

Write your name on the cover of the test booklet and nowhere else. Failure to follow these directions will cost you 1 point. The test has 150 points (to be scaled up to 210 points) and is scheduled to take 75 minutes. Therefore, expect to spend 1 minute for every 2 points. For example, a 16-point question should take 8 minutes. I will allow some extra time, but I will not allow much.

1) (14 points) Do EITHER Part A OR Part B.

- A) Explain why bankruptcy laws are needed before a transition to capitalism can occur.
- B) Explain why securities laws are needed before a transition to capitalism can occur.

2) (16 points each) For TWO of the following leaders, would Marx have had a generally positive or a generally negative opinion of them? Explain your logic.

- A) Lenin
- B) Stalin
- C) Gorbachev

3) (16 points) Do EITHER Part A OR Part B.

- A) Marx's theories can be used to explain why the USSR fell apart. Explain this logic.
- B) Marx said dialectic materialism is the major factor in determining the path of history. Give an example of how the path of history was determined by dialectic materialism.

4) (20 points) Do EITHER Part A OR Part B.

- A) What are two of socialism's greatest **strengths**? Explain why socialism is **better** than capitalism in these two aspects.
- B) What are two of socialism's greatest **weaknesses**? Explain why socialism is **inferior** to capitalism in these two aspects.

5) (20 points) Do you think that Russia will overcome its problems and improve in the future, or do you think it will continue to decline? Provide at least two arguments with explanations.

6) (24 points) