



General Certificate of Secondary Education
Specimen for June 2015 examinations

History (Specification A)

91402B

Unit 2 Option B: Britain, 1815–1851

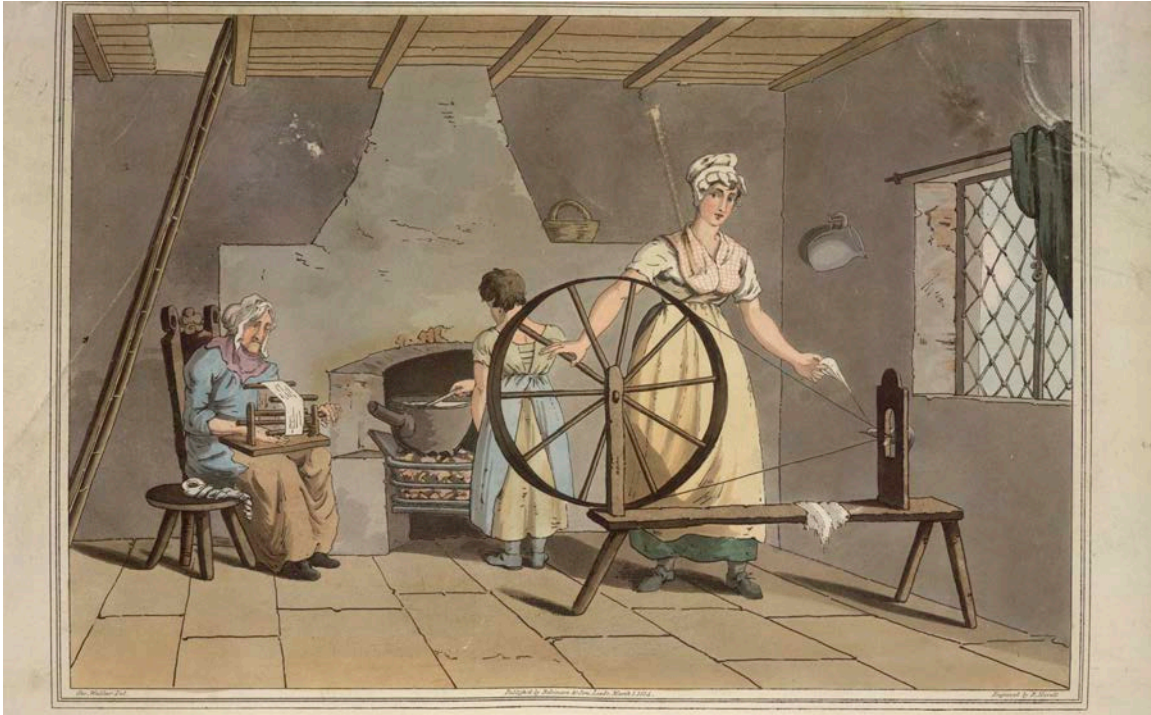
Sources Booklet

Sources A to E for use in answering Question 1
Source F for use in answering Question 2
Source G for use in answering Question 3

A view of the cotton industry

Source A The early cotton industry

This painting of women spinning was done in 1814.



Source B In 1724 Daniel Defoe wrote a book about his travels through Britain, *A Tour through the Whole Island of Great Britain*. In the book he described cotton workers he saw.

Amongst the merchants' houses are scattered a great number of cottages or small dwellings, in which live their workmen live. The workers' whole family are always busy carding, spinning, etc. Therefore, no one is unemployed so all can gain their bread, even from the youngest to the oldest. Anyone above four years old works.

A different view of the cotton industry

Source C The cotton factory

A picture of scavengers and piecers at work that appeared in Frances Trollope's novel, *Michael Armstrong Factory Boy*. Before writing the story Trollope went on a fact-finding trip to Manchester and Bradford. She went with an artist to draw pictures for the novel. She met factory reformers like Richard Oastler. In 1840, when the story was published in parts for a shilling each, she was criticised because working class people could afford to buy them. This could lead to 'the burning of factories'. Another critic said that books like this should be left to men to write because women are more at home in the flower garden and the kitchen.



Source D In June 1832 Parliament carried out an investigation into the working hours of children in the factories. These answers came from one of the children, who worked in the factory.

Question: What were your hours of labour?

Answer: As a child I worked from five in the morning till nine at night.

Question: What work did you do?

Answer: A weigher in the card-room.

Question: What is the carding-room like?

Answer: Dusty. You cannot see each other for dust.

Question: Did working in the card-room affect your health?

