Communism & Socialism

Grades 6-12

Teacher’s Guide
Credits

Program Production
Sunburst Visual Media

Teacher's Guide
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About This Guide

Providing students with visual media is an excellent way to take them out of the classroom and into the real world. Our programs offer real-world footage, dynamic graphics, engaging dramatizations, and first-person testimonials that keep students interested and help them visualize difficult concepts. More importantly, they reinforce critical learning objectives shaped by state and national educational standards. However, the learning doesn’t begin and end when the program does. You can make the learning experience even more effective by using the materials provided in this Teacher’s Guide.

This guide is divided into the following sections:

- **Fast Facts** are designed to give your students a quick overview of the information presented within the video.

- **Before Viewing Activities** help identify what students already know about the subject, what they are curious about, and what they hope to learn.

- **During Viewing Activities** may be used during viewing to enhance students’ understanding of the video.

- **After Viewing Activities** help students summarize and draw conclusions from the information that was presented.

- **After Viewing Quizzes** test students’ retention of the information presented in the program and activity sheets.

- **Additional Resources** are designed to help you extend the information presented in the program into other areas of your curriculum.

- **Answer Keys** are provided for relevant activities or reproducible pages.

- **Script** content is provided in an unabridged version for future reference.
**Program Overview**

**Communism & Socialism** focuses on the two types of economic structures, communist and socialist. It discusses the role Karl Marx played in condemning capitalism (which he saw as an economic system that exploited workers) in support of Communism. His dream was to have a classless society where the need for government would eventually cease. The video further displays that his idea of a classless society was flawed.

The information presented in the video follows the spread of Communism and Socialism from its European founders to its implementation in Russia, Europe, and Asia. Students will learn how America’s response and attention to anti-capitalist nations has shaped history.

**Viewing Objectives**

After viewing the DVD/video and engaging in the activities provided, students will be able to:

- Describe the desired goals of Communism and Socialism
- Understand that political and economic theories are ideas, and that they rarely play out exactly as envisioned
- Describe the major reasons why the hopes for an egalitarian society did not work
- Identify some of the major proponents of Communism and Socialism
Fast Facts

• Wars have been fought and governments toppled in hopes of creating a more perfect world.

• Communism and Socialism are two ideologies that have generated ambitious efforts to change societies and even revolutionize economies.

• Although they are considered quite different today, communist and socialist ideologies evolved from the same desired goal...a society in which everyone is equal.

• Karl Marx, a German economist, condemned capitalism for robbing the labor class of their skills and independence.

• The solution was to change the economic structure to one where each person would benefit equally from a collective ownership of the means of production — that is a communist or socialist structure.

• A communist system would support a classless, or egalitarian, society where everyone works “according to his ability” and receives “according to his needs.”

• The term “communist” became synonymous with Marxist revolutionaries, while “socialist” came to represent a belief in a more gradual progression into egalitarian society.

• In 1917 the Tsar of Russia was overthrown. A Marxist revolutionary, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, maneuvered his Bolsheviks into power to form the world’s first Communist government.

• Lenin would have to adapt Marxism to fit Russia. He planned to build a working class proletariat by industrializing the country as quickly as possible.

• Joseph Stalin came to power in 1928 and decided to rid the Soviet Union of private ownership once again. He dismantled most of Lenin’s New Economic Plan and replaced it with the first of several Five Year Plans.

• To crush his opposition, Stalin began a program of terror called the Great Purge.

• Stalin’s secret police arrested millions of people. Neighbors and even members of the same family spied on each other.

• Under Stalin a totalitarian regime emerged, a regime that controlled all levels of life: all published materials, education, and even open conversation.

• In 1947, President Truman announced The Truman Doctrine, America’s official policy for containing Communism.
• Under the Truman Doctrine, U.S. Secretary of State General George Marshall urged U.S. leaders to provide massive amounts of financial aid to help Europe rebuild. Providing economic stability was seen as the best way to safeguard democracy and prevent the spread of Communism.

• The Marshall Plan, also known as the European Recovery Plan, was born which The Soviet Union saw as an American act of aggression — a direct attempt to impose capitalist beliefs on European countries.

• Stalin met with Churchill and Truman and agreed to divide the defeated country, Germany.

• In its occupied zone to the east, the Soviet Union set up a communist regime and dictator. To the west, the allies created the Federal Republic of Germany.
# Vocabulary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UTOPIA</td>
<td>ideal commonwealth whose inhabitants exist under seemingly perfect conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPITALISM</td>
<td>free-market economic theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNISM</td>
<td>an economic theory that demands collective ownership of property as well as the organization of labor for common advantage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIALISM</td>
<td>theory of social organization where production and distribution of goods is collectively owned and distributed equally; the government often plans and controls this kind of economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOURGEOISIE</td>
<td>middle class of society</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROLETARIAT</td>
<td>labor class of society</td>
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<tr>
<td>EGALITARIAN SOCIETY</td>
<td>a classless society where everyone works according to his ability and receives according to his needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMINE</td>
<td>food shortage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVOLT</td>
<td>rebellion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALITARIAN</td>
<td>complete control; authoritarian</td>
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</table>
KWLS Chart

Find a partner. Before watching the video, take a few minutes to consider what you already know about Communism and Socialism. Write these ideas in the first column of the chart below. Next, think of two things you would like to know about Communism and Socialism, and write these questions in the second column of the chart. We will return to this chart following the video to add the things we learned and still want to know later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What we KNOW about Commumism and Socialism</th>
<th>What we WANT TO KNOW about Commumism and Socialism</th>
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<th>What we LEARNED about Commumism and Socialism</th>
<th>What we STILL want to learn about Commumism and Socialism</th>
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Discussion Questions

Consider the following scenario: You are a farmer who is an extremely hard worker. You go the extra mile to produce the best crops. You know that your work is far superior to other farmers in your area. Each time you gather your harvest, the government forces you to give most of your crops back to them to be given to others. You receive no payment for your crops.

Would this scene encourage you to work harder or not as hard? Why?
Think – Pair – Share – Activity

The following process will help you generate questions about the Great Depression.

**Supplies:**
- large index cards
- pens/pencils
- overhead/white board

**Step 1: Think —** Take several minutes to consider your feelings about the questions. Think about what the pluses and minuses would be to this type of governmental control.

**Step 2: Pair —** Find a partner in the classroom. Get two note cards from your teacher. Title one card, “Pluses,” and the other card, “Minuses.” Write both of your thoughts on the two cards.

**Step 3: Ink —** Circle your favorite statement on each card and be prepared to share it with the class.

Go around the room and allow each pair of students to share their favorite ideas. Review these ideas again after watching the video; see if any of their thoughts have changed or if they have additional thoughts.
### True or False

Read the following statements about Communism and Socialism. Before watching the video, decide if each statement is true or false and put an X in the appropriate box. After you’ve viewed the video, go through each statement again. Put an X in the appropriate box once again, and compare your answers with your earlier responses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before Viewing</th>
<th>After Viewing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>true false</td>
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What Role Did I Play?

While you are watching the video, jot down important information about each of the following personalities that played a role in the spread of Communism and/or Socialism. Include the country with which each was associated as well as the general time frame he was involved with the country's politics.

