Technology of the Industrial Age

Explain how technology shaped economic production over time.



The steam engine was originally created to pump water out of coal mines in England but the technology was soon utilized in other ways - especially the creation of the railroad. But each innovation led to a reliance on new products.

Essential Question: Explain the extent to which industrialization brought change from 1750 to 1900.

Aim/Question of the Day: Explain how technology shaped economic production over time.

Introduction

There are multiple causes for the Industrial Revolution: the appropriate location of coal deposits and rivers, a large mobile work force (the potato and the Enclosure Acts), the basics of the factory system (sugar plantations) and a class (merchants) wealthy enough to afford the new means of production (water and steam powered looms). These new technologies required a whole set of products not readily available in Europe and North America. In fact, like sugar, they could only be found in tropical climes.

Task: Using the map below, explain how the Industrial Revolution changed the economic roles of the various regions from the previous time period. Be sure to use specific examples as evidence.

