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incomes and the home market; Agriculture as a consumer of goods and services; The release of capital; Conclusion; Part Two: The Industrial Revolution; 4 Regions and Industries; The regional perspective; National considerations; Regional diversity; Proto-industrialisation: the location; Proto-industrialisation: dynamic influences; Capital, labour and innovation; The West Riding of Yorkshire; Lancashire; Birmingham and the West Midlands

Coalfield industrialisation: the case of Northumberland and Durham

Deindustrialisation: the case of the Weald; Cumbria: a case of contrasts; Conclusion; 5 Demography and Labour; Population change;

Wrigley and Schofield's analysis; Problems with the preventive check;

Proto-industrialisation and demography; Proletarianisation, work

opportunities and the family wage economy; Mortality; Urbanisation;

Theories of urban growth; The impact of urbanisation; Migration;

Population growth and economic growth; The family and labour supply;

Conclusion; 6 Consumption and Commerce; The sources of demand

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Slavery: an assessment; Conclusion; 7 Class and Gender; Class and the

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Capitalist class or classes?

Gentlemanly capitalism and the industrial revolution

Sommario/riassunto

This is an introduction to the Industrial Revolution which offers an integrated account of the economic and social aspects of change during the period. Recent revisionist thinking has implied that fundamental change in economic, social and political life at the time of the Industrial Revolution was minimal or non-existent. The author challenges this interpretation, arguing that the process of revision has gone too far; emphasizing continuity at the expense of change and neglecting many historically unique features of the economy and society. Elements given short shrift in many current interpre
