

## INDUSTRIALIZATION PATTERNS OF THOUGHT

NAME:

The Industrial Revolution created problems wherever it spread. In England and the rest of Europe, the growth of manufacturing led to the establishment of a working class that was overworked and underpaid. Many job seekers were unable to find employment. Factory owners often hired women and children as young as six because they worked for less than men. Slums and crowded living conditions plagued cities and the crime rate increased. Different people had different ideas on how to solve the problems brought about by the Industrialization. Their ideas are summarized below:

### Liberals

- Opposed the notion that government should regulate business practices.
- They believed in “laissez faire” – a hands-off policy by government toward business.
- Liberals said that there were bound to be poor people in society no matter what reforms the government enacted. Therefore, it was pointless for government regulations.
- They also used the ideas of **T. R. Malthus** who stated that overpopulation was the problem of the factory worker for having too many children to support.

### Democratic Liberals

- Urged governments to intervene to aide factory workers.
- Favored higher wages, shorter working days, safer conditions in the factories, labor unions, and worker rights.

### Utopian Socialists

- **Charles Fourier** wanted to create a “utopia” – a perfect society. Small communities where no one would be rich or poor and the problems of industrialized society would be eliminated.
- **Robert Owen** believed that the conditions people lived shaped their character. Set up schools, built houses, and established low-priced stores.

### Marxists

- Karl Marx was the leading socialist thinker of the time. Wrote The Communist Manifesto.
- Saw history as class struggle between wealthy capitalists (**bourgeoisie**) and the working class (**proletariat**).
- Marx believed that eventually the **proletariat** rise up and overthrow the **bourgeoisie** in a violent revolution.
- Factories, roads, railroads, etc. would be owned by the government so that wealth could be distributed evenly among the people.

**Section A.** Match the names and terms in column one with the descriptions in column two.

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|--------------------------|--|
| 1) _____ Charles Fourier | a. urged communist revolutions             |
| 2) _____ proletariat     | b. wage earners                            |
| 3) _____ Robert Owen     | c. wanted a “hands off” policy in business |
| 4) _____ Capitalists     | d. blamed overpopulation on the workers    |
| 5) _____ laissez-faire   | e. democratic-liberals favored them        |
| 6) _____ Adam Smith      | f. government ownership of industry        |
| 7) _____ socialism       | g. his attempt as utopian societies failed |
| 8) _____ Karl Marx       | h. policy of government non-interference   |
| 9) _____ T. R. Malthus   | i. created theory of supply and demand     |
| 10) _____ labor unions   | j. wanted to create a utopian society      |

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**Section B.** Do the following opinions belong to liberals, democratic liberals, Utopian socialists, or Marxists?

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ “Throughout history the working class has been exploited by the wealthy capitalists.”
- b) \_\_\_\_\_ “Small communities properly organized can provide ideal working and living conditions.”
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ “When the government does not interfere with business more goods can be produced, more workers can be hired, and increased profits can be made.”
- d) \_\_\_\_\_ “Government must understand that there will be poor as well as rich people, and nothing can be done about it without disrupting society.”
- e) \_\_\_\_\_ “Workers can only achieve their goals through violent revolution against the wealthy.”
- f) \_\_\_\_\_ “Capitalism should be maintained, but reforms need to be made to help the workers.”
- g) \_\_\_\_\_ “Poverty and unemployment are the results of overpopulation which is the fault of the workers.”

**Section C.** Answer the following questions about *The Communist Manifesto*.

- 1) How do Marx and Engels define class, and what do they mean by the “class struggle”?
- 2) Marx believes that bourgeois society is doomed and that the bourgeoisie will be the cause of their own destruction. Why?
- 3) What may explain the popularity and influence of *The Communist Manifesto* among workers and those who sympathized with them?