

Long Answer Questions

Q.1. What social changes can be seen in society after industrialisation?

OR

What was the impact of industrial society on the social life of the people?

Ans. After industrialisation following changes were seen in society:

- (i) Industrialisation brought men, women and children to factories.
- (ii) Working hours were often long and wages were poor.
- (iii) Unemployment was common, particularly during times of low demand for industrial goods.
- (iv) Housing and sanitation problems were growing rapidly.
- (v) Almost all industries were properties of individuals.
- (vi) Liberals and radicals searched for solutions to these issues.
- (vii) Many liberals and radicals themselves were often property owners and employers.
- (viii) So, it was the time when new cities came up and new industrial regions developed, railways expanded and the Industrial Revolution occurred.

Q.2. Who was Karl Marx? What was his theory of socialism?

Ans. Karl Marx was a communist, who introduced the concept of socialism.

Karl Marx's Theory:

- (i) He felt that the industrial society belonged to the capitalists.
- (ii) Capitalists owned the capital invested in industries, but the profit was produced by workers.
- (iii) He believed that the condition of workers would never improve, as long as profit is taken by the capitalists.
- (iv) Marx believed that to free themselves from the capitalists' exploitation, workers had to form a socialist society where all property was socially controlled.

This would be a communist society.

Q.3. What were the main causes of the Russian Revolution?

Ans. Main causes of Russian Revolution were:

(i) Autocratic rule of Tsars: In 1914, the Russian emperor was Tsar Nicholas II. He fought a number of wars to expand his empire in the north and west in Europe. He had borne the expenditure of war by taxing the common people of Russia.

(ii) Conditions of peasants: Majority of the Russians were agriculturalists. Major part of the land was owned by nobles and clergy and these peasants worked as farmers on daily wages. They were paid less and worked more and sometimes under debt, they were not even paid wages.

(iii) Status of industries: Industry was found in pockets. Prominent industrial areas were St. Petersburg and Moscow. Craftsmen undertook much of the production, but large factories existed alongside crafts workshops. Foreign investment in industries increased with the extension of Russia's railway network.

(iv) Conditions of workers in the industries: Most industries were owned by private industrialists. Though the government supervised factories' working hours and wages of the workers, but still rules were broken. Women workers were also paid less than men. Some workers formed associations to help members in times of unemployment and financial hardships.

(v) Formation of socialist parties: All political parties were illegal in Russia before 1914. The Russian Social Democratic Workers Party was founded in 1898 by socialists, who respected Marxist ideas. But because of government policies, it had to operate secretly as an illegal organisation. It set up a newspaper, mobilised workers and organised strikes.

Q.4. Describe the history of the Socialist Movement in Russia.

Ans. (i) In 1898, the Russian Social Democratic Workers Party was formed on the lines of Karl Marx.

(ii) Some socialists formed the Socialists Revolutionary Party in 1900, to struggle for peasants' rights and demanded that land belonging to nobles be transferred to peasants.

(iii) Lenin felt that these were peasants who were poor as well as rich, so they could not all be a part of the socialist movement.

(iv) Lenin, who formed the Bolshevik group felt that in a society like Tsarist Russia, party should be disciplined and should control its members number

and quality, whereas Mensheviks thought that the party should be open to all.

(v) The party was divided over the strategy of organisation, Bolsheviks and Mensheviks.

(vi) Bolsheviks were led by Lenin and Mensheviks by Kerenskii.

Q.5. State the main events leading to the February Revolution in Petrograd.

Ans. (i) All the workers' quarters and factories were located on the right bank of the river Neva. On the left bank were the fashionable areas, the Winter Palace, official buildings and the palace where Duma met.

(ii) In February 1917, there was severe food shortage in workers' quarters. On 22 February, a lockout took place at a factory leading to a strike by the workers.

(iii) In other factories also, workers went on strikes and women led the way to the strikes. This came to be called, 'The International Women's Day'.

(iv) The workers ultimately crossed the river and surrounded the official buildings in protest.

(v) The government imposed a curfew and called out the cavalry and police to keep a check on them.

Q.6. How was the February Revolution able to bring down the monarchy in Russia?

Ans. On Sunday the 25 February, the government suspended the Duma. Demonstrations returned back on the streets of the left bank. People raised slogans about bread, wages, better hours and democracy. The government tried to control the situation by calling the army but the cavalry refused to fire at the demonstrators. Now soldiers also joined workers and had all gathered to form a Council called the 'Soviet'. This was the Petrograd Soviet.

