

Name: _____ Date: _____

Weavers, Iron Smelters and Factory Owners

Q1. Why was the Wootz steel making process completely lost by the mid-19th century?

Ans. _____

Q2. How did the invention of spinning jenny and steam engine revolutionised cotton textiles moving in England?

Ans. _____

Q3. What helped TISCO expand steel production during the First World War?

Ans. _____

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Q1. Why was the Wootz steel making process completely lost by the mid-19th century?

Ans. Wootz steel making process was completely lost by the mid-nineteenth century because of the following reasons.

- i. The swords and armour making industry died with the conquest of India by the British.
- ii. Imports of iron and steel from England displaced the iron and steel produced by craftspeople in India.

Q2. How did the invention of spinning jenny and steam engine revolutionised cotton textiles moving in England?

Ans. Competition with Indian textiles led to a search for technological innovation in England. In 1764, the spinning jenny was invented by John Kaye which increased the productivity of the traditional spindles. The invention of the steam engine by Richard Arkwright in 1786 revolutionised cotton textile weaving. Cloth could now be woven in immense quantities and cheaply too.

Q3. What helped TISCO expand steel production during the First World War?

Ans. By the time TISCO was set up the situation was changing. In 1914 the First World War broke out. Steel produced in Britain now had to meet the demands of war in Europe. So imports of British steel into India declined dramatically and the Indian Railways turned to TISCO for supply of rails. As the war dragged on for several years, TISCO had to produce shells and carriage wheels for the war. By 1919 the colonial government was buying 90 per cent of the steel manufactured by TISCO. Over time TISCO became the biggest steel industry within the British empire.