

Industrial Revolution Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Industrial Revolution trivia explores the inventions, factories, and social changes that reshaped Britain, Europe, and the United States from the late 18th to the 19th century. From steam power and textile mills to railroads and urban growth, this topic highlights how new technologies accelerated production while also changing labor, class relations, and daily life. Expect a mix of approachable and challenging questions with a family-friendly tone and room for a little humor.

HARD INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TRIVIA

1. Before Watt's design became widely dominant, which engineer notably improved the Newcomen engine in the 1770s?

Answer: John Smeaton

2. What specific steam-engine innovation did James Watt patent in 1769?

Answer: The separate condenser

3. Which industrialist teamed up with James Watt to manufacture steam engines?

Answer: Matthew Boulton

4. Opened in Derbyshire in 1771, what was the name of Richard Arkwright's landmark mill?

Answer: Cromford Mill

5. Which textile machine fused elements of both the spinning jenny and the water frame?

Answer: The spinning mule

6. Britain repealed what controversial grain-trade measure in 1846?

Answer: The Corn Laws

7. Name the British law passed in 1834 that overhauled poor relief.?

Answer: The Poor Law Amendment Act

8. Which 1847 act limited the workday for many women and young people?

Answer: The Ten Hours Act

9. Whose steam-powered printing press was first used by The Times in 1814?

Answer: Friedrich Koenig

10. Who introduced the punched-card loom in 1804?

Answer: Joseph Marie Jacquard

11. Which pair patented the first commercial electric telegraph in 1837?

Answer: Cooke and Wheatstone

12. Who introduced the sleeping railroad car in 1857?

Answer: George Pullman

13. Which company began selling practical sewing machines in the 1850s?

Answer: Singer

14. Which industrial magnate built one of Europe's largest steel and armaments firms in Essen?

Answer: Alfred Krupp

FUNNY INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TRIVIA

1. Despite the dramatic name, what was the spinning jenny actually called?

Answer: spinning jenny

2. Which Industrial Revolution machine was powered by water rather than anything to do with a picture frame?

Answer: water frame

3. True or false: Early steam engines worked because people stood nearby waving fans very enthusiastically.?

Answer: False

4. The Luddites are often misunderstood. What did they actually oppose?

Answer: certain machines

5. If someone in the Industrial Revolution asked for a cotton gin, what should you hand them?

Answer: a machine that cleaned cotton fibers

6. The Iron Bridge was famously made of what material, despite sounding like a laundry accident?

Answer: cast iron

7. In the Bessemer process, what was blasted through molten iron to make steel faster?

Answer: air

8. Factory whistles mostly existed to do what, other than ruin a perfectly good quiet morning?

Answer: tell workers the time

9. The Crystal Palace sounds sparkly, but it was mostly built from iron and what other material?

Answer: glass

10. Which weaving invention sped up cloth production without ever needing pilot wings?

Answer: flying shuttle

11. In ironmaking, 'puddling' meant doing what with molten metal?

Answer: stirring it

12. Rocket was impressive, but it was what kind of machine during the Industrial Revolution?

Answer: a train engine

13. What does the term 'assembly line' actually refer to?

Answer: a production method

FUN INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TRIVIA

1. Who kicked off a big iron-making change at Coalbrookdale in 1709 by using coke to smelt iron?

Answer: Abraham Darby I

2. Which famous Shropshire structure opened in 1781 and basically turned iron into a show-off?

Answer: The Iron Bridge

3. What canal, opened in 1761, carried coal to Manchester and helped make transport a lot more practical?

Answer: The Bridgewater Canal

4. George Stephenson's locomotive Locomotion No. 1 worked on which line?

Answer: The Stockton and Darlington line

5. The word 'Luddite' comes from workers who did what to machinery in the 1810s?

Answer: They destroyed machinery

6. True or false: The first public intercity railway to use only steam locomotives was the Liverpool and Manchester Railway.?

Answer: True

7. Which steelmaking method sped things up by blowing air through molten pig iron?

Answer: The Bessemer process

8. What process made wrought iron in a reverberatory furnace?

Answer: The puddling process

9. Who published 'The Condition of the Working Class in England' in 1845?

Answer: Friedrich Engels

10. Which work had its first volume published by Karl Marx in 1867?

Answer: Das Kapital

11. Which thinker published 'The Wealth of Nations' in 1776?

Answer: Adam Smith

12. What city transport system opened in 1863, letting people ride beneath the streets?

Answer: The London Underground

13. Which canal opened in 1869 and sped trade between Europe and Asia?

Answer: The Suez Canal

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Who built an early practical steam engine in 1712?

Answer: Thomas Newcomen built an early practical steam engine in 1712.

2. Which inventor patented the flying shuttle in 1733?

Answer: John Kay patented the flying shuttle in 1733.

3. What was the name of the machine invented by James Hargreaves around 1764?

Answer: The spinning jenny.

4. Who patented the power loom in 1785?

Answer: Edmund Cartwright patented the power loom in 1785.

5. Which railway opened in 1825, marking an early milestone in rail travel?

Answer: The Stockton and Darlington Railway.

6. At the Rainhill Trials in 1829, which locomotive came out on top?

Answer: Stephenson's locomotive Rocket won the Rainhill Trials in 1829.

7. True or false: The Factory Act of 1833 limited child labor in textile mills.?

Answer: True

8. Which law in 1842 banned women and girls from working underground in British mines?

Answer: The Mines Act of 1842.

9. In which country was New Lanark located?

Answer: Scotland.

10. Which engineer designed the Great Western Railway?

Answer: Isambard Kingdom Brunel designed the Great Western Railway.

11. Who discovered electromagnetic induction in 1831?

Answer: Michael Faraday discovered electromagnetic induction in 1831.

12. Which inventor patented the telephone in 1876?

Answer: Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone in 1876.

EASY INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TRIVIA

1. In which country did the Industrial Revolution begin in the late 18th century?

Answer: Great Britain

2. Which inventor is famous for improving the steam engine?

Answer: James Watt

3. Who is commonly linked to the water frame?

Answer: Richard Arkwright

4. Who invented the spinning mule in 1779?

Answer: Samuel Crompton

5. Which inventor is best known for the cotton gin?

Answer: Eli Whitney

6. Who is often called the Father of Railways?

Answer: George Stephenson

7. What machine mechanized the weaving of cloth?

Answer: power loom

8. What name is given to the setup that brought workers and machines together in one place?

Answer: factory system

9. What term means replacing hand labor with machines?

Answer: mechanization

10. What word describes the growth of cities during industrial change?

Answer: urbanization

11. Who developed a major steelmaking process in the 1850s?

Answer: Henry Bessemer

12. Which place is closely associated with early iron production using coke?

Answer: Coalbrookdale

13. Which city became a major textile center during the Industrial Revolution?

Answer: Manchester

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/industrial-revolution>