

CHAPTER

21

SECTION 2

Section Summary

THE RISE OF THE CITIES

Between 1800 and 1900, the population of Europe more than doubled. Advances in medicine slowed death rates and caused a population explosion. In the fight against disease, scientists speculated about a **germ theory**. They believed that certain germs might cause specific diseases. In 1870, French chemist **Louis Pasteur** showed that this link is real. Ten years later, German doctor **Robert Koch** identified the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, a deadly respiratory disease. As people began to understand how germs cause diseases, they practiced better hygiene. This helped decrease the number of deaths from disease. Better hygiene also led to improvements in hospital care. British nurse and reformer **Florence Nightingale** introduced sanitary measures in hospitals. The English surgeon **Joseph Lister** discovered how antiseptics prevent infection.

As industrialization progressed, city life underwent dramatic changes in Europe and the United States. The most extensive **urban renewal** took place in Paris in the 1850s. Wide boulevards, paved streets, and splendid public buildings replaced old streets full of tenement housing. Architects used steel to build soaring buildings called skyscrapers. Electric streetlights illuminated the night, increasing safety. Massive new sewage systems in London and Paris provided cleaner water and better sanitation, sharply cutting death rates from disease.

Despite these efforts, urban life remained difficult for the poor. In the worst tenements, whole families were often crammed into a single room. Slums remained a fact of city life. Still, millions of people were attracted to cities because of the promise of work, entertainment, and educational opportunities.

However, industrialization and urban improvements did not improve conditions for workers. Most experienced low wages, long hours, unsafe environments, and the constant threat of unemployment. Workers protested these terrible conditions. They formed **mutual-aid societies** and organized unions. Pressured by unions, reformers, and working-class voters, governments passed laws to regulate working conditions. Wages varied, but overall, the **standard of living** for most workers did rise.

Review Questions

1. How did advances in medicine cause a population explosion?

2. What two changes in the 1800s made city life safer and healthier?

READING CHECK

What did Louis Pasteur do in 1870?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *illuminated* mean in the underlined sentence? The root of this word is from *lumen*, which is Latin for "light." How can you use the root of *illuminated* to help you figure out its meaning?

READING SKILL

Identify Supporting Details In what ways were working conditions difficult for most industrial workers?

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SECTION 3

Note Taking Study Guide

CHANGING ATTITUDES AND VALUES

Focus Question: How did the Industrial Revolution change the old social order and long-held traditions in the Western world?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following table. List new issues that caused change in the first column and identify two supporting details for each in the second column.

Changes in Social Order and Values	
Issue	Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New social order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper class: old nobility, new industrialists, business families • •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights for women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
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CHAPTER
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SECTION 3

Section Summary

CHANGING ATTITUDES AND VALUES

In the late 1800s, the social order in the Western world slowly changed. Instead of nobles and peasants, a more complex social structure emerged, made up of three classes. The new upper class included very rich business families. Below this tiny elite were a growing middle class and a struggling lower middle class. Workers and peasants were at the bottom of the social ladder.

The middle class developed its own values and way of life, which included a strict code of rules that dictated behavior for every occasion. A **cult of domesticity** also emerged that idealized women and the home.

Demands for women’s rights also challenged the traditional social order. Across Europe and the United States, many women campaigned for fairness in marriage, divorce, and property laws. Many women’s groups also supported the **temperance movement**. In the United States, reformers such as **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and **Sojourner Truth** were dedicated to achieving **women’s suffrage**.

Industrialized societies recognized the need for a literate workforce. Reformers persuaded many governments to require basic education for all children and to set up public schools. More and more children attended school, and public education improved.

At the same time, new ideas in science challenged long-held beliefs. **John Dalton** developed the modern atomic theory. The most controversial new idea, however, came from the British naturalist **Charles Darwin**. His ideas upset those who debated the validity of his conclusions. Darwin argued that all forms of life had evolved over millions of years. His theory of natural selection explained the long, slow process of evolution. In natural selection, members of each species compete to survive. Unfortunately, some people applied Darwin’s theory of natural selection to encourage **racism**. Others applied his ideas to economic competition.

Religion continued to be a major force in Western society. The grim realities of industrial life stirred feelings of compassion and charity. For example, the **social gospel** urged Christians to push for reforms in housing, healthcare, and education.

Review Questions

1. How did the social structure change in the late 1800s?

2. For what rights did women in Europe and the United States campaign?

READING CHECK

What new scientific theory did Charles Darwin promote to explain evolution?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *controversial* mean in the underlined sentence? Use context clues, or surrounding words and sentences, to figure out what *controversial* means.

READING SKILL

Identify Supporting Details

What changes in education were brought about by the Industrial Revolution?
