

Name:

Date:

## Why was Britain First?

Why was Britain the first country to industrialize? This change, which occurred between 1750 and 1830, happened because conditions were perfect in Britain for the Industrial Revolution. One reason was due to the large deposits of coal and iron ore Britain had. Coal was ideal to fuel the new ideas. Raw materials that Britain itself did not have could be provided by its many colonies. These colonies also provided strong markets for the abundance of new goods provided by the industrial revolution.

The factors of production and the market were the simple requirements but many countries had them. Due to new technologies, the population in Great Britain was ready to move out of the country and to the city to work. Britain also had a large middle class and a flexible mercantile class that was necessary to promote, invest, and build these new markets. English society, unlike many others, was not opposed to "new money," and as such was eager to accept the new wealthy and their new ideas.

Why did the Industrial Revolution begin in England? \*Don't forget about other Geographic features we spoke of!

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