World Politics Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How did the Industrial Revolution begin to alter worldwide

patterns of production and trade?

Based on data from “World History For Us All” online curriculum and Strayer textbook

Inferences from the data:

Table on iron production:

* Prior to the Industrial Revolution (pre-1750), China and India’s iron production was greater than, or equal to, Europe’s iron production
* While iron production in all areas of the world showed growth, Europe’s rate of iron production began to grow much faster as it began to industrialize
* Britain, in particular, showed extreme growth in iron production between 1740 and 1806

Table on worldwide manufacturing output:

* Prior to the I.R., Europe and South Asia had similar shares of worldwide manufacturing output, but China had even more (about 1/3 of the world’s output)
* Over the following 150 years, Europe’s share rose dramatically (led by the U.K., which started with very little) while China and South Asia’s shares fell.
* By the late 19th century, Germany and especially the U.S. were catching up to the U.K.

Table A on textile industry

* Between the mid 1700’s and the early 1800’s, Britain’s textile industry grew dramatically
  + Consumption of raw cotton increased by 50 times
  + Value of cotton textile exports grew by over 100 times

Table B on textile industry

* Britain’s trade relationship with India reversed during this time
  + Britain’s imports of cotton piece goods (finished textiles) from India decreased during the early Industrial Revolution
  + Britain’s exports grew, presumably including exports to India

Overall Conclusions:

1. **Which countries’/regions’ economies grew the most during the industrial revolution?**

Western Europe (especially Great Britain) replaced China and India as the largest producers of manufactured goods

1. **How did the industrial revolution lead to a worldwide “division of labor?”**

Non-industrialized nations became defined as providers/exporters of raw materials, while industrialized nations became defined as producers/exporters of manufactured goods

1. **How did this divergence of national economies affect the worldwide balance of wealth and power?**

A split begins: Developed/industrialized nations become more wealthy and powerful. Non-industrialized/undeveloped nations fall behind in wealth and power.