

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

1. After World War II, the majority of countries that became communist did so as a result of
  - a. democratic elections by their citizens.
  - b. returning to their form of government from before the war.
  - c. a vote by the national government.
  - d. having the system imposed as satellites of the Soviet Union.
  - e. revolutions by the proletariat.
  
2. After World War II, the Soviet Union imposed regimes over all of the following countries EXCEPT
  - a. Czechoslovakia
  - b. Romania
  - c. Bulgaria
  - d. Albania
  - e. Poland
  
3. In addition to Mongolia, which country had the only other communist government *prior* to the end of World War II?
  - a. China
  - b. the Soviet Union
  - c. North Korea
  - d. Cuba
  - e. North Vietnam
  
4. Cuba became a Soviet ally and adopted Marxism-Leninism in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. 1898
  - b. 1961
  - c. 1945
  - d. 1939
  - e. 1970
  
5. Under the Leninist state, the communist party called all the shots; they were led by a group of self-selected and self-perpetuating officials who sat atop a vast hierarchy labeled as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Bolshevik
  - b. totalitarian
  - c. anarchism
  - d. majoritarian
  - e. None of the above is true.
  
6. Under communist governments, most productive capacity was owned by
  - a. individuals.
  - b. cooperatives managed by their workers.

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

- c. the state.
  - d. the military.
  - e. private corporations.
7. Under the leadership system developed by Lenin, communist countries controlled
- a. the media.
  - b. education.
  - c. most leisure activities.
  - d. the economy.
  - e. All of the above are true.
8. The communist countries were said to have “command economies” because
- a. they were centrally planned by the state.
  - b. workers told their bosses what to do.
  - c. the military ran the whole economy.
  - d. the market determined how the economy operated.
  - e. consumer demand determined economic goals.
9. The communist world began to unravel shortly after \_\_\_\_\_ became general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1985.
- a. Mikhail Gorbachev
  - b. Leonid Brezhnev
  - c. Leon Trotsky
  - d. Boris Yeltsin
  - e. Nikita Khrushchev
10. As a result of central planning, by the 1950s communist countries were among the world leaders in the production of which of the following?
- a. Steel
  - b. Gold
  - c. Computers
  - d. Oil
  - e. Cars
11. In transitioning from communist rule, the Eastern European and former Soviet States had to
- a. create new government institutions and shift to a private ownership economy.
  - b. maintain the communist government and shift to a private ownership economy.
  - c. create new government institutions and maintain a state-owned economy.
  - d. maintain the communist government and maintain the private ownership economy.

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

- e. maintain the communist government and maintain the state-owned economy.
12. Socialism can be traced back to which seventeenth-century English movement?
- a. Protestants
  - b. Anglicans
  - c. Catholics
  - d. Levelers
  - e. Communists
13. Along with Karl Marx, which individual wrote *The Communist Manifesto* that first set out the ideas later known as Marxism?
- a. Vladimir Lenin
  - b. Josef Stalin
  - c. Friedrich Engels
  - d. Leon Trotsky
  - e. Mao Zedong
14. To varying degrees, socialists generally agree that
- a. providing for public ownership and control of a substantially more egalitarian society will improve human relations in general.
  - b. private property cannot be permitted.
  - c. democracy cannot be allowed to prevent the creation of an egalitarian society.
  - d. “freedom from” hunger, disease, and poverty must be earned.
  - e. equality of opportunity is a sufficient goal.
15. Marx borrowed which idea from Georg Hegel, who believed that societies shift from one stage to another?
- a. Proletariat
  - b. Bourgeoisie
  - c. Nomenklatura
  - d. Historical materialism
  - e. Dialectic
16. In Marxist thought, profit
- a. requires exploitation of the working class.
  - b. will pull the working class out of poverty.
  - c. gives owners resources that they can use for the common good.
  - d. will be the driving force in a socialist economy.
  - e. is the proper reward for entrepreneurial activity.