Personalities who Promoted Communism or Socialism

Joseph Stalin

Karl Marx

Vladimir Lenin

Mao Tse-Tung

Fidel Castro
**PMI (Plus, Minus, Interesting)**

During the video, write down information in the chart below. Listen for facts from the video that are pluses or minuses to Communism and Socialism. Write that information in the first two columns. Write any information that you find interesting in the last column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plus</th>
<th>Minus</th>
<th>Interesting</th>
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Nifty Notes

While you are watching the video, fill in each sentence with the correct term.

Karl Marx, a German economist, condemned __________________ for robbing the labor class of their skills and independence.

A communist system would support a classless, or __________________, society where everyone works "according to his ability" and receives "according to his needs."

In 1917 the Tsar of Russia was overthrown. A Marxist revolutionary, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, maneuvered his Bolsheviks into power to form the world's first __________________ government.

In 1947, President Truman announced The __________________, America's official policy for containing Communism.

The Marshall Plan, also known as the __________________, was born which The Soviet Union saw as an American act of aggression...a direct attempt to impose capitalist beliefs on European countries.

Communism took shape in China more smoothly than it had in ________________. Mao Tse-Tung quickly gained the majority support of his people.

In 1961, East German forces erected a wall to stop the flow of escapees. Armed guards posted every few feet and mine fields planted along the course of the wall made escaping into ________________ a deadly gamble.

That year a revolutionary named Fidel ________________ marched into power in _____________. He and his army of guerillas ousted Batista and established his regime.

U.S. President __________________ attempted to overthrow Castro.

Mao recruited millions of young people to be part of the ________________. These teenagers were encouraged to rebel and destroy every reminder of the past.

1988 found the economies throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union on the verge of collapse. Discontent was reaching the boiling point. Gorbachev decided that the ________________ needed to be opened at last.

Marx himself never shared a clear plan for maintaining ________________ in a communist society. For instance, how do you account for individual differences of opinion or ________________ between workers?
Organize Your Notes With An Outline

Use this outline to help you take notes while you are watching the video. This activity will allow you to organize the important information obtained from the video about Communism and Socialism. A few have been completed for you.

Communist Leaders
1. Vladimir Lenin (1917)
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. ____________________________________________________________ __

By 1866, Marx had united labor unions in:
1. England
2. 
3. 
4. 

Following World War II, Stalin set up communist dictatorships in:
1. Poland
2. 
3. 
4. 
5.
Interviewing Techniques

Pretend you are going to get the opportunity to interview one of the major personalities who played a role in the spread of Communism and/or Socialism (Marx, Stalin, Lenin, Castro, Mao Tse-Tung). Based on the information you learned by watching and discussing the video, write five interview questions that you would ask this person. With your partner, script five answers that you two think would reflect the viewpoint of the historical figures you are interviewing.

After you have written and answered each interview question, decide who will play each part. One of you will be the interviewer while the other plays the interviewee. Practice the interview in preparation for presenting it in front of your classmates.
Below is a list of scrambled words. Think about words and people associated with the video we watched, and try to unscramble each of the words. Notice the numbers under some of the letters. These numbers will help you uncover a hidden message at the bottom of the page.
Word Search

Find each of the following words in the word search. A secret message will be revealed once you find all of the words. To find the secret message, start at the beginning of the word search and write down each letter that is not circled by any word in the puzzle. Write each letter down in order at the bottom of this page. Keep writing the letters following the puzzle from left to right.

LENIN  TOTALITARIAN  MARSHALL PLAN  PROLETARIAT
REVOLT  CAPITALIST  TRUMAN DOCTRINE  BOURGEOISIE
STALIN  FAMINE  COMMUNISM  EGALITARIAN
UTOPIA  SOCIALISM  KARL MARX

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E T N H M S E U T M R N U T M
A N N A T S T D S O A C N A E
T R I A I O I I I I I N A E I W
A S L R P R L N R A L M S R E
R I I I I T A A A U P C I A A S
N O A F I C T T L M O F T T X
I C I C A I O L I E M L E R
P O O L L I A D G L O O N L A
C S Y A F H O R N V A I C O M
R C G O S N U T E A M T A R L
I E N R I O N R G A M C O P R
O M A M B U N I F S M U Q T A
R M T S I L A T I P A C R O K
G T H N I N E L V G U S K T F
U W M M T I O K V U J M D E J
What A Year!

Using information you learned in the video, from your social studies textbook, as well as from any other resources you have available, fill in each statement with the year that the event took place.

• In __________, Mao Tse-Tung and his Communist party gained power in China.

• In __________, East German forces erected a wall to stop the flow of escapees.

• In __________, the Tsar of Russia was overthrown. A Marxist revolutionary, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, maneuvered his Bolsheviks into power to form the world's first Communist government.

• In __________, Castro announced to the world that Cuba was now a Communist country.

• Joseph Stalin came to power in __________, and decided to rid the Soviet Union of private ownership once again.

• As a result, in __________, President Truman announced The Truman Doctrine, America's official policy for containing Communism.

• In June __________, Deng used tanks and soldiers to clear away thousands of young people who had gathered in Tiananmen Square to demand democratic reforms.

• In __________, the Labour Party came to power in Great Britain. France, Italy, Belgium and many other countries saw socialists win victories in the ensuing years.

• Inspired by Stalin's rapid industrialization of the Soviet Union, Mao introduced The Great Leap Forward in __________.

• Stalin died in __________, and was succeeded by Nikita Kruschev.

• In __________, Marx with the help of his colleague, Friedrich Engels, published The Communist Manifesto.

• By the time Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in __________, there were clear signs that Communism wasn't working.
Social Studies Quiz

WORD BANK:

VLADIMIR LENIN  IRON CURTAIN  CASTRO
TRUMAN DOCTRINE  CAPITALISM  BATISTA
MIKHAIL GORBACHEV  COMMUNISM  CUBA

Karl Marx, a German economist, condemned ________________ for robbing the labor class of their skills and independence.

The first Communist leader of Russia was ________________.

Under which leader did Communism ultimately collapse in Russia? ________________

In 1958, a revolutionary named Fidel __________ marched into power in ________.

1988 found the economies throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union on the verge of collapse. Discontent was reaching the boiling point. Gorbachev decided that the ________________ needed to be opened at last.

In 1947, President Truman announced The ________________, America’s official policy for containing Communism.

Read the following statements. Decide whether each one is true or false. Circle the correct letter: T for true, or F for false. If a statement is false, underline the portion of the sentence that makes it false.

T  F  The middle class in society is called the Bourgeoisie.

T  F  Karl Marx was a German economist who supported Capitalism.

T  F  When Vladimir Lenin came into power in Russia, he allowed peasants to keep the land they had seized during the revolution, and he allowed them to keep all of the produce they harvested.

T  F  Stalin created a totalitarian regime that controlled all levels of life: all published materials, education, even open conversation.

T  F  President Truman announced The Truman Doctrine in 1947 as America’s official policy for spreading Communism. This policy guaranteed assistance to any country in the world that wanted to become a communist country.

