

The Making of a Global World

HOTS Questions - The Making Of A Global World

1) 103 Explain two major changes that affected the international financial system after 1970.

Answer:

Earlier the developing countries could turn to international institutions for loans and development assistance. But now they were forced to borrow from western commercial banks and private lending institutions. The industrial world also was hit by unemployment that kept rising till nearly 1990. By 1970 they had to shift production operation to low wage Asian countries.

2) How did the change in international financial system affect the people in developing countries?

Answer:

Since the developing countries no longer received loans or development assistance from international institutions, they had to depend on borrowing from private lending institutions or private western banks. This led to periodic debt crisis in the developing world and lower incomes. This increased poverty, especially in Africa and Latin America.

3) Examine the conditions in the 19th century which compelled the Indians to become indentured labourers and migrate to other countries in search of work.

Answer:

In the 19th century, hundreds of Indian labourers went to work on plantations, mines, road and railway construction projects around the world. Indian rural people experienced many changes in 19th century. The cottage industries declined, land rents rose and lands were cleared for plantation. These affected the lives of the poor, people failed to pay rent, became deeply indebted and were forced to migrate to other countries in search of work.

4) Why was the first world war referred to as the first modern industrial war?

Answer:

The first world war is referred as the first modern industrial war due to following reasons:

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| (i) The fighting involved the world's leading industrial nations such as England, Germany, France, etc. |
| (ii) They harnessed the vast powers of modern industry to inflict the greatest possible destruction on their enemies. |
| (iii) The war saw the use of machineguns, tanks, aircraft, chemical weapons etc., on a massive scale. These were all products of modern large-scale industry. |

5) "In many parts of the world the expansion of trade and a closer relationship with world economy also meant a loss of freedom and livelihood." Justify the statement by giving examples.

Answer:

Trade flourished and markets expanded in 19th century. There was technological development which linked the economy of all countries. But behind this prosperity was a darker side. In many parts of the world, European conquest produced many painful economic, social and ecological changes through which the colonised societies were bought into world economy. · Colonisation and partition of Africa and its destructive effect on the economy and livelihood of the people. · Rinderpest or cattle Plague and its impact on the people of Africa. · Harsh working conditions in plantations - miseries of the indentured labour. · Colonial conquests and loss of freedom.

6) How did relocation of industry to low wage countries stimulate world trade and capital flows?

Relocation of industry to low wage countries stimulated world trade and capital flows due to following reasons:

(i) In the last two decades the world economic geography has been transformed as countries like China India and Brazil have undergone rapid economic transformations.

(ii) Wages were relatively low in these countries. Thus these became attractive destination for investment by foreign MNCs competing to capture world markets. The low cost structure of economy of China and low wages specially attracted them.

(iii) With failure of Soviet style-communism and collapse of Soviet Union many Eastern European countries were also integrated in the world economy.

7) Study the picture given below carefully and answer the following questions:



(a) What do you make out from this picture? How do you differentiate one labourer from the other?

(b) How are indentured labourer different from usual labourers?

(c) What emotional turmoil does a human being undergo when he is identified only by a number?

Answer:

(a) The picture shows the photographs of twelve persons supposed to be indentured labourers. They can be recognised only by a number. There is no other way of differentiating them except the number attached to each one.

(b) An ordinary labourer earns by rendering his/her labour wherever he/she likes to work. He/she is free to leave the job when he/she wants or join any work he/she likes. But an indentured labourer is bound with the employer by a contract or agreement to work for him/her wherever he/she is sent. Once he/she arrives in the place of work, he/she is at the mercy of the employer, he/she or the person cannot oppose him or leave the work at his/her will.

(c) Every person needs an identity. A person work throughout his life to create an identity through various ways hoping that people will recognise the person as an individual with some qualities. But the feeling that he/she does not have a name or any identity except for a number, results is tremendous emotional suffering. In case of an indentured labourer there is not no end to his suffering.