

Unit 8



Industrial Revolution

Some notes on Britain in the “long” 18th century

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8.1

- 1 Two 18th-century icons
- 2 Background to Union
- 3 William Hogarth
- 4 Timeline

Timeline of Kingdoms

- 1603 ‘Personal Union’ of **England** and **Scotland** (two kingdoms, two parliaments, but one monarch)
- 1707 ‘**Kingdom of Great Britain**’ (= England (incl. Wales) + Scotland united)
- 1801 ‘**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland**’
- 1922[+5] ‘**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**’

8.2

Timeline of Monarchs

- 1689 **William (III) and Mary (II)** (ORANGE)
- 1694 William III
- 1702 **Anne** (sister of Mary II, daughter of James II)
 - Queen Anne furniture (LINK)
- 1714 **George I** (HANOVER) (“*Georgian*”)
 - Georgian architecture (LINK)
- 1727 **George II** (son of George I)
- 1760 **George III** (grandson of George II)
- 1810 Regency (George, Prince of Wales, ruled as Prince Regent for his father George III)
 - Regency furniture (LINK)
 - Regency architecture (LINK)
- 1820 **George IV** (son of George III)
- 1830 **William IV** (younger brother of George IV)
- 1837–1901 **Victoria** (daughter of younger brother of William IV)

8.3

Timeline of the “long” 18th century

- 1688 Glorious Revolution
- 1689 Bill of Rights
- 1690 Battle of Beachy Head; Battle of the Boyne
- 1700 Failure of Scotland’s Darien Scheme
- 1707 **Acts of Union**
- 1714 George I (of Hanover) crowned King of Great Britain
- 1715 First Jacobite Rising (Old Pretender)
- 1745 Second Jacobite Rising (Young Pretender)
- 1756–1763 **Seven Years’ War**
- 1763 Watt’s Steam Engine
- 1775–1783 American **War of Independence**
- 1788 **Colonization of Australia**
- 1792 Thomas Paine flees to France after being indicted for treason
- 1803–1815 **Napoleonic Wars**

8.4

5 Politics, economics and society in early 18th century Britain

Some Resources — Film and TV

- Stanley Kubrick (1975) *Barry Lyndon*
- Nicolas Hytner (1994) *The Madness of King George*
- Saul Dibb (2008) *The Duchess*
- Jacob Bronowski (1973) *The Ascent of Man* [8] ‘The Drive for Power’

8.5

6 The Agricultural Revolution

The Agricultural Revolution (ca. 1750—)

- Patterns of land use had been changing since the 1300s in England.
 - Movement towards single-commodity, export-orientated production:
 - Flax, wool for export to Flanders.
- Scottish landlords had been bankrupted ca. 1700.
 - Switch to wool production
 - Tenant farmers evicted
- From 1750: application of science to agriculture and livestock raising
 - Population increased to levels of Roman period or 1300 or 1650.
- For more information, see:
 - http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/empire_seapower/agricultural_revolution_01.shtml
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Agricultural_Revolution

8.6

7 The Seven Years’ War

The Seven Years’ War (1756–1763) [U.S.: “French and Indian War”]

- Great Britain, Prussia, Hanover, Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel, Iroquois Confederacy, Portugal, Hesse-Kassel, Schaumburg-Lippe
 - vs
- France, Austria, Russia, Spanish Empire, Sweden, Saxony, Mughal Empire
- Result (for Great Britain)
 - France lost territories in North America (to Great Britain)
 - France lost territories in India (to Great Britain)

8.7

8 The Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution

- See the article by Professor Rempel—link in email, or here:
<http://www1.udel.edu/fllt/faculty/aml/201files/IndRev.html>
- Follow up the reference to episode 8 of Jacob Bronowski's 'The Ascent of Man' (see email).
- In a semester with fewer holidays, we could draw the structure of the industrial revolution step by step on the blackboard.
- Much of the wealth accumulated in the first years of the Industrial Revolution was produced by exploiting young children, and Black African slaves.
- One of the leading figures of the Industrial Revolution, Josiah Wedgwood, the maternal grandfather (and grandfather-in-law) of Charles Darwin, was a leading figure in the anti-slavery movement.

8.8

Am I not a man and a brother?



Figure 1: “Am I not a man and a brother?” – a porcelain brooch mass-produced by the Wedgwood family and worn by supporters of the anti-slavery movement. A judgement by Lord Mansfield in 1772 established that any slave who set foot on the soil of Great Britain automatically became free. The *Slavery Abolition Act 1833* abolished slavery throughout the British Empire.

8.9

9 The colonization of Australia

Colonization of Australia

- 1768 James Cook sails for Tahiti in HMS Endeavour to observe transit of Venus
- 1769 Cook circumnavigates both islands of New Zealand
- 19[+1] April 1770 Cook discovers the east coast of Australia
- 29 April 1770 Cook lands at Botany Bay
- 1776 American colonies declare independence
- Britain needs a new destination to transport its convicts to
- 18 January 1788 Captain Arthur Philip and the First Fleet land at Botany Bay to establish a penal colony

- on 26 January 1788 they moved north to Sydney Cove on Port Jackson
- on 2 November 1788 they moved west to Parramatta (better soil)

10 Some late-18th-century British revolutionaries

Thomas Spence – “Spence’s Plan and a Full Belly!”



Figure 2: Thomas Spence (1750–1814), the leading English revolutionary of his day; advocated common ownership of land, freedom of the press, and children’s rights

Thomas Paine – maker of revolution in America and France



Figure 3: Thomas Paine (1737–1809), English writer and revolutionary; central instigator of the American Revolution; member of the French *Convention nationale*; “Without the pen of the author of *Common Sense*, the sword of Washington would have been raised in vain.” – John Adams, 2nd president of the United States