T  F  Communist and Socialist ideologies evolved from the same desired goal: a society in which everyone is free from government authority to compete and profit as they wish.
Vocabulary Quiz

Use the vocabulary words from the word box to correctly complete each sentence.

WORD BANK: UTOPIA CAPITALIST PROLETARIAT BOURGEOISIE
            FAMINE COMMUNISM EGALITARIAN TOTALITARIAN
            REVOLT SOCIALISM

The people who make up the middle class are called the

________________.

When Lenin took control of Russia’s manufacturing industry, food production was suffering which resulted in a ________________.

To __________________ is to rebel against a person or group of people who are controlling policies or making unwanted decisions.

Under Stalin a ________________ regime emerged, a regime that controlled all levels of life: all published materials, education, even open conversation.

A ________________ country is one where people are free from government authority to compete and profit as they wish.

The Greek work meaning “no place” is ________________, which was Sir Thomas More’s imaginary island where everyone is equal, prosperous, educated, and wise.

The ________________ is the labor class of society.

A(n) ________________ society is a classless society where everyone works according to his ability and receives according to his needs.
Interdisciplinary Ideas 1

Social Studies/Map Skills/Research Skills

Pass out a copy of a blank world map to each student. Have the students work in groups to research what countries have operated under Communism. They will have to locate the country, label it, and shade it in as a Communist or previously Communist country. You may want to have the students shade them using one color for countries that currently operate under Communism and another color for countries that were previously Communist.

Language Arts

Read Animal Farm by George Orwell either independently, in literature groups, or as a read aloud. Make a list of the main characters in the book. Compare these main characters in the book to the major personalities involved in the Russian Revolution. Have the students try to match up the characters in the story to the real-life people who were involved at the time.

Discuss why George Orwell may have written this book rather than making a direct attack on Russia.

Compare and contrast the events in the book to the actual events that occurred in Russia.

Research/Writing

Assign pairs or groups of students a different historical person related to Communism or Socialism. Have them research this person and write an essay describing his personal strengths as well as the role he played in the Russian Revolution. Encourage your students to be creative with how they present their findings. They may choose to perform a skit/play, present a PowerPoint presentation of their work, or use any other original way of showing what they have learned.

Social Studies/Research

Have the students create a timeline of the events from the rise of Communism in Russia to its demise. They should include any major events that occurred during this time period. Each leader associated with Russia should also be included on the timeline. Have the timeline span the length of the classroom, and allow the students to create pictures to show events as well as a brief explanation of each occurrence.

This project could be completed as a whole class, or you could divide the class into four groups. Each group creates its own timeline on one of the walls in the classroom or in the hallway. Compare and contrast the completed timelines.
Language Arts/Research/Social Studies

President John F. Kennedy attempted to overthrow Fidel Castro. Have the students research this period of history. Choose two students to carry on a mock debate. One will play the part of Fidel Castro, and the other will play the part of John F. Kennedy. Have each character present his viewpoint while the other character disputes it. Ask them to use the information from their research to help them to respond. Allow several groups of students to present similar debates.
Use the following discussion questions after your students watch the Communism and Socialism video. Encourage your students to discuss these topics in pairs or in small groups. Answers will vary.

1. Consider Sir Thomas More's imaginary island, Utopia, where everyone is equal, prosperous, educated, and wise. Why do you think he chose that name, meaning "no place"?

2. Think about Karl Marx's original idea for a classless society. His hope was to create a society that would be harmonious. What factors contributed to the disharmony that actually occurred?

3. When Mao Tse-Tung was in power he was very interested in attaining national wealth. Discuss the consequences of Mao Tse-Tung's decision to have farmers make steel in their backyards rather than tend to the crops in the field.

4. Discuss how the increased availability of television and radio broadcasts impacted the people in communist countries.

5. "Prior to the free market, goods were produced by skilled craftsman and artisans. In the capitalist system these specialized skills lost their value, as machines were invented that could produce the same goods cheaper and faster."

   What do you think about that statement? Has the free market caused the skilled craftsman to fade away? If you think it has, do you consider that to be a positive or a negative aspect of our capitalist society?
**Suggested Reading List**

Cumming, David. (1995) *Modern Industrial World: Russia*. Thomas Learning, New York. The author of this book took a three-month trip to Russia in 1993 where he took photographs and conducted research. The book includes information about Russia’s past and present times, their land use, trade and industry, and their life today. Its pictures and historical facts provide a detailed picture of that country to its readers.

Degens, T. (1997) *Freya on the Wall*. Browndeer Press. Freya on the Wall is a novel about a three sisters who, at the end of World War II, are separated while trying to escape the advancing Russian army. The sisters, one in the United States, another in West Germany, and the third in East Germany, each describe what life is like during this historic time period. The book’s setting includes the year 1989 when the Berlin Wall comes down.


Marrin, Albert. (1993) *Stalin: Russia’s Man of Steel*. Penguin USA. This book describes the life of Joseph Stalin, the man who played a major role in shaping the Soviet Union. It describes his role in the development from pre-revolutionary Russia to a superpower as well as the fall of the “Iron Curtain.”

Orwell, George. (1946) *Animal Farm*. Harcourt, Inc., Florida. *Animal Farm* is a satirical literary work that parodies the events of the Russian Revolution as well as the years that followed. The author uses animals as its characters who are trying to create an ideal community.

Vail, John J. (1988) *Fidel Castro*. Chelsea House Publications. This book is a biography on Fidel Castro, the man who became the dictator of Cuba in 1959 after revolting against Batista’s military dictatorship. It describes how Castro reorganized Cuba into a communist state.
Suggested Reading List


Below are a list of sites that you may use to find more information about the communism and socialism. Due to routine web maintenance, not all of the links will be accurate at the time of access. If the link is not available, try to conduct a search on that topic from the main site or from a search engine.

**The Principles of Communism**
Written in question/answer format, this website is based on writing authored by Frederick Engels in 1847. Engels answers questions about Communism, defines terms associated with Communism, and delves into the subject of personal property and property rights. The question/answer format makes the site easy to read and allows its readers to readily find information.

www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1847/11/prin-com.htm

**Communism**
This site is an encyclopedia article with factual information about Communism. This website would be beneficial for students who are researching the definition of Communism or any of the people who are associated with this type of governmental theory. It includes many direct links to additional information on many of the topics discussed.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communism

**Russia and Communism**
The easy-to-read format of this website makes it well-suited for students in middle school. It has bulleted important facts about Russia, Communism, the Russian Revolution, Russian Leaders, and Karl Marx. This site would be great for students who are researching information about Russia or Communism.

www.mrdowling.com/707russia.html

**Communism**
The ten essential parts to Communism as described in the Communist Manifesto are detailed in this website.

www.Communism-1.com/

**Labour Party**
The Labour Party is a democratic socialist party which is a strong and active political party in Great Britain. This is their website, which gives a modern view of a country that operates under Socialism.

www.labour.org.uk/
Communist Party of China
Information and web links about the Communist Party of China are provided on this website. The site gives a modern-day look at a country that still operates under Communism.
www.chinatoday.com/org/cpc

