Making of Modern Britain

Urbanisation and its consequences

- Growth of towns and cities and its affect

In 1600 8% of the English population lived in towns of 2,500+ people

1700- 17%

1800- 33%

1851- for the first time in history more people in England lived towns, 52% urban, 48% countryside

1900- 4 out of 5 lived in towns/cities

Hierarchy of towns:

1700: London dominant, followed by regional centres of Norwich, Bristol, York and Newcastle

1801: rise of new industrial centres: Manchester, Leeds and Birmingham

Internal migration tended to be local (within same region/country)

Impact of Irish potato famine was seen by 1851

Housing

Pressure on physical resources

- Unregulated building of new housing
- Subdivision of existing housing
- Inadequacy of existing physical resources of towns (lighting, waste disposal, drains, water supply)
- Different types of poor quality working class

Nottingham

- Population doubled 1801-1851
- Expansion took place in the already cramped built up city centre
- In 1845 4,200 people crammed into 220 square yards

Housing shortage

Problem of supply

-- 1837-41 the population of Glasgow grew by 37% but housing supply by only 19%

--Bradford population growth of 78%- housing 12%