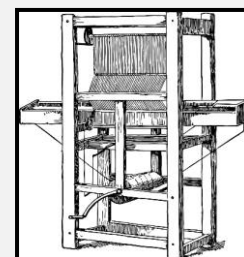


Machines of The Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain during the middle of the 18th century. It was a period of great change. Prior to the Industrial Revolution, goods were produced in small workshops and homes.

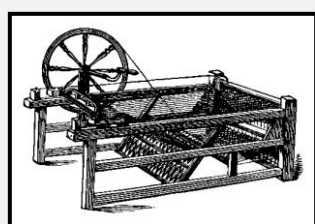
During this period, many new machines were invented, allowing more goods to be produced more quickly than ever before.

The invention of the steam engine was the most important invention to emerge from the Industrial Revolution. Prior to its invention, power was generated by water, wind, horse and people. The steam engine provided a more reliable power source, and one which could power large machines.



A power loom

One invention that made use of this new power source was the power loom. This machine wove threads into cloth. While the original handlooms were powered with foot pedals, the power loom used a steam engine. This meant that the process of weaving was sped up significantly. As a result, production of cloth increased.



A spinning jenny

Another important invention was the spinning jenny. The spinning jenny was a spinning frame with eight different spindles operated by a single wheel. Effectively, this new machine allowed one person to do the work of eight people. Over time, many more spindles were added to the spinning frames. This progress allowed even more threads and yarns to be produced with less labour. As more spindles were added, the machines increased in size to a point where factories were needed.

Many other machines offering similar advantages were invented during this period.

Use the text to help you answer the questions about the Industrial Revolution.

1. What does a loom do?

2. How were handlooms powered?

3. In what way was the original spinning jenny able to 'do the work of eight people'?

4. Why was the role of the steam engine so important in the Industrial Revolution?

5. What was the advantage of steam power over water and wind power?

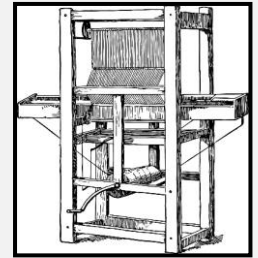
6. Why were so many factories built during this period?

Machines of The Industrial Revolution **Answers**

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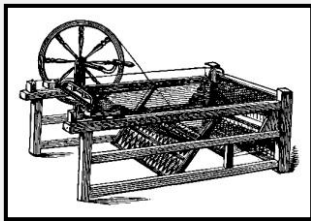
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Many other machines offering similar advantages were invented during this period.

Use the text to help you answer the questions about the Industrial Revolution.

1. What does a loom do?

A loom weaves thread into cloth.

2. How were handlooms powered?

Handlooms were powered by humans, using a foot pedal.

3. In what way was the original spinning jenny able to 'do the work of eight people'?

The spinning jenny was said to do the work of eight people because it had eight spindles.

4. Why was the role of the steam engine so important in the Industrial Revolution?

The steam engine was so important because it provided the power for many of the machines that were invented during this period.

5. What was the advantage of steam power over water and wind power?

Steam power was more reliable than water and wind power.

6. Why were so many factories built during this period?

So many factories were built because they were needed to house the machines that were growing in size.