The very next day, a delegation went to see the Tsar and advised him to accept defeat. He decided to abdicate on 2 March and the Soviet leaders and the Duma leaders formed a Provisional Government. New Russia's future would be decided by the Constituent Assembly, elected on the basis of universal adult franchise. Petrograd had led the February Revolution that brought down the monarchy in February 1917.

Q.7. Which events led to the October Revolution of 1917 in Russia?

Ans. Following events led to the October Revolution of 1917 in Russia:

(i) A conflict grew between the Provisional Government and the Bolsheviks as Lenin feared that the Provisional Government may set up a dictatorship.

(ii) On 16 October 1917, Lenin persuaded them to accept socialists' power and appointed a Military Revolutionary Committee under Leon Trotsky to organise the seizure.

(iii) The uprising began on 24 October and Kerensky, the Prime Minister left the city to call troops.

(iv) In a swift response, the Military Revolutionary Committee ordered its supporters to seize government offices and arrest ministers.

(v) By nightfall, the city was under the Committee's control and the ministers had surrendered.

(vi) Uprisings took place in other cities. There was heavy fighting but by December, the Bolsheviks controlled the Moscow-Petrograd area.

Q.8. What changes were brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?

Ans. After October Revolution following changes were brought by Bolsheviks:

(i) Bolsheviks were totally opposed to private property.

(ii) Most industry and banks were nationalised in November 1917. This meant that the government took over ownership and management.

(iii) Land was declared a social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility.

(iv) In cities, they enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements.

(v) They banned the use of the old titles of aristocracy.

(vi) The Bolshevik Party was renamed the 'Russian Communist Party'.

Q.9. What were the views of liberals about the transformation of society in the 18th century?

Ans. Views of liberals over society in 18th century:

(i) Liberals wanted a nation which tolerated all religions.

(ii) They also opposed the uncontrolled power of dynastic rulers.

(iii) They wanted to safeguard the rights of individuals against governments.

(iv) They argued for a representative, elected parliamentary government, subject to laws interpreted by a well-trained judiciary that was independent of rulers and officials.

(v) However, they did not believe in universal adult franchise. They felt men who own property mainly should have the vote. They also did not want the vote for women.

EUROPE IN 1914



The map shows the Russian empire and the European countries at war during the First World War.

Q.10. Why the period after the success of French Revolution can be called as the 'age of social change'?

Ans. (i) The French Revolution opened up the possibility of creating a dramatic change in the way in which society was structured.

(ii) Before the 18th century, society was broadly divided into estates and orders and it was the aristocracy and church which controlled economic and social power.

(iii) Suddenly, after the revolution, it seemed possible to change this. In many parts of the world including Europe and Asia, new ideas about individual rights and who controlled social power began to be a point of discussion.

(iv) In India, Raja Rammohan Roy and Derozio talked of the significance of the French Revolution and many others debated the ideas of post-revolutionary Europe.

(v) The developments in the colonies, in turn, reshaped these ideas of societal change.

Q.11. “World War I left Russia in such a situation that it led to February revolution in Petrograd. Do you agree?”

Ans. (i) In World War I, Russian defeats were shocking and demoralising. Russia’s army lost badly in Germany and Austria between 1914 and 1916.

(ii) As they retreated, the Russian army destroyed crops and buildings to prevent the enemy from being able to live off the land. The destruction of crops and buildings led to over 3 million refugees in Russia.

(iii) The war had a severe impact on industry. Russia’s own industries were few in number and the country was cut off from other suppliers of industrial goods by German control of the Baltic Sea.

(iv) Industrial equipment disintegrated more rapidly in Russia than elsewhere in Europe. By 1916, railway lines began to break down.

(v) Able-bodied men were called up to the war. As a result, there was labour shortage and small workshops producing essentials were shut down.

(vi) Large supplies of grain were sent to feed the army. For the people in the cities, bread and flour became scarce. By the winter of 1916, riots at bread shops were common.

(vii) In the winter of 1917, conditions in the capital, Petrograd, were grim. In February 1917, food shortages were deeply felt in the workers quarters, leading to lockouts and about fifty factories called a strike.

Q.12. What was the global influence of Russian Revolution?

OR

What were the effects of the Russian Revolution on the world?

Ans. (i) In many countries, communist parties were formed like the Communist Party of Great Britain.

(ii) The Bolsheviks encouraged colonial people to follow their experiment of taking power.

(iii) Many non-Russians from outside the USSR, participated in the Conference of the People of East and the Bolshevik-founded Comintern (an international union of pro-Bolshevik socialist parties).

(iv) Some received education in USSR's Communist University of the Workers of the East.

(v) By the time of the outbreak of the World War II, the USSR had given socialism, a global face and world stature.