LEQ #3: Trace the changes that occurred in agriculture from subsistence-farming to the Agricultural Revolution and discuss how it changed the dynamics of the Family Economy.

**Thesis Paragraph**

*Contextualization* In the eighteenth century, the Agricultural Revolution in Western Europe changed traditional methods of farming in order to account for the consumer demand of the growing population, caused by fewer destructive wars, fewer epidemics, improved hygiene and sanitation, and better crops. Before this event, peasants worked within the family economy and practiced subsistence farming, where all goods benefited the household and each family produced just enough for themselves. *(Thesis)* The agricultural changes from subsistence farming to the Agricultural Revolution occurred because of a new system of crop rotation and the enclosure movement. In turn, these changes placed a commercial view on the family economy and forced many peasants to leave the system. *(Argument)* The Agricultural Revolution ultimately allowed agriculture to prosper and gain more capitalistic opportunities.

**Body Paragraph #1: Changes**
The changes in agriculture from subsistence farming to the Agricultural Revolution included crop rotation and the enclosure movement.

1. **Evidence**: Charles Townsend instituted crop rotation using turnips, wheat, barley, and clover.
   **Analysis**: Previously, a third or a half of the land was left fallow so that it could regain its nutrients. The crops presented by Townsend were planted in these empty fields, which allowed more food to be grown, restored the land’s nutrients at the same time, and supplied animals with food. More animals could be raised and fed year-round, creating more fertilizer for crops and more food for people.

2. **Evidence**: The enclosure movement involved changing strips of separated land into compact, fenced-off block fields.
   **Analysis**: The movement replaced the open-field method, which included strips of land left fallow, animals grazing over common land, and the planting of a single crop to prevent competition. This old method did not encourage new innovations and aimed at a steady, but not growing food supply. Enclosures made farming more efficient, used land more rationally, and allowed for a greater amount of crops, livestock, and profit.

**Body Paragraph #2: Family Economy**
These agricultural changes altered the dynamics of the family economy by giving it a more commercial view and forcing peasants to work in cities.

3. **Evidence**: The enclosure movement introduced a more capitalistic attitude from merchants into the countryside.
   **Analysis**: A peasant family usually produced enough food for just themselves. Enclosures changed this by greatly increasing the supply of food, leading some families to sell their crops for profit and orient their farming towards marketing.

4. **Evidence**: Enclosures fenced off common land and made farming become more efficient.
   **Analysis**: This forced independent and poor farmers off the land and decreased the amount of people required to farm. Most people chose to leave the family economy in search of new work, resulting in the move to the cities and their work in the factories.

**Conclusion**
Therefore, crop rotation and the enclosure movement introduced agricultural changes from subsistence farming to the Agricultural Revolution, which made the family economy have a more commercial view and made many peasants leave to work in the cities. *(Synthesis)* The Agricultural Revolution and changes in the family economy are similar to the Industrial Revolution and changes in the cottage industry. The new spinning jenny allowed 120 spindles of thread to be spun at a single time; allowing both spinners and weavers to work faster and produce more cloth for merchants, just as the enclosure movement allowed farmers to produce more crops. The invention of the water frame put the textile industry into factories, which increased cotton production by 800 percent in twenty years. Agricultural innovations forced many to leave the family economy and the water frame forced many to leave the cottage industry, while both led to increased productions and people working in factories.