science and research**.
8. **Democracy and socialism**.
9. New ideas about **evolution** (Darwin) and **genetics** (Mendel) - broke the control of the Church over medicine and medical ethics.
10. **Wars** were waged on a greater scale.

Source:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/shp/modern/indrevcivilisationrev1.shtml>