Social Democrat
Various links to Social Democrat political parties in Canada and Europe are provided on this site.
www.fact-index.com/s/so/social_democrat.html

Marxism Page
Marxist writings of Karl Marx, Lenin, Trotsky, and Engels are featured on this website. It includes Marx’s analysis of Capitalism as well as other Marxist classics.
www.anu.edu.au/polsci/marx/marx.html
True or False

Read the following statements about Communism and Socialism. Before watching the video, decide if each statement is true or false and put an X in the appropriate box. After you’ve viewed the video, go through each statement again. Put an X in the appropriate box once again, and compare your answers with your earlier responses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before Viewing</th>
<th>After Viewing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>true</td>
<td>false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The middle class in society is called the Bourgeoisie.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karl Marx was a German economist who supported Capitalism.</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When Vladimir Lenin came into power in Russia, he allowed peasants to keep the land they had seized during the revolution, and he allowed them to keep all of the produce they harvested.</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalin created a totalitarian regime that controlled all levels of life: all published materials, education, even open conversation.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Truman announced The Truman Doctrine in 1947 as America’s official policy for spreading Communism. This policy guaranteed assistance to any country in the world that wanted to become a communist country.</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communist and Socialist ideologies evolved from the same desired goal: a society in which everyone is free from government authority to compete and profit as they wish.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communism took shape in China more smoothly than it had in Russia. Mao Tse-Tung quickly gained the majority support of his people.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When Kruschev came into power upon Stalin’s death in 1953, Kruschev spoke highly of Stalin’s leadership. He called Stalin a hero.</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 1961, East German forces erected a wall to stop the flow of escapees from East Germany to West Germany.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 1961, Castro announced that Cuba was now a Communist country. Kruschev welcomed Cuba into the international association and offered economic assistance, so the Soviet Union now had an ally on America’s doorstep.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nifty Notes

While you are watching the video, fill in each sentence with the correct term.

Karl Marx, a German economist, condemned _______capitalism______ for robbing the labor class of their skills and independence.

A communist system would support a classless, or _______egalitarian______, society where everyone works “according to his ability” and receives “according to his needs.”

In 1917 the Tsar of Russia was overthrown. A Marxist revolutionary, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, maneuvered his Bolsheviks into power to form the world’s first _______Communist______ government.

In 1947, President Truman announced The _______Truman Doctrine______, America’s official policy for containing Communism.

The Marshall Plan, also known as the _______European Recovery Plan______, was born which The Soviet Union saw as an American act of aggression...a direct attempt to impose capitalist beliefs on European countries.

Communism took shape in China more smoothly than it had in _______Russia______. Mao Tse-Tung quickly gained the majority support of his people.

In 1961, East German forces erected a wall to stop the flow of escapees. Armed guards posted every few feet and mine fields planted along the course of the wall made escaping into _______West Berlin______ a deadly gamble.

That year a revolutionary named Fidel _______Castro______ marched into power in _______Cuba______. He and his army of guerillas ousted Batista and established his regime.

U.S. President _______John F. Kennedy______ attempted to overthrow Castro.

Mao recruited millions of young people to be part of the _______Red Guard______. These teenagers were encouraged to rebel and destroy every reminder of the past.

1988 found the economies throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union on the verge of collapse. Discontent was reaching the boiling point. Gorbachev decided that the _______Iron Curtain______ needed to be opened at last.

Marx himself never shared a clear plan for maintaining _______harmony______ in a communist society. For instance, how do you account for individual differences of opinion or _______resentments______ between workers?
Organize Your Notes With An Outline

Use this outline to help you take notes while you are watching the video. This activity will allow you to organize the important information obtained from the video about Communism and Socialism. A few have been completed for you.

Communist Leaders
1. Vladimir Lenin (1917)
2. Joseph Stalin (1928)
3. Mao Tse-Tung (1949)
4. Nikita Kruschev (1953)
5. Fidel Castro (1958)
6. Leonid Breshnev
7. Mikhail Gorbachev (1982)

By 1866, Marx had united labor unions in:
1. England
2. France
3. Italy
4. Germany

Following World War II, Stalin set up communist dictatorships in:
1. Poland
2. Czechoslovakia
3. Hungary
4. Romania
5. Bulgaria
Scrambled Words

ROTVELE  REVOLT  43 32 14
TUPAOI  UTOPIA  5 33 16
FAENIM  FAMINE  37 10 40 19 68 36
CAMPIALIST  CAPITALIST  61 22 25 28 8
INTIGLEARA  EQUITABLE  47 27 34 52 64 11
ROSEIGUEO  BOURGEOISIE  2 70 53 52 24 66 13 48
SOLASCIMI  SOCIALISM  20 26 1 44
NMMSMIUCO  COMMUNISM  15 39 3 46 30
RATTEOIPLAR  PROLETARIAN  38 57 18 23 41 45 58 9
TAAATINOITRLA  TOTALITARIAN  60 56 63 6
RAKRMARX  KARL MARX  17 72 51
JEOPHSNIATSL  JOSEPH STALIN  54 59 29 42 49 21 71 7 65
LAVIDMRNIELN  VLADIMIR LENIN  35 55 69 4 57 31 50

COMMUNIST  AND  SOCIALIST
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
IDEOLOGIES  EVOLVED  FROM
22 12 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36 12 37 38 39 40
THE SAME  DESIRED  GOAL OF
41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 12
53 54 55 56 57 37 58
SOCIETY  IN  WHICH  EVERYONE
59 60 61 62 31 63 64 65 42 66 1 42 29 35 29 67 2 68 47
IS  EQUAL
69 8 43 70 71 72

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Word Search

Find each of the following words in the word search. A secret message will be revealed once you find all of the words. To find the secret message, start at the beginning of the word search and write down each letter that is not circled by any word in the puzzle. Write each letter down in order at the bottom of this page. Keep writing the letters following the puzzle from left to right.

LENIN TOTALITARIAN MARSHALL PLAN PROLETARIAT
REVOLT CAPITALIST TRUMAN DOCTRINE BOURGEOISIE
STALIN FAMINE COMMUNISM EGALITARIAN
UTOPIA SOCIALISM KARL MARX

The Truman Doctrine was America's official policy for containing Communism.
What A Year!

Using information you learned in the video, from your social studies textbook, as well as from any other resources you have available, fill in each statement with the year that the event took place.

- In **1949**, Mao Tse-Tung and his Communist party gained power in China.
- In **1961**, East German forces erected a wall to stop the flow of escapees.
- In **1917**, the Tsar of Russia was overthrown. A Marxist revolutionary, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, maneuvered his Bolsheviks into power to form the world's first Communist government.
- In **1961**, Castro announced to the world that Cuba was now a Communist country.
- Joseph Stalin came to power in **1928**, and decided to rid the Soviet Union of private ownership once again.
- As a result, in **1947**, President Truman announced The Truman Doctrine, America's official policy for containing Communism.
- In June **1989**, Deng used tanks and soldiers to clear away thousands of young people who had gathered in Tiananmen Square to demand democratic reforms.
- In **1945**, the Labour Party came to power in Great Britain. France, Italy, Belgium and many other countries saw socialists win victories in the ensuing years.
- Inspired by Stalin's rapid industrialization of the Soviet Union, Mao introduced The Great Leap Forward in **1958**.
- Stalin died in **1953**, and was succeeded by Nikita Kruschev.
- In **1848**, Marx with the help of his colleague, Friedrich Engels, published The Communist Manifesto.
- By the time Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in **1982**, there were clear signs that Communism wasn't working.
Karl Marx, a German economist, condemned **Capitalism** for robbing the labor class of their skills and independence.

