

MODERN WORLD – II

L.No	Title of Lesson	SKILLS	Activity
4	Modern World–II	Self Awareness, Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, Problem Solving	Interacting with Information on Internet/Reference, Books, stories, articles, etc.

Meaning

Industrial Revolution brought social and economic changes that transformed the agricultural society to a modern industrial society. The industrialised nations needed raw materials for their industries as well as markets for their finished good. The necessitated colonization of under developed countries. This transformed the industrial nations into imperialists and led to rivalry amongst them for supremacy. This imperialism and rivalry led to World Wars.

Innovations and Technological Changes During the Industrial Revolution

Textile Industry

- Textile Industry was the first one with mass production

Steam Engine

- Steyewron invented the steam engine. In 1764 James Watt improved upon the design & improved the efficiency of the stream engine fourfold.

Coal and Iron

- The steam engine, coal and iron laid the foundations for modern Industry.

The Rise of Imperialism And Colonialism

- The main feature of Imperialism was that it drained out the wealth resources from the colonies and transferred them to the imperialist countries.

Imperialism in Africa (1880 & 1910)

Imperialim in Asia

China opium war and its defeat

Japan The Meiji Restoration began in 1868. South and South-East Asia Sri Lanka was occupied by the Portuguese then by the Dutch and later by the British.

Means of Transportation and Communication

- In 1700 bridges and roads were constructed. Soon steam engine & railways were transporting goods over tracks throughout England & supporting canal transportation.
- The invention of telegraph and telephone made it possible to communicate in the world.

Impact Of Imperialism

- It drained both Asia and Africa of their wealth, raw materials and the exploited their markets by selling their industrial goods, imperialist countries thereby destroying the economy of these colonies. In India, they destroyed our prosperous economy.

World War I

Causes of World War I

- Division of colonies in Asia and Africa created conditions of war.
- In the last quarter of the 19th century, Germany became the main competitor of England.
- In 1882, Germany, Austria and Italy signed the Triple Alliance pledging mutual military assistance against rival powers.
- England, Russia and France signed the Triple Entente in 1907.
- Emergence of two mutually opposed groups divided Europe into hostile camps leading to tension and conflicts among European powers.

Immediate Consequences of World War I

- World War I was one of the most disastrous and frightening events the world had witnessed. A million people including innocent civilians lost their lives.

The League of Nations

- The League was the first international organisation set up in 1920 with its headquarters at Geneva.
- Its main aims were to maintain peace and security in the world, prevent future war, promote international co-operation, settle international disputes peacefully and improve the conditions of labourers in member countries.

Pan Slav Movement and the Balkan Politics

- The murder of Archduke Francis Ferdinand became the immediate cause of the war.

The Course of the War (1914-1918)

- World War I which started in August 1914 continued till November 1918.
- The year 1917 saw two important developments – one was the entry of USA in the war in April and second was the withdrawal of Russia from the war in November.

The World between the two World Wars

- The Growth of Fascism and Nazism.
 - England and France too had to face severe economic crisis, scarcity and unemployment.
 - Soviet Union emerged as the first Socialist State of the world. It was the only country to remain unaffected while all the Western capitalist countries suffered due to the Economic Depression in 1929.
 - After the end of World War I, USA suffered the worst economic crisis in 1929 due to overproduction.
 - Japan was the only country in Asia which emerged as an imperialist country. During the two World Wars, Japan became a strong military power and supported Fascism.
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WORLD WAR II

- The League of Nations failed in its aim of preventing future war, World War II started in 1939.
- Both the Fascist (in Italy) and Nazi (in Germany) Parties glorified war and promised to their people that they would bring back the lost glory of their countries through war.
- Being capitalist countries, Britain, France etc. wanted to check the spread of Communism by the Soviet Union. So they adopted a systematic policy called Appeasement Policy favouring Italy and Germany.

Consequences of the War

- The war came to an end in September 1945.
- The German Jews were either exterminated or sent to concentration camps.
- The Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were almost wiped off when atomic bombs were dropped on them.
- USA and Soviet Union emerged as super powers.
- UNO (United Nations organization) was set up with the major objective of maintaining international peace and security.

Evaluate Yourself

- Q. How did the development in means of transport and communication assist the merchants?
- Q. What were the main objectives of the United Nations Organisation?
- Q. Describe the main causes of World War I.