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

17. Marx believed that the socialist revolutions would first occur in
- advanced industrial societies.
  - agriculturally-based societies.
  - countries with repressive governments.
  - countries with a small working class.
  - countries with small, but committed, socialist movements.
18. The person who developed a strategy for winning a revolution (which was then used as the basis for organizing the Soviet Union and most other communist countries) was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Marx
  - Engels
  - Lenin
  - Stalin
  - Trotsky
19. The general philosophy and organizational framework used by communist countries was known as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Menshevism
  - social democracy
  - totalitarianism
  - Marxism-Leninism
  - plutocracy
20. According to Marx, immediately after the anticipated workers' revolution, there would be a transition phase as capitalism was destroyed and resources were redistributed equally. What was Marx's name for this transition period?
- Anarchy
  - Opiate of the masses
  - Dictatorship of the proletariat
  - Empire of the bourgeoisie
  - Communism
21. The person most responsible for the repressive policies that earned the Soviet Union the term "totalitarian" was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Marx
  - Engels
  - Lenin
  - Stalin
  - Trotsky
22. Authorities in Stalinist states

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

- a. commanded the demand side but not the supply side of their economies.
  - b. tolerated political opponents and co-opted those who won elections.
  - c. endeavored to control even the social lives and recreational activities of citizens.
  - d. allowed freedom of the press, but controlled news sources carefully.
  - e. promoted individualism.
23. The organization that Lenin set up to control worldwide socialist revolutions was known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Comintern
  - b. Politburo
  - c. Secretariat
  - d. Warsaw Pact
  - e. NATO
24. Under Stalin, prior to World War II, the socialist movement focused on
- a. worldwide expansion.
  - b. socialism in one country.
  - c. forceful expansion into neighboring countries.
  - d. creating free and open societies.
  - e. opening new markets for Soviet goods.
25. After Stalin's death, the Soviet Union moved away from focusing on the cult of personality as part of the process of
- a. glasnost.
  - b. de-Stalinization.
  - c. perestroika.
  - d. cultural revolution.
  - e. balance of power.
26. Reforms under Khrushchev allowed criticism of
- a. current party leadership.
  - b. Lenin.
  - c. Communist Party rule.
  - d. socialism.
  - e. Stalin.
27. The post-war military alliance led by the Soviet Union was known in the West as
- a. NATO.
  - b. the Third International.
  - c. Comintern.
  - d. the Warsaw Pact.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

e. the Budapest Alliance.

28. In the Soviet Union, almost every child in the country joined what Communist Party-dominated organization, similar to the American Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts?

- a. Young Soviets
- b. Hitler Youth
- c. Red Army
- d. Young Pioneers
- e. Cadre

29. Joseph Stalin was followed by \_\_\_\_\_ as the leader of the Soviet Union?

- a. Mikhail Gorbachev
- b. Boris Yeltsin
- c. Nikita Khrushchev
- d. Leonid Brezhnev
- e. Leon Trotsky

30. The movement that was largely responsible for defeating the communist regime in Poland was

- a. the Velvet Revolution.
- b. Solidarity.
- c. the Democracy Movement.
- d. the Greens.
- e. Catholic Renewal.

31. The 1980s program meant to promote more openness in the Soviet political system was called \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. ostankino
- b. sarbonis
- c. perestroika
- d. glasnost'
- e. nomenklatura

32. The 1980s attempt to restructure the Soviet economy was known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. ostankino
- b. sarbonis
- c. perestroika
- d. glasnost
- e. nomenklatura