The first Communist leader of Russia was **Vladimir Lenin**.

Under which leader did Communism ultimately collapse in Russia? **Mikhail Gorbachev**

In 1958, a revolutionary named Fidel **Castro** marched into power in **Cuba**.

1988 found the economies throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union on the verge of collapse. Discontent was reaching the boiling point. Gorbachev decided that the **Iron Curtain** needed to be opened at last.

In 1947, President Truman announced The **Truman Doctrine**, America’s official policy for containing Communism.

Read the following statements. Decide whether each one is true or false. Circle the correct letter: T for true, or F for false. If a statement is false, underline the portion of the sentence that makes it false.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>True/False</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The middle class in society is called the Bourgeoisie.</td>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vocabulary Quiz

Use the vocabulary words from the word box to correctly complete each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORD BANK:</th>
<th>UTOPIA</th>
<th>CAPITALIST</th>
<th>PROLETARIAT</th>
<th>BOURGEOISIE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FAMINE</td>
<td>COMMUNISM</td>
<td>EGA LITARIAN</td>
<td>TOTALITARIAN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The people who make up the middle class are called the _____ Bourgeoisie __________.

When Lenin took control of Russia's manufacturing industry, food production was suffering which resulted in a _____ famine ______.

To ______ revolt ______ is to rebel against a person or group of people who are controlling policies or making unwanted decisions.

Under Stalin a ____ Totalitarian ______ regime emerged, a regime that controlled all levels of life: all published materials, education, even open conversation.

A _____ Capitalist ______ country is one where people are free from government authority to compete and profit as they wish.

The Greek work meaning "no place" is _____ Utopia ______, which was Sir Thomas More's imaginary island where everyone is equal, prosperous, educated, and wise.

The ______ proletariat ______ is the labor class of society.

A(n) _____ egalitarian ______ society is a classless society where everyone works according to his ability and receives according to his needs.
PART ONE

SCENE ONE

Bob Rue
Since ancient times philosophers have debated over how to create the perfect world.

Frustrated with problems in societies, theorists have imagined new political, economic, and social structures in which people could exist in perfect harmony.

In 1516, Sir Thomas More wrote about an imaginary island where everyone is equal, prosperous, educated, and wise. He called it Utopia. The word “utopia” is Greek, meaning “no place.” He chose this name for a reason.

Humans have flaws and differences of opinion. Therefore, we will always have obstacles. Still, we constantly strive to improve our place in life, and...to eradicate injustice.

Wars have been fought and governments toppled in hopes of creating a more perfect world.

Communism and Socialism are two ideologies that have generated ambitious efforts to change societies and even revolutionize economies. These ideas have played a large role in the last 150 years of history.
Although they are considered quite different today, communist and socialist ideologies evolved from the same desired goal...a society in which everyone is equal. No rich people, no poor people, no private property, no governments. Just harmonious existence.

This is not a new idea. Plato wrote about the virtues of eliminating private property in the fourth century B.C. in his *Republic*. This theme has recurred throughout history in the form of rebellions and communal settlements.

But modern communist and socialist political movements emerged in the 1800's. Like many ideologies, modern Communism and Socialism were reactions to the suffering and discontent of the time.

**SCENE TWO**

**Bob Rue**

During the 1800's industrialized countries in Europe...especially Great Britain, Germany, and France...were experiencing unprecedented economic growth as a result of the Industrial Revolution.

The free-market economic theory of Adam Smith, known as *Capitalism*, contributed to the great strides in economic progress. Businesses and investors were free from government authority to compete and profit as they wished.

This new economic system created a middle class in society, the *Bourgeoisie*. In the previous economic feudal system, only wealthy landowners had the freedom to prosper.

The new capitalist system allowed merchants and entrepreneurs the freedom to venture into new businesses and gain prosperity.

Mechanization enabled factory owners to produce more for less, but this hurt the labor class, or *Proletariat*.

Prior to the free market, goods were produced by skilled craftsman and artisans. In the capitalist system these specialized skills lost their value, as machines were invented that could produce the same goods cheaper and faster.
Karl Marx, a German economist, condemned capitalism for robbing the labor class of their skills and independence. The system exploited workers, providing capitalists with an abundance of cheap labor. Factory owners could pay workers low wages and force them to work extremely long hours in wretched conditions.

A number of social and economic philosophers saw what was happening, and quickly blamed the capitalists and their private ownership of factories and resources, or the means of production.

Their solution was to change the economic structure to one where each person would benefit equally from a collective ownership of the means of production...that is a communist or socialist structure.

A communist system would support a classless, or egalitarian, society where everyone works “according to his ability” and receives “according to his needs.” Eventually, society would be so harmonious, the need for government would disappear.

SCENE THREE

Bob Rue
Karl Marx was the most influential proponent of Communism at this time. In 1848, Marx with the help of his colleague, Friedrich Engels, published The Communist Manifesto. This revolutionary document outlined the travesties of capitalism and the natural order of events that would destroy the evil system.

Marx stated that history has always been a series of class struggles between people who own property and those who work for a living.

Social and political life is controlled by those who own property and have economic power—the Bourgeoisie. Such control should belong to the workers—the Proletariat. The only way the working class could obtain a fair break is to overthrow capitalism.

Once a classless, Communist society is organized, the need for government would end. In its place will be a brotherhood of workers living in peace and harmony through economic cooperation.
By 1866 Marx had united labor organizations in England, France, Italy and Germany. He believed these revolutions would take place in these industrialized nations.

However, by the time of his death in 1883, socialist parties in Europe had made progress for the working class. They negotiated for wage increases and improved working conditions. Their desire to revolt had diminished. Marx’s predictions of revolution were not coming true in Europe.

Richard Dagger
Um, later on, Marx’s followers also split and this happened later in the 1890’s. There was a group of them that looked around and said things are changing, they’re not turning out the way Marx had thought. Workers now have the vote throughout most of Europe, which they did not have in Marx’s lifetime, wages were going up, unions were now... people can bargain through unions for better wages and better working conditions, in short, we have to adjust Marx’s theory.

And what that means is that we don’t need a revolution anymore. We can accomplish things by forming socialist parties, running candidates for office. So, that split then a group of marxists who call themselves social democrats to join up with the fabians and other socialists.

Scene Four

Bob Rue
About this time, the term “Communist” became synonymous with Marxist revolutionaries, while “Socialist” came to represent a belief in a more gradual progression into egalitarian society.

The Socialists of Europe made a decision to work within the existing government and support democracy. But in Russia, Communists found their opportunity for revolution.

