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| **Aim:** | **Date:** |
| **Key Words:**  **1.**  **2.** |  |

**Communism**

**A. Karl Marx and the Communist Manifesto**

Karl Marx was born in Germany in 1818. As a young man, he watched how the Industrial Revolution changed Germany. He saw the effects of urbanization as more and more people left their farms to find work in factories. As we have discussed, many of these people worked in horrible conditions. Marx believed that this must change. In 1847, Marx wrote a book with Friedrich Engels called *The Communist Manifesto*. In the book he said that the Industrial Revolution was making the rich get richer, while the poor were getting poorer. He said that a revolution was inevitably going to occur in these countries.

*Identify a cause and effect relationship in this document.*

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*What was Karl Marx’s point of view?*

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**B. Social Classes: The Bourgeoisie and The Proletariat**

In *The Communist Manifesto,* Marx said that social classes have always been fighting with each other. Marx wrote that there were two social classes: the bourgeoisie, who were the upper-class bosses who were rich and powerful, AND the proletariat, who were the workers who had very little money and no power. Marx and Engels wrote:

“Master and slave, lord and serf, First Estate and Third Estate, in a word, the powerful and the powerless, are always at war with each other. There are only two ways for this war to end: Either there will be a revolution to change the unfair treatment of the workers, or the entire society will fail and collapse.”

- The Communist Manifesto – Marx and Friedrich Engels

*What are the Bourgeoisie?* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*What are the Proletariat?*

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*What was the purpose of the Communist Manifesto?*

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**C. Communism**

Marx believed that the Industrial Revolution would destroy the entire society. He felt that the very large proletariat must revolt against the much smaller bourgeoisie and take the factories away from them. All of the workers would then share the money that they made so that everyone would be equal. Eventually, the proletariat would rule a society with no social classes at all.

Marx called his theory communism. He described communism as everything in society being owned by the people of that society. Everything would be shared equally and there would be no such thing as private property anymore. Marx wanted everyone to be seen as equal.

“The proletariat have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win! Workers of the world, unite!”

“Let the ruling classes tremble before a communist revolution: the workers have nothing to lose by it but their chains… They have the world to win…Workers of every land, unite!”

- Marx & Engels 1848

*How does communism work?*

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*How will a revolution occur?*

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**D. Compare and Contrast**

Indicate which of the following systems you think is better by checking each statement you most agree with.

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| **Communism** | **Capitalism** |
| * All Adults who are able to work are guaranteed jobs Except for high government officials; no one is noticeably richer than anyone else. No is poor either * People are supposed to work hard to “serve the people.” They do not receive extra money when they work extra hard. * High quality daycare is provided free of charge for the children of working parents. * As part of your pay, the government gives you a place to live and provide healthcare. * Materialism is considered evil. All people must wear a plan simple uniform that is given to them by the government. Fancy hairstyle and makeup are frowned upon. People must learn to appreciate each other for what they are – not because of the material possessions they own. | * If you work hard, get a good job and are lucky, you can get ahead. It is also possible to be unemployed and very poor. * People who work hard usually get extra money. * Parents who work have to find someone to take care of their children. This is not the responsibility of the government. * It is your responsibility to find a place to live ad pay for it. If something happens and you do not have a place to go you may end up homeless. * Advertisements encourage people to buy the lasts fashions and products. The message of many of those advertisements is: “you are what you own.” Those who have more feel superior. |

*Which economic system is better? (Use evidence to explain your claim)*

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