**Industrial Revolution (1760-1850):**

It is a milestone in human history which largely reformed the means of production and manufacturing in the significant sectors of agriculture, textiles and metals, and transportation. To do so, it introduced power-driven machinery that replaced manual labor, resulting in massive changes that gradually revolutionized many aspects of society. On the other hand, it also created new sources of power supply, namely coal, new economic policies, and social structures. So by the time the revolution began to settle down at the end of the 19th century, Europe was the most advanced in the world in aspects of technology, industry, commerce, finance, and medical and public healthcare.

The social institutions of society were restructured, where the masses that originally lived in rural areas with public farms, which were maintained by generations of small-time family businesses in cottages, had to be uprooted to the urban cities overly populated by factories and their workers. This was because new laws implemented fenced lands, resulting in many small farms going bankrupt and farmers unemployed. Many small-time business died out due to their lack of competitiveness with the more advanced factories that yielded greater produce. Eventually the masses had migrated from the rural to the urban part of their country, resulting in over populated cities. However, at the same time, their financial income level decreased, which made these cities dirty, unhygienic, poorly kept, and unlivable. This poor quality of life degraded not only the status of the people, but also their attitudes towards their life. They no longer held incentive to accomplish high goals, and kept a daily routine of work-home-work again. Meanwhile, regarding a more detailed view of the families themselves, the majority of men remained unemployed while their children and wives went off to work, which was caused by the general unemployment of the whole family and the cheaper labor of women and children. Consequently, the relationship between father and son drastically changed, where the son would take the alpha role of the family by providing the most income. Unfortunately, due to the living and financial conditions, and the lack of use for many busy hands at a family business, the amount of children families bore decreased. The children that were born, however, entered employment at an alarming young age because of their many uses such as their small size, high malleability, and cheap pay. Child labor became increasing popular among all factories, but that did not improve their working conditions which remained dangerous.

Nevertheless, factories did also positively changed the lives of the laborers. It gave them new opportunities, a wider range of specialties, allowed more interaction between works which also improved their worldly knowledge, created chances for those with high ambition, and most importantly it created a sense of common destiny which united all workers internationally. The sense of a global union consequently made them more aware politically and aim for unions and parties. Labor parties were by the middle classes, the bourgeoisie, for the workers, the proletariats, and demanded social and political recognition in order to participate and self-represent better in political assemblies. This led to new ideologies being developed, such as liberalism, socialism, communism, nationalism , and fascism.

The revolution was ignited in Britain and travelled to the rest of Europe and North America, which greatly increased their power. It began in England largely due to the fact that it was becoming more advanced than any other country: they had discovered the power use of coal and steam, had a great number of colonies in Africa and India which also meant more labor and capital, a rich commercial class that mostly dealt with private businesses and was respected by the government about their ownership, had a stable democratic government,, and most importantly, they had a free intellectual climate that enabled them to pursue scientific inventions. Whereas in other parts of the world, the political rule was entwined with the religious views of the church, which held major power almost everywhere and created scientific obstacles. Regarding England’s non-religious government, they had adopted Adam Smith’s theory of *laissez-faire*, which basically guaranteed the private sector to control every single aspect of their production and sales. The government’s rule was purely just to accomplish some safety regulations and order among the economy which was operated by the private sector. The then new economy under Smith’s principle was a free economy with free trade, omitting tariffs and barriers, and belittling governmental interference.