In 1917 the Tsar of Russia was overthrown. A Marxist revolutionary, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, maneuvered his Bolsheviks into power to form the world’s first Communist government.
In all of Marx's writings, the revolutionary proletariat would destroy the capitalist system and form a socialist government until pure Communism could be attained. But Marx never discussed exactly how the interim socialist government would operate or how it would relinquish control to its society. It fell to Lenin, the world's first modern Communist leader, to be the architect of Socialism. This would prove difficult, as Russia was far from fitting the Marxist model of a highly industrialized country. In fact, Russia was one of the most backward countries in Eurasia, with barely any industrial base and a population made up mostly of peasants. Lenin would have to adapt Marxism to fit Russia. He planned to build a working class proletariat by industrializing the country as quickly as possible. His first move was to take government control of Russia's manufacturing industry. He allowed peasants to keep the land they had seized during the revolution, but he forced them to give most of their produce back to the government. Refusal from the peasants was not tolerated. Richard Dagger

Lenin and the other communists believed first of all you can't have a revolution without breaking some heads. Some people don't want to give up their property; they're standing in the way of progress. So they have to be removed. Part of the idea is that the true believer, the person who thinks that he or she really knows what's happening in history and where things have to be going, is somebody who's going to be ready then just to flatten anybody or anything that gets in their way.

Scene Five

Bob Rue

By 1920 Russia sat on the brink of disaster. Coupled with the ravages of World War I, Lenin's policies had brought the economy to ruins. In addition, a famine was devastating the country.

In order to stabilize Russia's economy, Lenin was forced to slow his shift toward total Communism.
He introduced his New Economic Program in 1921. It allowed peasants to produce and sell their own crops freely. Individuals were allowed to control smaller businesses. Only heavy industry remained in government hands.

Russia's economy strengthened, and unrest among peasants and workers eased. In 1922, Russia officially became the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Lenin died two years later.

Joseph Stalin came to power in 1928 and decided to rid the Soviet Union of private ownership once again. He dismantled most of Lenin’s New Economic Plan and replaced it with the first of several Five Year Plans.

At this point, Communism began to move in a different direction from the original vision of early Marxists. Stalin had maneuvered himself into a position of absolute power. Building a strong Soviet nation took precedence over bettering the lives of the Proletariat.

Stalin wanted the Soviet Union to be considered a formidable world power. This meant rapid industrialization and modernization of agriculture. To meet his goal, he collectivized all of the farms and took back the control of all businesses.

This didn't go over well with Russian peasants who had only supported the Bolsheviks because they had promised the peasants their own land.

Richard Dagger
One of the things that happened as a result of the forced collectivization of the farms, was not only were peasants shot because they didn't want to give up their land but also crop production went way down, and a lot of people just died of starvation.

Bob Rue
In the end, millions of peasants died fighting the forced collectivizations. It was a price Stalin was willing to pay. Creating huge state-run farms and modernizing them would allow him to move many farm workers out of the fields and into factories.

To crush his opposition, Stalin began a program of terror called the Great Purge. His secret police arrested millions of people. Neighbors and even members of the same family spied on each other.
Richard Dagger
The story is that one of Stalin's assistants was making a tour of various factories to see whether the factories were producing as they were supposed to be producing. And the assistant goes into the factory and he's called on to give a speech. So at the end of the speech he says, and we should all recognize that we should work hard and support our great leader Stalin. And so everybody starts clapping for Stalin, and according to the story, the factory manager says, figures well, this just can't go on, I'll be the first, I'll stop. And then everybody else stops. According to the story, the next day, the factory manager was gone.

Bob Rue
Under Stalin a totalitarian regime emerged, a regime that controlled all levels of life: all published materials, education, even open conversation.

Richard Dagger
There was always the fear that if you spoke against the regime that somebody would turn you in, you knew there were spies in various places, it became difficult to trust anybody and there was a great deal of anxiety and apprehensiveness as a result of this. There was a kind of psychological terror that was made real by the fact.

There were lots of people who were sent off to the gulags, to the concentration camps and prisons, and a lot of people killed.

Bob Rue
World War II gave Stalin a chance to expand the Soviet Union's influence. At the end of the war, Stalin set up Communist dictatorships in Soviet-occupied countries. Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria became satellites of the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia and Albania adopted communist governments also, but independently of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union viewed this expansion as a matter of national security. The Eastern European countries provided a Communist buffer between the Soviet Union and the West. But Western leaders were deeply alarmed.

The United States and its allies viewed these moves as a Soviet attempt to overthrow democratic forms of government one by one, and eventually rule the world.
As a result, in 1947, President Truman announced the **Truman Doctrine**, America's official policy for containing Communism. It guaranteed assistance to any country in the world who would be threatened by a Communist invasion. In effect, this counter move fired the first shot of the Cold War.

### PART TWO

#### SCENE SIX

**Bob Rue**

World War II had left European nations destitute. Western leaders worried that Communism would take root among these struggling nations.

Under the Truman Doctrine, U.S. Secretary of State General George Marshall urged U.S. leaders to provide massive amounts of financial aid to help Europe rebuild. Providing economic stability was seen as the best way to safeguard democracy and prevent the spread of Communism.

Congress agreed and the Marshall Plan, also known as the European Recovery Plan, was born.

The Soviet Union saw the Marshall Plan as an American act of aggression...a direct attempt to impose capitalist beliefs on European countries.

Stalin would not release his hold on Germany. He met with Churchill and Truman and agreed to divide the defeated country.

In its occupied zone to the east, the Soviet Union set up a Communist regime and dictator. To the west, the allies created the Federal Republic of Germany.

The capital city of Berlin, which was located in the Eastern German sector, was split apart as well, with a democratic government in West Berlin and the Communist East German government controlling East Berlin.

The Cold War struggle for economic influence expanded beyond Europe and into Asia. At the close of World War II, American and Soviet soldiers had marched into Korea and freed it from Japanese occupation.
They divided Korea along the 38th parallel. The Soviets controlled the north and established a Communist government there. The United States installed a democratic regime in the south. But this contract didn’t hold.

In 1949, Mao Tse-Tung and his Communist party gained power in China. The world now had an international communist alliance.

On June 25, 1950, North Korean leader Kim II Sung-feeling empowered by the emergence of a Communist China and the support of the Soviet Union-invaded South Korea.

North Korea ignored United Nations demands for withdrawal. Troops of member nations, particularly the United States, came to the aid of South Korea. The Chinese Communist Army joined North Korea and the war ended in a stalemate.

A peace agreement once again established a boundary between the Communist North and the Democratic South in 1953.

**Scene Seven**

**Bob Rue**

Amidst the battles of the Cold War, Socialism was advancing in Europe. The spread of Communism had smothered Socialist movements in Eastern Europe. But Socialism came into its own as a major political force throughout much of Western Europe.

Socialists, unlike their Communist counterparts, had decided to work within the frameworks of existing governments and capitalist structures. Instead of revolting, they focused on regulating economic systems in the interest of the worker.

In 1945, the Labour Party came to power in Great Britain. France, Italy, Belgium and many other countries saw socialists win victories in the ensuing years.

