

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY, CONSERVATION AND HISTORY, 2018 I

HIS1300MET/INTER/L - Modern European History with methodology

Written exam Thursday 24th of May 2018

09:00-15:00 (6 hours)

English

Part one: Methodology:

The following text is taken from *The Condition of the Working Class in England* written in 1844 by Friedrich Engels. Together with Karl Marx Engels developed Marxism. Read the text and answer the questions.

...There are some branches of factory-work which have an especially injurious effect. In many rooms of the cotton and flax-spinning mills, the air is filled with fibrous dust, which produces chest and bronchial complaints, especially among workers in the carding and combing-rooms. Some constitutions can bear it, some cannot; but the operative has no choice. He must take the room in which he finds work, whether his chest is sound or not. The most common effects of this breathing of dust are blood-spitting, hard, noisy breathing, pains in the chest, coughs, sleeplessness – in short, all the symptoms of asthma ending in the worst cases in consumption. Especially unwholesome is the wet spinning of linen-yarn which is carried on by young girls and boys. The water spirts over them from the spindle, so that the front of their clothing is constantly wet through to the skin; and there is always water standing on the floor...But apart from all these diseases and malformations, the limbs of the operatives suffer in still another way.

The most common accident is the squeezing off of a single joint of a finger, somewhat less common the loss of the whole finger, half or a whole hand, an arm, etc., in the machinery. Lockjaw very often follows, even upon the lesser among these injuries, and brings death with it [...] Between June 12th and August 3rd, 1844, the *Manchester Guardian* reported the following serious accidents (the trifling ones it does not notice): June 12th, a boy died in Manchester of lockjaw, caused by his hand being crushed between wheels. June 15th, a youth in Saddleworth seized by a wheel and carried away with it; died, utterly mangled. June 29th, a young man at Green Acres Moor, near Manchester, at work in a machine shop, fell under the grindstone, which broke two of his ribs and lacerated him terribly. July 24th, a girl in Oldham died, carried around fifty times by a strap; no bone unbroken. July 27th, a girl in

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Manchester seized by the blower (the first machine that receives the raw cotton), and died of injuries received.

Consider the text as a source of knowledge about the industrial revolution. What can we learn from using the text as an account (“beretning”) of the past? What can we learn from using the text as a remnant (“levning”) from the past?

Part two:

The candidate must choose one of the following assignments:

Either:

Causes of World War II

Or:

The significance of nationalism for the fall of old empires and the emergence of new states.

Important information:

The exam results will be published late in the afternoon **on the 15th of June**. You will find your grade in StudentWeb. You may request an explanation for your grade if you need one. This must be done **no later than one week** after the grades have been published in StudentWeb. Information about how to request an explanation can be found here: uio.no/english/studies/examinations/examinations-appeal/
The examiner will get in touch with you directly, and it is up to him/her whether your explanation will be given orally or in writing.