



Karl Marx (1818-1883) was a philosopher. He co-wrote and published *The Communist Manifesto* with Friedrich Engels in 1848. According to Marx and Engels, capitalists exploited or mistreated workers. However, workers created the capitalists' wealth and therefore, workers, not capitalists, should control the factors of production. Workers needed to unite and overthrow their capitalist overlords. Once the workers led a violent revolution, a dictatorship of the proletariat or workers would rule. The dictatorship would control all the factors of production. Private property would be abolished. All wealth would be shared equally. The dictatorship would make all economic decisions.

1- Who was Karl Marx?

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2- What did he write?

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3- Who was Marx's coauthor?

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4- When did Marx publish *The Communist Manifesto*?

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5- Who were the proletariat?

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6- Who exploited the proletariat?

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7- How were the proletariat exploited?

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The last lines of *The Communist Manifesto*:

“Let the ruling classes tremble at a communist revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win.

Proletarians of all countries unite!”

8- According to Marx, what did workers need to do?

9- What would happen after the workers' actions?

10- What is the name given to an economy where the government makes all economic decisions?

11- According to Marx, who should own the factors of production?

12- According to Marx, how is wealth distributed in a communist society?

13- According to Marx, why should workers unite?

1. Which written work criticized the capitalist system during the Industrial Revolution?

- (1) *Communist Manifesto* by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
- (2) “White Man’s Burden” by Rudyard Kipling
- (3) *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith
- (4) *The Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin

2. Which characteristic is associated with an economy based on the principles of laissez-faire?

- (1) prices based on supply and demand
- (2) production quotas established by the central government
- (3) distribution of goods determined by the customs of a traditional society
- (4) some goods exchanged for other goods of equal value

3. In *The Communist Manifesto*, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels expressed the idea that

- (1) religion should be the most important factor in society
- (2) power should be determined by a person’s wealth
- (3) profits from work should belong to the workers
- (4) supply and demand should control prices

4. Adam Smith would most likely agree with which statement?

- (1) Revolution is the only solution to economic problems.
- (2) Five-year plans are necessary in order to industrialize.
- (3) All nations would benefit from an agricultural economy.
- (4) Government should follow a laissez-faire policy.

Base your answer to question 5 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

... The need of a constantly expanding market for its products chases the bourgeoisie over the whole surface of the globe. It must nestle everywhere, settle everywhere, establish connections everywhere. . . .

— Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels

5. Which historical event do Marx and Engels believe created the situation described in this passage?

- (1) Cold War
- (2) World War I
- (3) Russian Revolution
- (4) Industrial Revolution

6. Karl Marx predicted that laissez-faire capitalism would result in

- (1) a return to manorialism
- (2) a revolution led by the proletariat
- (3) fewer government regulations
- (4) an equal distribution of wealth and income

7. Base your answers to questions 7 on the speakers’ statements below and on your knowledge of social studies.

*Speaker A:* Government should not interfere in relations between workers and business owners.

*Speaker B:* The workers will rise up and overthrow the privileged class.

*Speaker C:* Private property will cease to exist. The people will own the means of production.

*Speaker D:* A favorable balance of trade should be maintained by the use of tariffs.

7. Which two speakers represent Karl Marx’s ideas of communism?

- (1) A and B (3) B and D
- (2) B and C (4) C and D