

I. The Second Industrial Revolution

A. Westerners in the 1800s worshiped progress due to the amazing material growth from the Second Industrial Revolution. Steel, chemicals, electricity, and oil were the new industrial frontiers.

B. Between 1870 and 1914 steel replaced iron. New methods for shaping steel made it possible to build lighter, smaller, and faster machines, engines, railroads, and more. By 1913 Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Germany were producing an astounding 32 million tons of steel a year.

C. The new energy form of electricity was quite valuable because it was convertible into heat, light, or motion. By 1910 hydroelectric power stations and coal-fired steam generating plants allowed houses and factories to have a single, common power source.

D. Electricity gave birth to many inventions, such as the light bulb invented by **Thomas Edison** in the United States and Joseph Swan in Great Britain. A revolution in communications was ushered in when **Alexander Graham Bell** invented the telephone (1876) and **Guglielmo Marconi** sent the first radio waves across the Atlantic (1901).

E. By the 1880s streetcars and subways powered by electricity appeared in European cities. Electricity also changed the factory. With electric lights factories never had to stop production.

F. The development of the internal-combustion engine provided a new power source for transportation and new kinds of transportation—ocean liners, airplanes, and the automobile.

G. Increased sales of manufactured goods caused industrial production to grow. Wages increased after 1870. Reduced transportation costs caused prices to fall. Urban department stores put many consumer goods up for sale.

H. Some European countries did not benefit from the Second Industrial Revolution. Great Britain, the **Netherlands**, Belgium, France, and other countries had a high standard of living. **Spain, Portugal, Russia, Austria-Hungary**, the Balkans, and southern Italy were agricultural and much less wealthy. They provided the industrialized nations with food and raw materials.

I. There developed a true world economy in Europe. Europeans were receiving goods from all corners of the world. European capital was invested abroad to develop railroads, power plants, and other industrial projects. Europe dominated the world economy by 1900.

II. Organizing the Working Classes

A. Industrial workers formed socialist political parties and unions to improve their working conditions. Karl Marx developed the theory they were based on.

B. In 1848 **Karl Marx** and Friedrich Engels published *The Communist Manifesto*. They were appalled by industrial working conditions and blamed capitalism. They proposed a new social system. One form of Marxist socialism was eventually called communism.

C. Marx believed world history was a history of class struggle between the oppressing owners of the means of production and the oppressed workers. The oppressors controlled politics and government. Government is an instrument of the ruling class.

D. Marx believed that society was increasingly dividing between the **bourgeoisie** (middle-class oppressors) and the **proletariat** (working-class oppressed), each hostile to the other. Marx predicted the conflict would result in a revolution in which the proletariat would violently overthrow the bourgeoisie and form a **dictatorship** (a government in which a person or group has absolute power). The revolution would ultimately produce a society without classes and class conflict.

E. Working-class leaders formed parties based on Marx’s ideas. The German Social Democratic Party (SPD), which emerged in 1875, was the most important. SPD delegates in the parliament worked to pass laws for improving conditions of the working class. The SPD became Germany’s largest party in 1912 when it received four million votes.

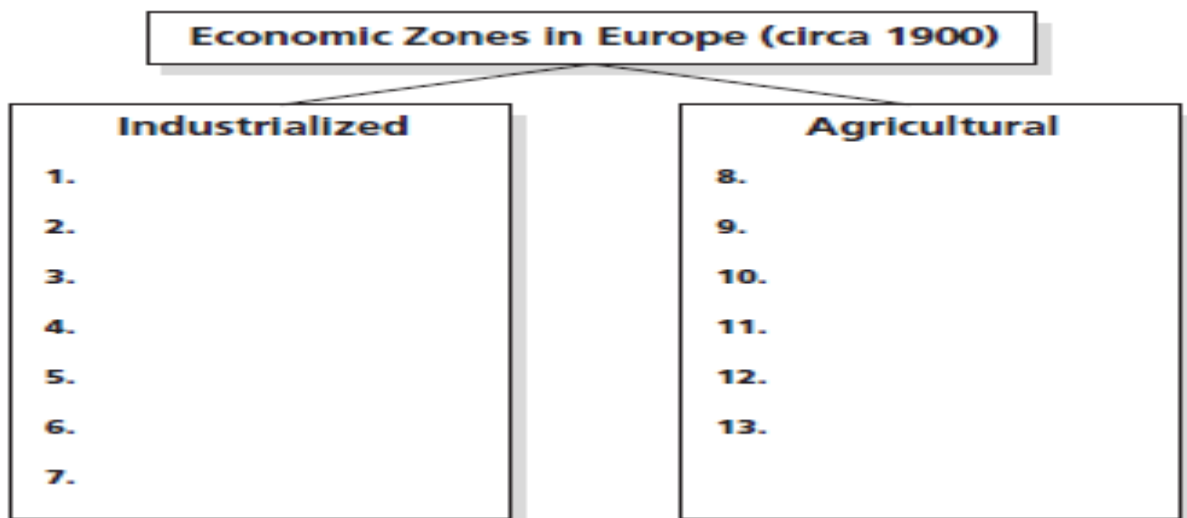
F. Socialist parties emerged in other European states. In 1889 various socialist leaders formed the Second International, an association of socialist groups dedicated to fighting worldwide capitalism. Marxist parties divided over their goals, however. Pure Marxists looked to overthrow capitalism violently. Other Marxists, called **revisionists**, rejected this revolutionary program and argued to work with other parties for reforms. Democratic rights would help workers achieve their goals.

G. Trade unions also worked for evolutionary, not revolutionary, change. In Great Britain in the 1870s unions won the right to strike. Trade union workers used the strike to achieve other reforms.

H. By 1900 two million workers were in British trade unions. By 1914 there were four million, and trade unions had made great progress in many European countries toward improving conditions for the workers.

Questions:

1. Use the diagram below to help you take notes. By 1900, Europe was divided into two economic zones. One zone was highly industrialized, and the other was still largely agricultural. Identify the countries or regions that made up each zone.



2. How was the Second Industrial Revolution different from the first Industrial Revolution?

3. What was the main difference in the beliefs of pure Marxists and revisionists?