

Theme 3: France and the US - Politics and Society to 1914
Chapter 7. Continuity and Change in French Society & in the United States 1870-1914

What were the impacts of industrialization on France?

Instructions and expectations

You are expected to complete this first part of Chapter 7, which focuses on the French industrialization experience, as an independent study using the extract from Cambridge Illustrated History of France by Colin Jones.

It is anticipated that each question requires a coherent and argued paragraph response drawing on evidence from the book as appropriate. To help focus your responses, the expectations have been identified for each task.

Objectives

To evaluate the social and economic impact of industrialization,
To understand the emergence of a labor movement and the politicization of workers and
To compare & contrast urban and rural society following the transformations caused by industrialization.

1. In what way did the Eiffel Tower symbolize the values of the Third Republic (pg225)?

Response expectations: response should comment on how the tower represented progress and modernity and was in line with the secular values of the Belle Epoque.

2. What industries and technologies testify to the growth of the French economy during the period 1880 to 1914 (pgs 227-228)?

Response expectations: Identify the principal industries, importance of new technologies, spread of the railways and telegraph.

3. Comment on the impact of industrialization on the rural economy.

Response expectations: include the advantages of changing tastes on farming specialization and impact of new techniques.

4. Describe the limits to French demographic growth between the 1870s and 1914 (pages 231-232).

Response expectations: Identify birth and death rates, comment on how France compared to Germany

5. What was the Dreyfus Affair (pgs 235-235)?

Response expectations: answer must include an explanation of how and why this incident became notorious.

6. Describe and comment on the social conditions of rural and urban dwellers during this period (pg237).

Response expectations: answer should comment on the extent of poverty and poor health.

7. Describe and comment on the progress of socialism in the period up to 1914 (pgs 238-239).

Response expectations: response should describe the spread of the union movement and the relatively slow political progress of socialism.

8. Describe how women's workforce and social roles evolved.

Response expectations: response must show an understanding of the concept of private and public spheres of life, the limits of reforms and the extent of female employment.