Industrial Revolution
http://www.history.com/topics/industrial-revolution
An ancient Greek or Roman would have been just as comfortable in Europe in 1700 because daily life was not much different – agriculture and technology were not much changed in 2000+ years.

The Industrial Revolution changed human life drastically.

More was created in the last 250+ years than in the previous 2500+ years of known human history.
What is Industrial Revolution?

- The Industrial Revolution was a fundamental change in the way goods were produced, from human labor to machines.

- The more efficient means of production and subsequent higher levels of production triggered far-reaching changes to industrialized societies.
The Industrial Revolution

- Machines were invented which replaced human labor
- New energy sources were developed to power the new machinery – water, steam, electricity, oil (gas, kerosene)
  - Some historians place advances in atomic, solar, and wind energy at the later stages of the Industrial Revolution
- Increased use of metals and minerals
  - Aluminum, coal, copper, iron, etc.
Industrial Revolution

- Transportation improved
  - Ships
    - Wooden ships → Iron ships → Steel ships
    - Wind-powered sails → Steam-powered boilers
  - Trains
  - Automobiles

- Communication improved
  - Telegraph
  - Telephone
  - Radio
Developments

- Mass production of goods
  - Increased numbers of goods
  - Increased diversity of goods produced

- Development of factory system of production

- Rural-to-urban migration
  - People left farms to work in cities

- Development of capitalism
  - Financial capital for continued industrial growth

- Development and growth of new socio-economic classes
  - Working class, bourgeoisie, and wealthy industrial class

- Commitment to research and development
  - Investments in new technologies
  - Industrial and governmental interest in promoting invention, the sciences, and overall industrial growth
Industrial Revolution Connection to Charles Dickens

- A change in literature was from Romanticism to Realism. This was because writers began to go against the perfect views of Romanticists. This turn towards Realism made writers focus on the ugly parts of life.

- He would base his ideas on the social conditions surrounding him. Before writing his novels, he visited the places that he based his stories on.

- People see Dickens' characters as realities rather than figures of an idealistic society. His main focus was how parts of England were poverty stricken. He was aware of the cruelties children were subjected to in school. Dickens sympathized for all the people who were neglected, unloved and the suffering. His love for the people helped him write many of his novels. All the people of England enjoyed his novels including both the lower and upper classes.