

GCSE HISTORY – Migrants to Britain – Industrial Period, 1750-1900

Overview: Industrial Period, 1750-1900		Jobs the Irish took	They took jobs building roads/ice-cream sellers/organ-grinders.
Industrial period	1750-1900	New trades	They brought the new trade of ceramic making.
Religion	Still Protestant	Experience?	Largely negative. 1. Blamed for Cholera outbreaks due to dirty ice-cream glasses. 2. Catholics were still unpopular. 3. English men were jealous of Italian men marrying English women.
Industrial Revolution	Happened in Britain c.1750-1900. Transformation of England from a farming economy into an industrial economy.	Germans	
Urbanisation	Mass migration from rural to urban areas in this period.	How many?	The German migrants in the Industrial Period were the largest migrant group.
Growing ports and cities	Ports and cities were rapidly expanding. The ports brought vast numbers of migrants to Britain. Many settled in the expanding cities.	Why migrate to Britain?	1. British King was German 2. England was peaceful and Germany was not. 3. Engineers and businessmen were attracted by the economic opportunities of the Industrial Revolution.
Rural	The countryside	Impact?	Huge impact. 1. Many set up successful companies such as Reuters. 2. Textile trading was booming due to German businessmen e.g. Bradford 3. Took a very wide range of jobs in all parts of society such as butchers/bakers and bankers.
Urban	Towns	Assimilated successfully	German migrants assimilated very successfully into English society.
Why was Britain attractive to so many migrants?	1. Industrial Revolution provided regular wages in factories and mills. 2. New laws in England many it more religiously tolerant. 3. Wars in Europe made England seem peaceful and prosperous. 4. Britain was promoted as the ' Asylum of Nations '	More Jews	
Irish		Improving life for Jews	England became more tolerant towards Jews in the Industrial period.
Religion?	Catholic	Changes to the law from the 1830s	Jews could now join the army, be lawyers and attend university.
Why did they leave Ireland?	Poverty and religious oppression	MPs from 1858	From 1858, Jews could become MPs. An example was Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli.
Irish Potato Famine	The Irish Potato Famine was 1846-1850. This pushed many to migrate to England.	Mass migration after 1881	After 1881 there was mass migration to England by more Jews.
Jobs the Irish took	They took jobs as miners/dock workers/labourers. The hardest and dirtiest jobs.	Pogroms	Organised massacres against Jews were happening in Eastern Europe in the 1870s and 1880s.
Navvies	These were Irish migrants who built the roads, railways and canals we have today.	Sweatshop workers	Many Jews worked in sweatshops making cheap clothing.
Highly criticized	1. For being Catholic. 2. For being heavy drinkers. 3. For having a fighting culture.	Experience?	Jewish migrants in the Industrial period chose to live in closed communities, whereas Jews who came in the early modern period had assimilated.
Hatred between English and Irish workers	There was hatred between English and Irish workers as the Irish workers undercut the English workers and would work for less money.	More Africans, Ayahs and Lascars	
Impact?	1. Revitalised the Catholic Church in England 2. Established Irish communities and pubs 3. Great individuals emerged such as Dr Barnardo and George Bernard Shaw.		
Italians			
Religion	Catholic		
Why did they leave Italy?	1. Wars in Italy 2. Farming problems, particularly in the southern regions. 3. Disease		
How many?	25,000 Italians came to Britain		

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African jobs	Many Africans did hard manual jobs , much like the Irish migrants . A large number were also beggars .
Famous African migrants	Olaudah Equiano, Ira Aldridge and Ottobah Cugoano .
Ayahs continue to be abandoned	Ayahs continue to be abandoned by the families they worked for when they arrived back in England.
Lascars	Lascars were poor men from India who took jobs as crew on ships. They continue arriving in Britain .
Ayahs	Ayahs were poor women from the East who served as nannies and servants for wealthy families . They continue arriving in Britain .
First multi-racial communities	The Lascars who were in port towns were helping to establish the first multi-racial communities.

Chinese migrants

Blue Funnel Line	Established in 1868 , the Blue Funnel Line was the first ships to regularly sail to Hong Kong and Shanghai . This brought many Chinese migrants.
In high demand	Chinese sailors were in high demand as they worked for low-pay , did not drink and worked hard .
1880s expansion	In the 1880s, Chinese migrants expand in England and start to open restaurants, lodging houses and shops .
Laundries	By 1900 , the main industry for Chinese migrants was laundries .
Opium	The illegal and highly addictive substance opium led the Chinese to be viewed as exotic and dangerous .