

Ch. 25 sec. 1: Why did the Industrial Revolution Began in England?

Name: _____

England had many advantages leading to the start of the Industrial Revolution. One advantage was England's growing population, which meant a large population of workers. The small island country also had extensive natural resources. **Industrialization**, which is the process of developing machine production of goods, required such resources. These natural resources included:

- water power and coal to fuel the new machines
- iron ore to construct machines, tools, and buildings
- rivers for inland transportation
- harbors from which merchant ships set sail

In addition to its natural resources, Britain had an expanding economy to support industrialization. Businesspeople invested in the manufacture of new inventions. Britain's highly developed banking system also contributed to the country's industrialization. People were encouraged by the availability of bank loans to invest in new machinery and expand their operations. Growing overseas trade, economic prosperity, and a climate of progress led to the increased demand for goods.

Britain's political stability gave the country a tremendous advantage over its neighbors. Though Britain took part in many wars during the 1700s, none occurred on British soil. Their military successes gave the British a positive attitude. Parliament also passed laws to help encourage and protect business ventures. Other countries had some of these advantages. But Britain had all the **factors of production**, the resources needed to produce goods and services that the Industrial Revolution required. They included land, labor, and capital (or wealth).

Using the information above, write the answers for each question in the spaces provided.

1. Define: **Industrialization**

2. List the main advantages England had leading to the start of the Industrial Revolution.

_____ **System**

_____ **Stability**

3. Define: **Factors of Production**