But these inroads into Europe’s parliaments brought the societies no closer to Communism. Providing welfare and social security had become an accepted policy for pro-capitalist parties. To maintain their popularity, Socialists had to distance themselves from revolutionary Marxist associations.
Communism took shape in China more smoothly than it had in Russia. Mao Tse-Tung quickly gained the majority support of his people.

**Mckinnon**
The greatest support when they came to power in the 1940's and early 1950's probably was the peasants but he had tremendous support in urban areas also at the time especially amongst young educated people because there was runaway inflation, corruption, everything was going to pieces after World War II and Chiang Kai-shek's forces were never very effective and the corruption of his regime too was very considerable, but probably most serious maybe was absolute runaway inflation.

**Bob Rue**
Mao first focused on the peasantry who had helped bring him victory. His regime took land from private landowners and gave it to the peasants.

**Mckinnon**
His roots were in the peasantry and so he really raised the standard of living in a lot of ways in the countryside initially by a drastic land reform but also education and health care, instead of developing universities and high tech and technology and such they invested what they had in mass education. First through sixth grade which was meant for peasants, for rural people and similarly they introduced basic health care, we wouldn't consider it real great health care but there was none at all it was sort of being like in India today or africa or something like that in that situation. So in the first ten, fifteen years there were real accomplishments.

**Bob Rue**
Inspired by Stalin's rapid industrialization of the Soviet Union, Mao introduced The Great Leap Forward in 1958. The goal of this three-year plan was to make China a wealthy world power on a level with the United States and Great Britain.

The state took over all of the land and corralled people into huge communes. Family units were expected to disappear.

Because steel output was the measure of national wealth at the time, citizens were expected to make steel in backyard furnaces.

While the peasants worked to exhaustion making useless metal, the crops rotted in the field. Mao's ideas defied logic, but to say so would be risking arrest or murder.
Script

Mckinnon
It was a romantic idea that China would somehow despite the fact that it had never been done in the world, industrialize the countryside with these massive collective movements and the most drastic disasters were trying to smelt everything down in back yards and so on. Another aspect of it was massive work projects building dams and railroads and some infrastructure projects you might say which made some sense but the trouble was it took everybody out of agriculture in whole areas.

Bob Rue
The result was famine. At least 30 million people starved to death. The popular support that Mao and his regime had once enjoyed drained with every lost life.

Scene Eight

Bob Rue
Back in the Soviet Union, Stalin died in 1953, and was succeeded by Nikita Kruschev. Kruschev publicly criticized Stalin in 1954. He labeled Stalin an enemy of the people and a source of terror across the Communist world.

Hungary interpreted Kruschev's speech as permission to revolt against Soviet control. But Soviet tanks quickly crushed that uprising and another in Poland.

Added to the turmoil of the Soviet Eastern European satellites was the West Berlin dilemma. Every day, as many as a thousand East Germans would walk into West Berlin and fly out of the country to freedom. The loss of workers was destroying East Germany’s economy.

In 1961, East German forces erected a wall to stop the flow of escapees. Armed guards posted every few feet and mine fields planted along the course of the wall made escaping into West Berlin a deadly gamble.

As the wall rose, so did disillusionment about the perfect Marxist, or Communist society.

The highest-ranking official to openly break with Communism was Milovan Djilas of Yugoslavia. At the time of his dissent, Djilas was the second most powerful
man in Yugoslavia's government. Djilas' criticism of the government landed him in prison.

He eventually published a book called the New Class. In it Djilas explained why no Communist revolution would ever evolve beyond a dictatorship...not a dictatorship of the Proletariat as envisioned by Marx, but a dictatorship of the Communist Party.

Richard Dagger
Some followers of Marx maintained that what happened under communism was that the communist party itself became a new oppressing, exploiting class. They said under capitalism, it's the capitalists that exploits.... Alright the communists overthrew capitalism and now they just turned around and now they are exploiting everybody else.

Bob Rue
Djilas declared that Soviet bureaucrats enjoyed special privileges and economic advantages because of the administrative posts they held...advantages they didn't want to give up.

Although the Soviet Union often referred to peoples' factories, in reality, the Russian people had very little say in the management of those resources.

Richard Dagger
By the end of the 60's there was a major reaction against communism that had set in among left wing intellectuals and political figures in Europe.

Scene Nine

Bob Rue
If the "Revolution" seemed tarnished in the Soviet Union, its promise of a better life still burned brightly elsewhere. It was 1958 and the Cuban people—suffering at the hands of a ruthless dictator named Fugencia Batista—were looking for a change.

Laticia Singer
At that time they were six million of people. In that time five and half million
people were dying of hunger. No food, no schools, no hospitals, no social security, nothing.

Bob Rue
Chary Castro, now a restaurant owner in the United States, was just a girl when Batista ruled Cuba, but she has never forgotten the terror his regime instilled.

Chary Castro
It got so bad that you were not safe to go to any public place to the movies, to the restaurants because of sabotages and they would come home just suspect that you were involved with the rebels they would come in front of everybody and take you out and right in the street shoot you to death in front of our mother, in front of your children, whoever I mean there was no there was no um... there was no feeling of compassion.

Bob Rue
That year a revolutionary named Fidel Castro marched into power in Cuba. He and his army of guerrillas ousted Batista and established his regime.

Castro didn't immediately reveal himself as a Communist. But conditions in Cuba made it a perfect place for Communism to hatch.

At the time of Castro's rise to power nearly all of Cuba's farms and businesses lay in the hands of American corporations. Most of Cuba's people were very poor and highly resentful of the role foreign companies played in Cuba's business.

Castro came into power with a huge swell of popular support. He was quick to nationalize millions of acres of land held by Americans and give it to the Cubans.

In 1961, Castro announced to the world that Cuba was now a Communist country. Kruschev welcomed Cuba into the international association and offered economic assistance. The Soviet Union now had an ally on America's doorstep.

Chary Castro
Some people hated it and they another part of the people said, if Fidel is comunista que ma gretal lista... If fidel is going to communist I want to be added to his list.
U.S. President John F. Kennedy attempted to overthrow Castro. C.I.A. agents trained Cuban exiles for an invasion. The U.S. promised to provide air coverage, but backed out at the last minute. When the exiles invaded, Castro’s forces killed or captured all of them within 72 hours.

Though it had failed, the Bay of Pigs invasion prompted Castro to ask the Soviet Union for military assistance. Kruschev offered to deploy nuclear missiles.

Kennedy publicly demanded that the Soviet Union remove the missiles. He ordered US naval forces to block all cargo ships headed for Cuba.

It was a nuclear standoff. Four days later, Kruschev agreed to remove the missiles. Nuclear War had been avoided.

A different kind of trouble was brewing in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Their economies which had made rapid progress earlier in the century, were falling behind.

The lack of incentive for profit in the Communist systems had created apathetic workers and inefficient factories. Kruschev had tried to pump life into the system by introducing profit incentives. He had also allowed factories to start producing more consumer goods...conveniences that were not previously available to the Russian people.

But his successor, Leonid Breshnev, swiftly reversed Kruschev’s reforms, and charted a course back to building national wealth...by producing heavy industrial machinery and military equipment.

