**Ch. 17A: Explaining the Industrial Revolution ~ Lecture Notes**

1. **Significance of the Industrial Revolution**
   1. Fundamental Changes to Human Ways of Life
   2. Transformed Relationship Between Humans and the Natural World
   3. Continuities
   4. Comparisons
2. **Historical Context – When?** 
   1. 1750 – 1900
   2. ANTHROPOCENE = Age of Man
   3. Agriculture, Textiles, Steam, Iron, and Steel
   4. 2nd Industrial Revolution
   5. Connect to Political Revolutions
3. **Why Europe?**
   1. Competition
   2. Commercial and Cultural Exchange
4. **Why Great Britain?** What is distinctive about Great Britain? Characteristics
   1. Social / Economic Factors
   2. Political Support and Protection
   3. Technological
   4. Geographic
5. **Big Picture Connections – Unfinished Legacy**
   1. Still The Beginning?
   2. Continuous Class warfare?
   3. Environmental Stability?
   4. Energy Crisis
   5. Labor and Technology
   6. Trade Wars

**Explaining the Industrial Revolution**

1. **Significance of the Industrial Revolution**
   1. **Fundamental Changes to Human Ways of Life** – Rapid Technological Change. The rate of change and growth is unprecedented. Hard to understate the impact of change.
      1. Population boom, 1400-375 million to early 1800s-1 billion
      2. Energy Crisis = food/charcoal solved by fossil fuels
   2. **Transformed Relationship Between Humans and the Natural World**
      1. Extraction of resources.
      2. Alteration to landscape
      3. Pollution
   3. **Continuities**
      1. Propel Europe to global dominance
      2. Technological Breakthroughs supported by stable political structures such as Islam 750-1100 and China 700-1400, Rise and Decline of Civilizations
   4. **Comparisons**
      1. Agricultural/Neolithic Revolution = happened relatively simultaneously around the world, whereas Industrial Revolution occurs in Western Europe/GB
      2. Other Global Forces = unlike Christianity, democracy, or capitalism, the Industrial Revolution is virtually welcomed, accepted, promoted around the world
2. **Historical Context – When?** 
   1. **1750 – 1900**, post age of exploration, global networks established
   2. **ANTHROPOCENE** = Age of Man
   3. **Agriculture, Textiles, Steam, Iron, and Steel**
   4. 2nd Industrial Revolution = chemicals electricity, printing, communication (telegraph/telephone)
   5. **Connect to Political Revolutions** (Amer-1776, Fra-1790s, Haiti-1804, Slave Trade-1807, Latin Amer-1820sz
3. **Why Europe?** Not inevitable nor a product of racial/cultural /social exceptionalism
   1. **Competition** 
      1. Among small, highly competitive kingdoms, nations in Europe gave insurance against complacency
      2. Newness of monarchs, flush with wealth form exploration, promoted and financed development and partnered with business class
   2. **Commercial and Cultural Exchange**
      1. At the hub of new global trade markets
      2. Widespread contact brought ideas, resources, markets
      3. Supply, demand, imitation, and innovation
      4. Labor Disruptions – Slavery, Abolition, Immigration, Skilled and Unskilled Labor
4. **Why Great Britain?** What is distinctive about Great Britain? Characteristics
   1. **Social / Economic Factors**
      1. Most highly commercialized nation with global colonies and contact
      2. Agricultural changes and innovations – enclosure movement, crop rotation, breeding, plows = wealthy landowner control, high output, lower consumer prices, displaced labor supply
      3. Labor Shifts = labor migrations (rural to urban)
      4. Aristocratic Investment = mining, manufacturing, land and real estate prospecting
   2. **Political Support and Protection**
      1. Tolerance to immigrants, especially skilled labor
      2. Protective tariffs
      3. Incorporation and anti-labor laws
      4. Infrastructure spending
      5. Military//Naval Protection
   3. **Technological** 
      1. Scientific Revolution in GB more focused on mechanical and technological (as opposed to intellectual advances in rest of Europe (Prot. Reform, Enlightenment, Renaissance)
   4. **Geographic** 
      1. Abundance of coal, iron ore supply and access to water
      2. Protection from invasion and physical cost of destructive wars
5. **Big Picture Connections – Unfinished Legacy**
   1. Still in the beginning of industrial/technological revolution?
   2. Settled into divisions between rich and poor? Class warfare?
   3. End of environmentally unstable era?
   4. Energy Crisis
   5. Labor and Technology
   6. Trade Wars