

Iron and Coal

Much of the **machinery** and buildings needed by the industrial revolution (trains, railway bridges, steam engines) were built out of **iron**.

A new process for producing strong, cheap iron was perfected by a man called Abraham Darby during the 1700s, called the **blast furnace**.

Steam engines and blast furnaces also needed a huge amount of **coal**, so coal mining became a very important industry.

King George IV (1820 – 1830)

George IV, also known as the **Prince Regent**, was an extremely unpopular King. He spent all of his money, grew very fat, and lived in an irresponsible way.

George IV was briefly replaced after his death by William IV. When William died, Victoria became Queen. One of the reasons she was so popular is that the Kings who came before her were disliked.

Queen Victoria (1837 -1901)

Victoria became Queen as a very young girl (aged 18), but did the job well from the start, vowing 'I will be good'.

She had a successful marriage to the German **Prince Albert**, who was an excellent source of advice and who she loved very much.

The Railways

The invention of the train and development of the railway network had an enormous the impact on daily life in Great Britain.

YEAR 5 Industrial Revolution

Industrial Revolution

'Industrial Revolution' describes the transition from a society based on hand manufacturing and human or animal power, to a society based on **machinery**.

It was characterised by the use of **steam powered engines**, the spread of **factories** and machines, **mass produced goods** and **mechanised transport**.

The Industrial Revolution began in Britain around 1760, but really took off around the 1840s.



Queen Victoria is the longest reigning monarch in British history, ruling from 1837 to 1901.

She had such a profound impact on the culture and life of the nineteenth century, that the period is commonly known as the 'Victorian Age' – even in many nations aside from Great Britain.



Chartist Movement

Chartism was a movement for democratic rights, started in London in 1838 with the publication of the 'People's Charter'.

The **Charter** demanded the reform of parliament.

On **Monday 4th November, 1839**, around 5,000 workers, from a wide area of the Gwent Valleys arrived at Newport, to demonstrate.

Three of the influential people involved in the chartist movement were: **John Frost**, a draper, former mayor of Newport and a Justice of the Peace. **Zephaniah Williams**, a publican from Blaina; and **William Jones**, a watchmaker, from Pontypool.

Inventions

Following the industrial revolution, there was a **technological revolution** (sometimes known as the second industrial revolution).

This saw the **invention** of a number of technologies that we still enjoy today.

For example, the first telephone was invented in 1876, the first film in 1894 and the postal system in 1840

Steam Engines

The **steam engine** was one of the most important inventions of the industrial revolution, and perhaps one of the most important inventions in human history.

The first steam engine was produced by James Watt and Matthew Boulton in Birmingham, in 1776.

The steam engine meant that humans could use the energy in **fossil fuels** to create **power**. This would revolutionise production of goods and transport.