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

33. The late 1980s were significant for communist nations because of all of the following EXCEPT
- the Berlin Wall came down.
  - communist reformers took power in Hungary.
  - protestors occupied Beijing's Tiananmen Square for a month.
  - the communist government in Poland collapsed.
  - Fidel Castro came to power in Cuba.
34. The peaceful reform movement in Czechoslovakia in 1968 that eventually led to a Soviet invasion of the country was known as
- the Czech Rally.
  - Prague Spring.
  - the Tiananmen Square demonstration.
  - the Slovak Challenge.
  - the Velvet Revolution.
35. Which country was the only Eastern European country to experience serious violence, including the executions of the former ruling family, during the 1989 transition from communism?
- Hungary
  - Poland
  - Czechoslovakia
  - Romania
  - East Germany
36. Which individual emerged as the leader of Russia immediately following the collapse of the Soviet Union?
- Nikita Khrushchev
  - Leonid Brezhnev
  - Boris Yeltsin
  - Vladimir Putin
  - Yuri Andropov
37. Countries that retained communist governments in 2013 were those that were
- poorer than the countries that abandoned communism.
  - more open to international trade and ideas.
  - less willing to use repressive force.
  - most affected by Marxist rather than Leninist ideas.
  - most well-endowed with natural resources.
38. Which ethnic conflict in Eastern Europe introduced the world to the term "ethnic cleansing"?
- Chechnya

## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

- b. Armenia
- c. Tibet
- d. Tiananmen
- e. Bosnia-Herzegovina

39. During the Cold War, countries like Poland, Romania, and Bulgaria were known as Soviet \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWER: satellites

40. The Soviet leader who spearheaded the reforms before communism collapsed there and in Eastern Europe was \_\_\_\_\_.

41. Rather than the equality of opportunity stressed by liberals, Marxists tend to emphasize equality of \_\_\_\_\_ instead.

42. Karl Marx believed, as did German philosopher Georg Hegel, that societies shift from one stage to another in a wrenching process known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

43. Marx and most Marxists called the owners of property and wealth the \_\_\_\_\_.

44. Marx and most Marxists called the workers the \_\_\_\_\_.

45. The communist parties in communist states were run according to the principle of \_\_\_\_\_ that gave all power to a small, elite group.

46. In Leninist states, appointments to key positions had to be drawn from the \_\_\_\_\_, a list of approved names, maintained by the Central Committee.

47. The two critical institutions within the Soviet "party state" were the Secretariat and the \_\_\_\_\_.

48. The reform launched by Mikhail Gorbachev to allow more openness in the political system in the Soviet Union was known as \_\_\_\_\_.

49. Marx developed his ideas, assuming that the revolution would occur first in a mature capitalist society. It did not happen that way. How do the adaptations made to Marxism affect the way the countries that became communist evolved?

50. Under Marxist theory, in communism there is no need for government structure because people would be free from exploiting each other. Do you agree that this is possible? Does government serve functions beyond preventing exploitation?



## Chapter 07: Current and Former Communist Regimes

### Current and Former Communist Regimes

51. Why did the centralized systems, especially in the industrial economy, prove less effective in the 1970s and 1980s than they had been earlier?
52. How did the decision to “open” the Iron Curtain in Hungary lead to the collapse of European communism?
53. How did Mikhail Gorbachev’s programs of glasnost’ and perestroika, which were designed to “fix” the Soviet Union, lead to its collapse?
54. Are the challenges facing the former communist countries of Eastern Europe more serious than the challenges facing the industrialized democracies of Western Europe? Why or why not?
55. Lenin and Stalin in the Soviet Union, Mao in China, and Castro in Cuba are just a few examples of the “cult of personality” that appears in communist societies. Why do these societies seem to produce this “cult of personality”? Do we see the same in industrialized democracies? Why or why not?
56. During communist rule, any internal conflicts (ethnic, religious, etc.) were suppressed by the government. Now that many of these states have collapsed, what has the impact been on the level of violence and conflict in these now-former communist countries? Use specific examples to illustrate your arguments.
57. What factors explain why some postcommunist countries have been more successful than other in transitioning to democracy and/or capitalism? How might those countries that are lagging in democratization catch up or is it now too late?
58. Given how few Communist states remain, why study Communism in an introduction to comparative politics course?
59. The majority of governmental systems in countries that used to have Marxist-Leninist regimes are best described as:
- Hybrid regimes
  - Democratic regimes
  - Theocracies
  - Military dictatorships
  - Failed states