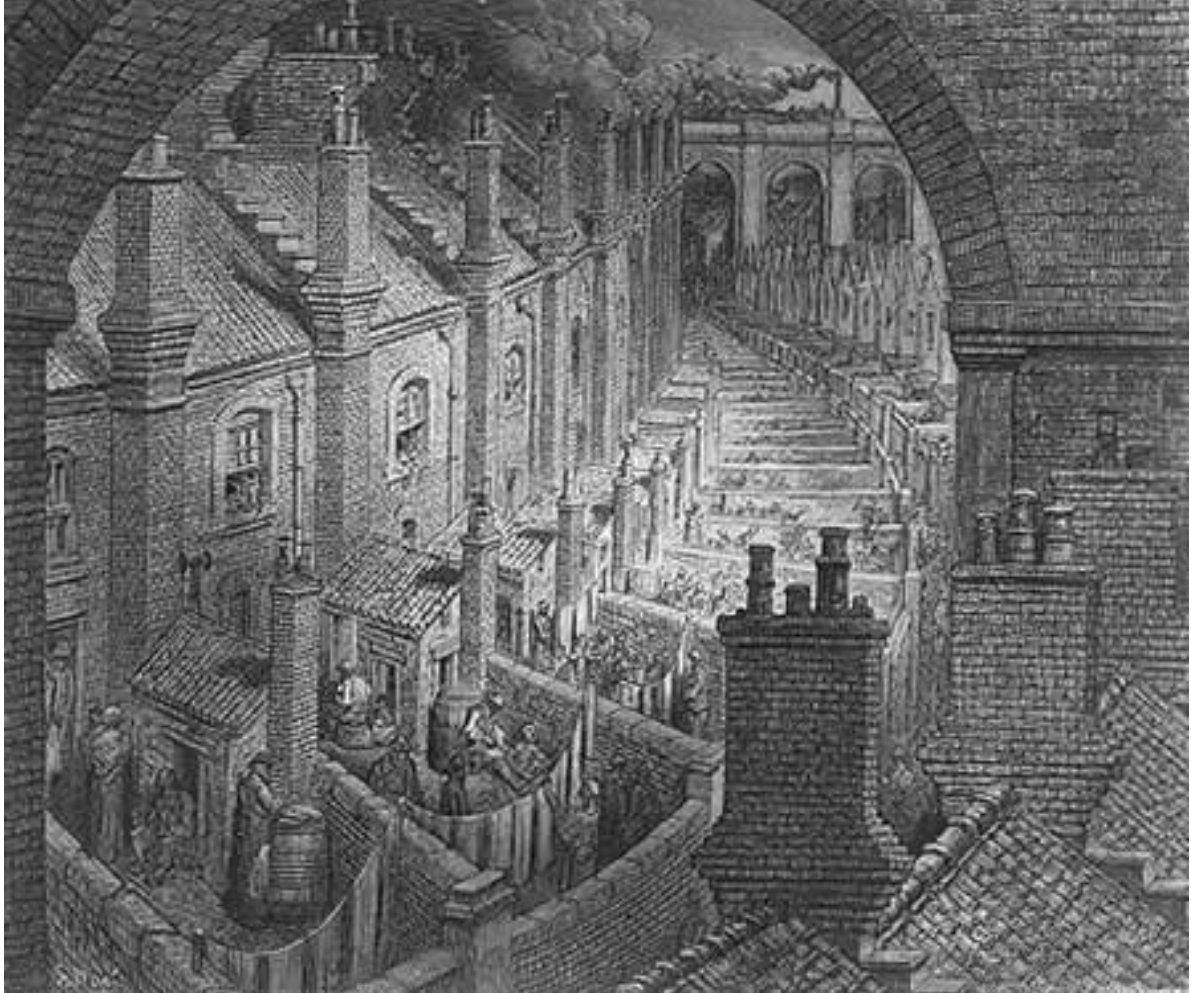
Answer: Yes; it was so dusty, the dust got up my lungs, and the work was so hard. I got so bad in health, that when I pulled the baskets down, I pulled my bones out of their places.

Question: You are considerably deformed in your person because of this work?

Answer: Yes, I am.

Source E Living conditions in an early nineteenth century city

A picture of London by Gustave Doré. Doré was a very popular French artist who produced many pictures of nineteenth century London on his frequent visits. He was one of the most popular illustrators of the nineteenth century who produced more than 10,000 drawings. Some critics said that he concentrated too much on the poverty that existed in London but his work was very popular and sold widely.



Source F Memories of a journey by rail in 1829 from a journal entry of Thomas Greevy, November 1829

The machine was really flying, and it is impossible to get rid of the idea of instant death to all if the smallest accident should happen. It gave me a headache which has not left me yet.

Source G An opinion on the best way to achieve the People's Charter. From *Life and Struggles*, written by William Lovett in 1876.

We are opposed to any kind of physical or violent revolution as the best means of obtaining our Charter.

END OF SOURCES

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