From a strictly Marxist viewpoint, redistributing the nation’s wealth equally among its people should have been the main goal as the Communist system had been established.

But Soviet leaders were also nationalists. They believed in order to defend and preserve their perfect communist society, the Soviet Union must first build power and prestige. The result was chronic food shortages and long lines for limited goods.
Scene Ten

Bob Rue

Although the Soviet Union and the United States never fought each other directly, they fought to protect their ideologies and their economic interests...especially as Communism spread in Asia.

Vietnam was divided much like Korea had been a decade earlier. When North Vietnam invaded South Vietnam, the United States stepped in to stop the spread of Communism in Asia. China and the Soviet Union provided support to the North Vietnamese.

Communists eventually succeeded in taking over all of Vietnam, and neighboring Kampuchea and Laos. Communist regimes succeeded in the African nations of Angola, and Mozambique as well.

Similar situations erupted in Latin America. In the early 60's and 70's, Communist groups fought for power in Guatemala, Venezuela, Colombia, Nicaragua, Peru and El Salvador. These Central and South American revolutions provided a distant battleground of will between Communist Soviet Union and Capitalist United States.

If the Soviets bankrolled Communist guerrillas, the U.S. would finance counterrevolutionaries.

Back in China, public support of the Communist party stood on shaky ground. The disastrous Great Leap Forward discredited Mao Tse-Tung. To rebuild, he launched his Cultural Revolution in 1966.

Mckinnon
He thought that the whole system in every institution had become bureaucratic and elitist in a Confucian way, in a Chinese traditional way and little bit in a soviet way as well and that it had to be turned up side down all over again but he had no vision about what the new structure would be, it was really a kind of anarchistic impulse.

Bob Rue
Mao recruited millions of young people to be part of the Red Guard. These teenagers were encouraged to rebel and destroy every reminder of the past. The
Red Guard converged on towns, confronting teachers in their classrooms, bureaucrats in their offices, and managers in their factories demanding loyalty to revolutionary egalitarianism.

They took over government agencies and terrorized cities. They even started battling among themselves. They so disrupted academic life that universities and schools closed down.

**Mckinnon**

Yeah for at least ten years, 10-15 years and it has had a devastating effect and most Chinese would tell you it had a devastating effect in a couple of ways. One is that a whole generation really didn't go to school and missed out on a basic sort of education that they've had to kind of recoup ever since but also it de-legitimized the communists probably to this day.

**Bob Rue**

Communism was in fact suffering a legitimacy crisis just about everywhere. By the time Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in 1982, there were clear signs that Communism wasn't working.

The USSR had maintained its superpower status by ignoring the needs and general interests of its people. Maintaining the mighty Red Army and developing a nuclear arsenal equal to that of the United States had been top priorities of the Soviet Union.

In the end, the blatant disregard for civilian needs brought down the Soviet government and the ideas upon which it rested.

People realized that the Soviet Union and its satellites had failed to create the classless societies Marx had envisioned. Governments continued to be totalitarian, and, for many, the only motivation to work was fear of punishment.

Most had no hope of gaining any kind of measurable reward for their individual efforts. With the increase of available television and radio broadcasts, Russians and Eastern Europeans witnessed samples of life in the capitalist societies. The standard of living elsewhere made them envious...the cars, watches, clothing, food...

In comparison, people living under Soviet Communism still experienced food rationing.
Richard Dagger
The overall standard of living was quite a bit lower. People who defend the communist regimes will say that yes, that’s true, the overall standard of living was lower, but the people at the bottom were better off than the people at the bottom of the capitalist countries. And you’ll have debates about that. It’s the soviet’s and the communist regimes did provide basic standard of living. They were having more and more trouble sustaining that into the 1980’s and that’s why Gorbachev began to worry and that’s why he started talking about perestroika and restructuring. But clearly overall the standard of living was lower.

Bob Rue
1988 found the economies throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union on the verge of collapse. Discontent was reaching the boiling point. Gorbachev decided that the Iron Curtain needed to be opened at last.

That year, he announced that the people of Eastern Europe had the right of self-determination. One by one the countries of Eastern Europe proclaimed their independence from the Soviet Union and Communism. The movement peaked with the tearing down of the Berlin Wall in 1989. The Iron Curtain had fallen.

By 1991 Communism collapsed altogether in the Soviet Union, taking Gorbachev down with it. The Soviet Union divided into a number of republics.

The elation of Russians didn’t last long. The immediate transition from Communism to capitalism combined with the loss of their political structure created chaos from which the country is still recovering.

Scene Eleven

Bob Rue
The demise of the Soviet Union has left China as the world’s most powerful Communist country.

Deng Xiaoping succeeded Mao. His moderate beliefs steered China away from the Cultural Revolution and toward a more practical approach.
China's economy, like other communist economies was stagnating, so Deng introduced competition and free enterprise to his nation.

The new economic freedom caused a growing number of Chinese citizens to demand more political freedom. Deng didn't tolerate expressions of free speech for very long.

In June 1989, Deng used tanks and soldiers to clear away thousands of young people who had gathered in Tiananmen Square to demand democratic reforms. The world watched as hundreds were killed and thousands injured.

Aside from political crackdowns, Deng continued granting more economic freedoms. Today, uniform poverty has given way to economic diversity, and shops are filled with modern conveniences.

Mckinnon
People have fridges, VCR's televisions, decent furniture, you know all the accouterments of a better life style they're eating much better.

Bob Rue
But the future poses a dilemma for China...one that faces Communist regimes everywhere. Stay competitive with the world by allowing economic freedom...Or maintain a command economy and watch it wither?

China has chosen to compete. But will China's leaders be able to maintain authoritarian control while allowing economic freedom?

Richard Dagger
It is odd and it's bound to present people with this question. How come it's alright for me to go into business for myself, but it's not alright for me to say that I think the Chinese Communist Party is full of corruption and that I have to pay bribes to communist party officials to operate my business. And I can't run for office and I can't vote for other people. Why that doesn't seem to fit. So there is a school of thought that says that the communists will have to go one way or the other. They'll have to start either curbing the free market and moving back towards collective ownership, or they're going to have to give up more and more of their power.
Bob Rue

If you look at nations with democratic governments, in almost every case they have some kind of market-based economy.

Is the Communism of Karl Marx destined to completely fade from the world? Some political scientists say yes, because command economies eventually become mired in inefficiency and apathy. They just don’t provide enough incentive to produce a satisfactory standard of living.

Even Cuba is allowing some private farming and ownership of small businesses.

Others say Communism, as Marx intended, has never been given a fair trial. Russia, China, and Vietnam were not the ideal settings that Marx had in mind for communist revolutions.

On the other hand, Marx himself never shared a clear plan for maintaining harmony in a communist society. For instance, how do you account for individual differences of opinion or resentments between workers?

The fact is political and economic theories are ideas. And ideas rarely play out in reality exactly as they are envisioned.

Most political ideologies undergo some type of compromise based on the changing needs of society... just as capitalist systems had to compromise and allow some socialist programs to resolve its problems.

Communism still exists, mainly in China and Cuba, but it has changed out of necessity, as have all forms of government.