

Task: Read each paragraph and give a 1 – 2 sentence summary of each paragraph, in the space provided.

P1: The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebian, lord and serf, guild-master and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to on another, carried on an uninterrupted, now hidden, now open fight, a fight that each time ended, either in a revolutionary re-constitution of society at large, or in the common ruin of the contending classes. In the earlier epochs of history, we find almost everywhere a complicated arrangement of society into various *orders*, a manifold gradation of social rank. In ancient Rome we have patricians, equites, plebian, slaves; in the Middle Ages, lords, vassals, guild-masters, journeymen, apprentices, serfs; in almost all of these classes, again, subordinate gradations.

Your analysis:

P2: What else does the history of ideas prove, than that intellectual production changes its character in proportion as material production is changed? The ruling ideas of each gage have ever been the ideas of its ruling class. When people speak of ideas that revolutionize society, they do but express the fact that within the old society the elements of a new one have been created, and that the dissolution of the old ideas keeps even pace with the dissolution of the old conditions of existence. The modern *bourgeois* society that has sprouted from the ruins of feudal society has not done away with clash antagonisms. It has but established *new classes, new conditions of oppression, new forms of struggle* in place of the old ones. Our epoch, the epoch of the bourgeoisie, possesses, however, this distinctive feature: *it has simplified the class antagonisms*. Society as a whole is more and more splitting up into two great hostiles camps, into two great classes directly facing each other: *Bourgeoisie* and *Proletariat*.

Your analysis:

P3: From the serfs of the Middle Ages sprang the chartered burghers of the earliest towns. From the burgesses the first elements of the bourgeoisie were developed. The discovery of America, the rounding of the Cape, opened up fresh ground for the rising bourgeoisie. The East-Indian and Chinese markets, the colonization of America, trade with the colonies, the increase in the means of exchange and in commodities generally, gave to the commerce, to navigation, to industry, and impulse never before known, and thereby, to the revolutionary element in the tottering feudal society, a rapid development. The feudal system of industry, under which industrial production was monopolized by closed guilds, now no longer sufficed for the growing wants of the markets. The manufacturing system took its place. The guild-masters were closed in on one side by the manufacturing middle class; division of labor between the different corporate guilds vanished in the face of division of labor in each single workshop.

Your analysis:

P4: Meantime the markets kept ever growing, the demand ever rising. Even manufacture no longer sufficed. Thereupon, steam and machinery revolutionized industrial production. The place of manufacture was taken by the giant, Modern Industry, the place of the industrial middle class, by the industrial millionaires, the leader of whole industrial armies, the modern bourgeois. Modern industry has established the world-market, for which the discovery of America paved the way. This market has given an immense development to commerce, to navigation, to communication by land. This development has, in turn, reacted on the extension of industry; and in proportion as industry, commerce, navigation, railways, extended, in the same proportion the bourgeoisie developed, increased in capital, and pushed back into the background every class handed down form the Middle Ages. We see, therefore, how the modern bourgeoisie itself the product of a long course of development, a *series of revolutions* in the modes of production and of exchange. Each step in the development of the bourgeoisie was accompanied by a corresponding political advance of that class. An oppressed class under the sway of the feudal nobility, and armed and self-governing association in the medieval commune; here an independent *urban republic* (as in Italy and Germany), there a taxable *third estate* of monarchy (as in France); afterwards, in the period of manufacture proper, serving either the semi-feudal or the absolute monarchy as a counterpoise against the nobility, and, in fact, the cornerstone of the great monarchies in general, the bourgeoisie has at last, since the establishment on Modern Industry and of the world-market, conquered for itself, in the modern representative State, exclusive political sway. *The executive of the modern State is but a committee for managing the common affairs of the whole bourgeoisie.....*

Your analysis:

P5: We see then: the means of production and of exchange, on whose foundation the bourgeoisie built itself up, were generated in *feudal society*. At a certain stage in the development of these means of production and of exchange, the conditions under which feudal society produced and exchanged, the feudal organizations of agriculture and manufacturing industry, in one word, the feudal relations of property became no longer compatible with the already developed productive forces; there became so many fetters. They had to be burst asunder; they were burst asunder. Into their place stepped free competition, accompanied by a social and political constitution adapted to it, and by the economical and political sway of the bourgeoisie class....

Your analysis:

P6: In proportion as the bourgeoisie, *i.e.*, Capital, is developed in the same proportion as the proletariat, the modern working class, developed – a class of laborers, who live only so long as they find work, and who find work only as long as their labor increases capital. These laborers, who must sell themselves piece-meal, are a commodity, like every other article of commerce, and are consequently exposed to all the vicissitudes of competition, to all the fluctuations of the market. Owing to the extensive use of machinery and to division of labor, the work of the proletarians has lost all individual character, and consequently, all charm for the workman. He becomes an appendage of the machine, and it is only the most simple, most monotonous and most easily acquired knack that is required of him. Hence, the cost of production of a workman is restricted, almost entirely, to the means of subsistence that he requires for his maintenance, and for the propagation of his race. But the price of a commodity, and therefore also of labor, is equal to its cost of production. In proportion, therefore, as the repulsiveness of the work increases, in the same proportion the burden of toil also increases, whether by the prolongation of the working hours, by increase of the work exacted in a given time or by increased speed of the machinery, etc.....

Your analysis:

P7: Masses of laborers, crowded into the factory, are organized like soldiers. As privates of the industrial army they are placed under the command of a perfect hierarchy of officers and sergeants. Not only are they slaves of the bourgeoisie class, and of the bourgeois State; they are daily and hourly enslaved by the machine, the foreman, and, above all, by the individual bourgeois manufacturer himself. The more openly this despotism proclaims gain to be its end and aim, the more petty, the more hateful and the more embittering it is. Differences of age and sex have no longer any distinctive social validity for the working class. All are instruments of labor, more or less expensive to use, according to their age and sex....The growing competition among the bourgeoisie, and the resulting commercial crises, make the wages of the worker ever more fluctuating. The unceasing improvement of machinery, every more rapidly developing, makes their livelihood more and more precarious....The modern laborer, instead of rising with the progress of industry, sinks deeper and deeper below the conditions of existence of his own class. He becomes a pauper, and pauperism develops more rapidly than population and wealth....

The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win.

Your analysis:

epoch – extraordinary period of history
 manifold gradation – multiple levels
 subordinate gradation – lower level
 antagonism – competing force
 pauper – extremely poor person

sufficed – met the needs of
 corresponding – similar or equal to
 asunder – in separate parts or groups
 burgher – member of a medieval town
 fetter – a chain used to restrict movement

vicissitude – a change
 embittering – make angry
 dissolution – termination, end
 subsistence – means of survival
 precarious - unstable