Questions over Roy Porter, *English Society in the 18th Century*

1. What was the size of England’s army in 1794? How did this compare to Europe?

2. What helped Britain be proud of herself in the late 18th century?

3. How did the English portray themselves?

4. How did Europeans portray the English?

5. What was the size of the population of England in 1700? How much of the population was engaged in agriculture? How much of the population resided in the countryside?

6. What did London magistrate Patrick Colquhoun summarize as wrong with the penal system?

7. How did agriculture change during the 18th century?

8. What was the infant mortality rate in 1700?

9. Give the income levels per year of different classes of society according to Gregory King.

10. Give four examples of the rawness of life.

11. Explain how England was a “face-to-face society.”

12. Who were the bluestockings? What distinguished them? Give at least one example of a bluestocking.

13. How was society sexually segregated?

14. What was the attitude toward marriage in 1700? How had it changed by 1800?

15. Describe the four cardinal functions of a married lady in polite society.

16. What was the “angel in the house”?

17. Describe the life of Elizabeth Haim.

18. What did marriage among the lower classes mean?


20. Describe the different regions of Great Britain.

21. What made England united in the 18th century?

22. How did London connect with the rest of the country?

23. What were the four major distinctions/contracts in England?

24. What was Daniel Defoe’s division of the social structure and why?

25. Why does Marx’s 3-level division not work in Georgian England?
26. What are Gregory King’s divisions of occupations at the end of the 17th century?

27. Describe 5 gradations of the English social ladder. How did the clergy fit into the social system?

28. Describe the English aristocracy in terms of: a) Size; b) Comparison to European sizes; c) Areas of life they controlled (at least 5).

29. Describe the gentry – occupations and characteristics

30. Describe tenant-farmers.

31. Who were the middling men of 1700 and what were their incomes? Describe their place in the social structure.

32. Describe the middle class in terms of: a) Range of wealth; b) Place in social structure; c) Occupations

33. Was England a nation of shopkeepers? Give details of the numbers.

34. How did working people control their own lives? How did the not control their lives?

35. What were the advantages and disadvantages of being a servant?

36. What were the conditions in the factories like?

37. Name the three riots of the 18th century. Why did they not create revolution?

38. How did the alliance Monarchy and magnates work?

39. What did the Septennial Act do?

40. How did elections for MP work?

41. What was the taxation policy?

42. What was a JP? What did they do? (Be specific). What were the problems of this system?

43. What was the Poor “Settlement”? What was the cost of the poor in 1700? In 1776? In 1786? In 1803?

44. Name 3 exceptional London Magistrates. How did they attempt reform?

45. Porter says there are two mirages of pre-industrial times. What are they, and why does he say they are wrong?

46. What was Matthew Boulton’s view of marriage?

47. Describe the rates of bastardy and how they changed?

48. Give three characteristics of parent-child relationships.

49. Name and describe four holidays.

50. What was the role of clubs in England?

51. How did learning occur?
52. Describe contrasts of Anglicanism and the Methodists.

53. What are Porter’s themes?

54. Describe the English economy. Give at least 6 characteristics.

55. Name ten leisure enjoyments in England.

56. How were freedoms perceived and protected?

57. Describe Georgian frankness on sexuality.

58. How did attitudes toward children begin to change?

59. Name ten inventions of 1750-1800.

60. What was *The Times*’ list in 1795 for the Poor? The Quality?