

A Revolutionary Age, 1770s-1830s

1. Revolutionary Production
 - a. preconditions
 - i. demographic revolution
 - ii. agricultural revolution
 - iii. mercantile/transport revolution
 - b. machines or organization
 - c. results
 - i. Luddites
 - ii. Workshop of the World
 - iii. importance of labor organization and the birth of the working class
2. Revolutionary Ideas
 - a. the Enlightenment (moderates or Jacobins)
 - i. English Enlightenment (Locke and Deism, c. 1700); Scottish Enlightenment (Hume, Smith, Ferguson, historical and economic ideas, c. 1750-1780)
 - ii. radicals (breakdown of consensus about British Constitution, 1780-1832)
 - b. Movements for reform
 - i. Economical Reform (separation of revenue and politics)
 - ii. Political Reform: County Association Movement
 - iii. Moral Reform: antislavery and India Act, 1784
 - c. Burke and Paine and reaction to the American Revolution
 - i. Limits of Reform: Gordon Riots
3. Revolutionary War
 - a. French Revolution in Britain: possibilities of progress?
 - i. Wordsworth, Price, SCI, Soc. of Friends of the People, Burke, Paine
Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive,
But to be young was very heaven!--Oh! times,
In which the meagre, stale, forbidding ways
Of custom, law, and statute, took at once
The attraction of a country in romance!
When Reason seemed the most to assert her rights,
When most intent on making of herself
A prime Enchantress--to assist the work,
Which then was going forward in her name!
 - b. Pitt the Younger: Reformer or Reactionary
 - i. bio.
 - ii. Radical?: product of the Enlightenment, supported reform legislation
 - iii. Reactionary? (abandons political reform; increasingly harsh on radicals in 1790s and 1800s.
 - iv. Overall, to win war first Pitt knew that he would defeat France, and, later, Napoleon, as much through supply and finance as through force, and so needed a quiescent homefront
 - c. War at home and abroad
 - i. War from 1793-97-1801; again from 1803
 - ii. Napoleon's 2 blunders: 1808-1813 Peninsular War ("that miserable Spanish affair killed me")
 - d. Congress of Vienna