**Liberalism:** *(Ism: affix denoting a political/social system of authoritative beliefs)*

The liberals believe in equality, freedom, democracy and constitutions, and right of people to change unjust governments. They believe in peaceful methods in resolving internal/external conflicts, respect of private property, freedom of trade, and separation of church from state. The middle class, namely businessmen, open-minded landlords, and the educated elite, constituted the Liberals because it allowed them to participate in government, preserve their interests, and curb the church’s power, which would ultimately lead to social and political equality. Ultimately their goal was to progress and reform the government and economy, with the intention of fully controlling it. Their justification of this was that they were the most active and productive in society, and consequently held the largest stake; logically, they should have the power to ensure the safety of their goals and interests. Although they believed in democracy, they considered the lower class to be too uneducated and immature to hold any power, and in the case that they do, it would be dangerous and counter-productive. Hence, their ideal government was a constitutional monarchy where suffrage and parliament membership was limited. However the lower class did not favor the liberals and were beginning to lean towards the socialists and this would create even greater tension between the two classes. In order to pacify this, the liberals had to modify their position on politics and the economy or they would lose the people to socialists; their laissez-faire policy was harmful as it could lead to monopoly, and free trade had to be checked especially considering foodstuffs and other necessities. While remaining true to their capitalist belief, they requested and accepted the government to restrict and control the economy by imposing protective tariffs, subsides, and quotas. The government also protected them against cheap labor, raw material, quality products, and industrial espionage. This large economic competitive change changed the Liberal’s attitude on peace, where colonialism begins to become an option (protection of economic prosperity), as well as war. Ultimately, their political system changed to accept universal male suffrage, better participate by the people, and a fairer representation in government.

**Socialism:**

Along with the prosperity of the Liberalism came a good deal of atmospheric tension. Everything old was being opposed by everything the industrial revolution brought along, including free trade, liberalism, the bourgeoisie vs. the workers, industry vs land, and tradition vs progress. This frustration invited the intellectuals to start a series of political revolts in 1848 knows as the *Spring of Nations/ Springtime of the Peoples*, which was the first Europe-wide collapse of traditional authority. However, they did not succeed as they were not supported by the majority of the people, who were not ready for all that drastic change the industrial revolution created, and the traditional governments survived. Instead, the intellectuals aimed for a new type of ideology that would aim at realistic objectives, especially given that justice and equality for all seemed impossible. And that was socialism.

Socialism is an ideology that (1) politically was against monopoly of power by the upper bourgeoisie and that called for more participation of all classes, (2) socially against economic inequality and not just legal equality. Their ideals were communal ownership where fair wealth is distributed fairly, role of state to ensure economic equality, and ultimately become a perfect state.

* In Britain, Robert Owen improved condition of workers but did not accept them in politics.
* In France, 1st socialist Rousseau called for economic and political equality, but those in power were unwilling to share. France became the only state with a successful revolution in 1848.

Socialist ideas were based on Darwin and Marx ideologies. Darwin’s theory of evolution about survival of the fittest required all people to be given a chance to share in the competitive struggle, in order to ensure progress.

Modern socialism in France, specifically, aimed at solving problems created by capitalism, a planned society & distribution of wealth, dividing society into smaller communities, and a mutual cooperation that will give great results to all; in England, specifically, it focused mostly on factory workers and to create laws that ease the harsh working conditions and child labor. The common factor among all socialists, however, was the belief that competition for private gain is bad for society and that it should be reformed on the principles of cooperation and harmony.

**Marxism:**

Fathered by Karl Marx, a German philosopher and social scientist, Marxism is a political theory that aimed to arrive at a classless society through several theoretical means. Marx analyzed the problems of capitalism, proposed logical theories in return, and suggested practical measures to achieve their goals. His political theory was known as *Materialistic Philosophy of History*, developed by both him and Friedrich Engles. He criticized capitalism, the exploitation of labor, and the inequality in the distribution of wealth and power. Marx’s principles originate from the idea that man’s priorities at all times is production and exchange, and that pursuit of these aim give rise to social relations, political and legal systems, and religious orders. Together with Engles, he created the *Communist Manifesto* which was primarily aimed at the revolution of the proletariat (working class) to bring down capitalism and ultimately arrive at a classless society.

