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**Question 3: (CCOT) Trace the changes that occurred in agriculture from subsistence-farming to the Agricultural Revolution referring specifically to specific inventors and innovations.**

**Introduction:**

1. **Contextualization:** During the 18th and 19th centuries, a series of innovations in farm production took place and became known as the Agricultural Revolution. This period of time brought significant changes to agriculture and food production, with Britain taking the lead in agricultural improvements. The Agricultural Revolution also paved the way for the British Industrial Revolution, which, as the former, impacted many lives.
2. **Restatement:** There were many changes that occurred in agriculture from subsistence farming to the Agricultural Revolution, yet many practices remained continuous even throughout it.
3. **XY Thesis:** During the time period between the 18th and 19th centuries in Western Europe, England's superiority over other countries, the disparity between landlords and peasants, and the subjugation of women remained constant in society and agricultural production (X) while there were significant changes in the process of agriculture such as new crops, new inventions, and the enclosure method (Y).

**Body 1:**

1. **Topic Sentence:** During the 18th and 19th centuries, the Agricultural Revolution caused certain things to be constant because it allowed for the perpetuation of the then-existing societal structure.
2. **Examples:**
  - a. **England's Superiority over Other Countries:** One continuity between the 18th and 19th century that occurred in the agricultural society was England's superiority over other countries. The reason for this is because, just like before, the English people came up with new inventions and new crops. They were therefore ahead of many other countries that were not able to do so, such as the Eastern European countries. English landlords searching to make more profit off of agriculture created many inventions and did research on agricultural topics. Inventors like Jethro Tull, Charles Townsend, and Robert Bakewell serve as examples of innovative English landlords.

- b. **Disparity Between Landlords and Peasants:** Another continuity between the 18th and 19th century that occurred in the agricultural society was the disparity between the landlords and peasants. This is because landlords still exerted much pressure on the peasants, and the peasants were directly affected by the innovations of the Agricultural Revolution. An example of this would be the enclosure method; landlords were able to control the farmers on their land by fencing the common lands, reclaiming previously untilled waste and transforming strips of land into block fields.
- c. **Subjugation of Women:** The last continuity between the 18th and 19th century that occurred in the agricultural society was the subjugation of women. This is because women were still treated inferior to men and were expected to do domestic chores. The situation of these women may have, in fact, worsened because the machines of the Agricultural Revolution took the place of traditional jobs women took. An example of this is the seed drill taking place of a woman spraying seeds by hand.

## Body 2:

1. **Topic Sentence:** During the 18th and 19th centuries, the Agricultural Revolution caused certain things to change because of the life-changing and revolutionary changes in agriculture made at this time.
2. **Examples:**
  - a. **New Crops:** One change between the 18th and 19th centuries that occurred in agriculture was the new crops that were developed. The reason for this change is that cultivation of the potato became widespread. It was initially started in the New World and came into widespread European production during the 18th century. On a single acre, enough potatoes could be raised to feed one peasant family for an entire year because potatoes are nutritious and dense.
  - b. **New Inventions:** Another change between the 18th and 19th centuries that occurred in agriculture was the new inventions made. The reason for this change is that English landlords searching for more profit came up with ways to increase the output of food, and therefore, of money. Some examples are:
    - i. **Jethro Tull:** He conducted many experiments and financed others. He devised the seed drill, which increased wheat crop by planting the seeds deep into the soil rather than just casting it randomly on the surface of the land. He also revolutionized plows with his iron plow to turn the earth more deeply and for longer periods of time. These methods permitted land to be cultivated for longer periods of time without having to be left fallow, or barren.

- ii. Charles “Turnip” Townsend: He encouraged important innovations. He learned from the Dutch how to cultivate sandy soil with fertilizers. He also instituted crop rotation, using wheat, turnips, barley and clover. This new system of rotation replaced the fallow field with one having crops that both restored nutrients to the soil and supplied animal fodder. The additional fodder meant that more livestock could be raised and meant animals could be kept even in harsh winter months, ensuring year-round milk and meat. The larger number of animals increased manure available for fertilizer, which increased the food for people as well.
  - iii. Robert Bakewell: He pioneered new methods of animal breeding that produced more and better animals and more milk and meat.
  - iv. Arthur Young: He edited the Annals of Agriculture. In 1793, he became secretary of the British Board of Agriculture. Young traveled all across Europe, and his books are among the most important documents portraying life in the second half of the eighteenth century.
- c. **The Enclosure Method:** The last change between the 18th and 19th centuries that occurred in agriculture was the enclosure method. The reason for this change is that landlords were searching for ways to use their land more efficiently with a higher output of food. The enclosures were consolidations or enclosed lands owned by landlords that were not available to use communally. These enclosures were intended to use land more rationally than the method used before of each farmer tilling an assortment of unconnected strips and using the fields openly. Achieving greater commercial profits, the enclosure process involved the fencing of common lands, the reclamation of previously untilled waste and the transformation of strips into block fields. Although the enclosures were controversial and riots ensued, the enclosures did permit the extension of both farming and innovation and thus increased food production on larger agricultural units. They also disrupted small traditional communities because the enclosures forced off the land independent farmers, who needed the pasturage, and poor cottage dwellers, who had lived in the reclaimed wasteland.

**Conclusion:**

1. **Restatement:** There were many continuities throughout the Agricultural Revolution, such as England’s superiority over other countries, the disparities between peasants and their landlords and the subjugation of women. There were also many changes during the Agricultural Revolution, specifically new crops, new inventions and the enclosure method.
2. **Synthesis:** The increase of knowledge in agriculture that occurred during the Agricultural Revolution is analogous to the Neolithic Revolution many years before, in which there was a boom in agricultural knowledge. During the Neolithic Revolution, people learned

how to domesticate the animals and plants and used such methods as opposed to the hunting-and-gathering methods. This event is similar to the Agricultural Revolution because both increased agricultural knowledge and therefore food output significantly and therefore grew the population exponentially.