



Year 6 Cities in Time - This Manchester Man

Key vocabulary

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| Manchester | A city in England, UK. |
| Industrial city | A place where most people work in factories and make things using machines, instead of farming or working by hand. |
| Abel Heywood (1810-1893) | A publisher and politician known as "the man who built the town hall." He served twice as Mayor of Manchester. Born in Prestwich and moved to Manchester. |
| Incremental | Making small, gradual changes over time. Prestwich changed at an <u>incremental</u> pace. |
| Slum | an area of a town or city where lots of people live crammed into poor housing. People who live here would have very poor living conditions. |
| Cloth | Cloth was a remarkable fabric. Manchester was changing so fast because of the production of cloth. |
| Weaver | Somebody who weaves fabric. Weaving became much faster during the 18th Century. |
| The flying shuttle - this invention made weaving so much faster! |  |
| Richard Arkwright | Invented the water frame in 1775. This invention could spin cotton much faster and produced a strong thread. This meant the weavers could use cotton to make fabric. |
| Styal Mill (Aka Quarry Bank Mill) | The first cotton mill in Manchester to be powered by steam. |
| Angel Meadow | Originally built for the wealthy but quickly became a slum as lots of people moved to the area for work due to Manchester's industrial expansion. |
| The Blanketeers | A group of brave, poor textile workers (mostly weavers) from Lancashire, England, who organised a "hunger-march" to London in March 1817. They were nicknamed "Blanketeers" because each man carried a blanket or rug rolled up like a knapsack, to sleep in during their journey. |
| Universal suffrage | The idea that all adults should be able to vote. |
| Chartists | Chartists believed in chartism. They outlined their demands in "the People's Charter." They wanted to give working class people more power. |



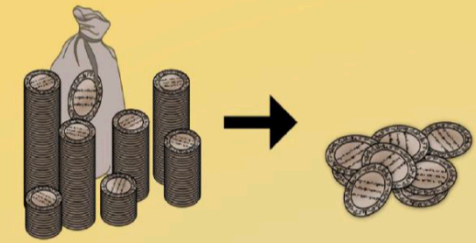
Styal Bank Mill



What pressures were people facing?

Factor 1 - wages down

Wages collapsed. As demand for cloth increased, many new workers entered the weaving trade. There were 75,000 handloom weavers in 1795 and over 200,000 in 1812! It was an **oversupply** of labour. When that happens, wages fall.



Factor 2 - food prices up

The cost of food shot up. This was caused by a very long war with France which disrupted Britain's trade with other countries. No grain could be imported. This made the price of bread shoot up.

The war lasted from 1793 to 1815.



France had had a revolution in 1789. The French had overthrown and later executed their king.

Factor 3 - a new machine

In 1785 a weaving machine had been invented that could be powered by water or steam. The rise of the **powerloom** was much slower than that of the spinning machines, but from the 1800s, more weaving factories were being built. The once-prized work of the handloom weavers' nimble fingers was being snatched away.