Marx had 4 main theories, which follow the interactive process of change known as dialectic, which is the creation of challenges in order to move forward. This process has three stages; (a) *thesis*, or the original action; (b) *antithesis*, or the reaction that negates the thesis’ (c) *synthesis*; or the combination of the two that resolves the tension. However, this is constantly repeated where the synthesis becomes the new thesis, until the cycle reaches to the point of a classless society. His theories are:

1. Economic interpretation of history: he believes that history is governed by the laws of production and exchange, which would regulate the social and political structures. This would be the basis of human relations, as wealth and social classes depend on what and how is produced and exchanged. If these modes were to change, then so would the social and political structures accordingly. It was always a progress vs conservatism.
2. Class struggle: the history of society is the history of class struggles. For example, slave vs master, then serf vs lord, then bourgeoisie vs proletariat. The needs and attitudes of societies will change and these differences will eventually always create conflicts because clashes and change in *inevitable*. This struggle is on an international level because laborers have more common interests with each other rather than to their own country
3. Labor Value Theory: Marx believes that the value of a commodity is the amount of labor necessary to produce it, and not the material value. He believes that labor has monetary value and that it should be treated like any other commodity, based on supply and demand. In the case of the capitalists that are driven by the profit motive, labor is exploited by only being paid the market value of his work and is not compensated with the profit of his produce. According to his logic, the capitalist in this case is stealing this output without compensation and they should all be considered thieves. His solution to all that is to get rid of all of them. –Marx doesn’t call for an increase of wages, he claims workers in all levels of society are exploited, even religiously, where they purposely set the moral standards of society to that where real reward is offered in the afterlife.
4. Alienation: in the capitalist system, workers lose the relationship with their produce because of lack of individuality, pride, and separated lines of work. To fix this, Marx suggests that workers should share in all stages of production.

Marx’s view on how the revolution of the proletariat will take place is through in increase in industrialization to result in more production, more workers, and a surplice of produce. This would result in prices dropping, small producers in the bourgeoisie going bankrupt and becoming proletariats themselves. Eventually the proletariats will over flood the bourgeoisie and create a lot of pressure on misery on the rest of them. IT will reach a point where anarchy breaks out and the capitalist system breaks down under the pressure of the proletariats; to him, this process in inevitable and dialectic. The dedicated socialists will lead, organize, and educate the proletariats in an all-out bloody revolution where the proletariats take over the functions of the bourgeoisie. They will most definitely be victorious, and will take over public institutions where production will be socialized. This will result in social classes disappearing and an end to the capitalist state. Finally, man will be his own master and free.

Meanwhile, Marx must ensure that all types of reforms are rejected, such as monarchy and republic, as either is a descendent of capitalism. If they were to reform, it would greatly reduce the workers’ enthusiasm for change/revolution, and so Marx believed that his theories must cross all borders internationally. Ultimately, the intellectuals all appreciated his theories but the proletariats could not understand his philosophy. His legacy made the workers all aware of their value and their place in the industrialist system, because without them there would be no production. On the other hand, Marx also pushed for the emancipation of women, because men will never be fee so long as women are not. Generally, we can observe three basic effects from Marx; (1) Marxism merged with radical movements that challenged European life; (2) the revolutionary socialism shifted to Eastern Agricultural Europe; (3) Marxism was a protest by the underprivileged and those who responded to their call.

Nonetheless, Marxism as a pure principle did not survive for it was not very practical, and instead different forms of it emerged. The workers themselves did not care for such complex economic theories and wanted secure jobs, better wages, and better working conditions at an immediate effect. Instead, they began to form labor unions. This made the government and industrialists suspicious of them because they accused them of creating problems in the economic system. So, the first national union in Britain called ASE, made moderate and reasonable demands, kept the union out of politics, negotiated or held non-violent strikes, and were financially independent. In 1871 labor unions were legalized in Britain and in 1884 were given the right to vote. Meanwhile socialism wsa beginning to gain support, and if the union did not become more aggressive and gain political power they would perish entirely. 1893 they campaigned for an Independent Labor Party, but failed due to lack of commitment; but due to the Taff Vale Railway case in 1901, the party had a turning point and won 29 seats in the parliament in 1906. The first thing they did was making the right to strike a law. b