**Communism**

**The Communist Manifesto**
- Karl Marx co-authored *The Communist Manifesto* with Friedrich Engels. Both men were German, and Engels’ father owned a textile factory where he observed the abuses of industrialization first hand.
- The *Communist Manifesto* provided the basis of Marxism -- the philosophy behind communism.

**Marxism: The Theory**
- Marxism is the philosophical basis of communism -- the theory, so to speak.
- Marx believed there were two classes of people in industrial society -- the HAVES and the HAVE-NOTS. The HAVES were the bourgeoisie or owners, the ones who became rich off of other people's labor. The HAVE-NOTS were the proletariat or workers who did the labor but received little in return.
- According to Marx, there would be a world-wide revolution, and the bourgeoisie will be overthrown. The workers would seize control of all the factories and other means of production.
- Workers would own things “collectively”, or together. There would be no private property & no private ownership. Private ownership created differences and jealousies.
- People would be “paid” according to their needs – not their abilities. So the trash collector with 10 kids would be paid more than the single doctor because his needs were greater.
- Everyone would be of the same class & would have the same money, so crime & conflict would disappear. Marx believed crime was caused by the jealousy and frustration that was created by private ownership (some people owned things, and some people didn’t). This also created class conflict. True Marxism is classless.
- Government, along with the rest of society, would be run by the people – the proletariat. The government would exist to meet the needs of the proletariat, and not the needs of business.

**Communism: The Reality**
- Communism is the political system that was put in place in the name of Marxism. It doesn’t really resemble the theory very much at all.
- Communist societies were not “classless”, but had an upper class of the ruling elite, and then the rest of everyone. Members of the Communist Party who ran the government became the upper class.
- Communist governments were usually harsh & repressive and run by a dictator with a small group of ruling elite.
- Economically, the government owned and controlled all of the *Means of Production*. They set the prices of goods, and decided the quantity of goods produced. There was no competition. This is known as a Command Economy, since the government commands all aspects of it.
- There are philosophical problems in Marxism – namely the fact that it ignores the human need for incentives. If people were paid according to their need, what was the incentive to spend 8-10 extra years in school to become a doctor when you could get the same money as a trash collector?
Global History
Communism

1. Who were Marx and Engels?

8. According to Marx, what would be the social impact of these economic ideas?

2. What was their contribution to history?

9. What was Marx’s political vision?

3. What is Marxism?

10. What is communism?

4. According to Marx, how was society divided?

11. Compare Marxism and Communism.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marxism</th>
<th>Communism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Society</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. What did Marx predict would happen?

6. How did Marx envision ownership?

7. How did he believe salaries should be determined?

12. What are the philosophical problems within Marxism?