Characteristics of pre-industrial Britain

Class

Gender

Society was split into upper and lower class. You were born into it. Aristocracy or gentry owned land, lower class mainly worked on the land. Mainly manual labour.

Male dominated society, women seen as the weaker sex

* **Upper class** had more sophisticated activities, complex rules.
* **Lower class** had brutal and simple games with very few rules but opportunities to win money.
* **Activity by both classes** were rare however, some existed, but had different roles. Lower class would do the hard work, take part, the rich would sponsor the poor.
* Betting by upper class

Activities reflected their perceived ability.

Lower class women took part in festival activities

Upper class took part in different activity

Poor = smock race

Upper class = archery

Fox hunting, real tennis

Mob football, dog fighting, bear baiting, cock fighting, prize fighting.

Pedestrian

lower class would do the walking; upper class would be patrons.

Captain Robert Allardice. (1000 miles)

Wagering.

Cricket: Gentleman amateur and the ’players’ (poor/lower class professional)

Characteristics of post-industrial Britain 1850

Gender

Increase in participation by women however, still mainly restricted to the roles that they were given by men. School teaching was an acceptable occupation, however, very restricted in any other area.

Activity for the rich women stayed the same; they had more time to take part than their poor counter-part. Poor women still had the least access to recreation and sport due to heavy work load and, or family.

Middle class became pioneers of physical activity due to role of school teacher

Upper class: Archery or tennis

Lower class women had little or no sport, festival participation only

**How social factors shaped sport in the twentieth Century**

Amateur/ Pro

Professionals team sport, however, most sports were still amateur. Rugby union was Amateur until 1995. Increase in popularity of football saw increase in spectators.

Football was becoming a professional game; rugby league was already pro. Tennis formed (ATP) 1972

Rugby union remained Amateur until 1995.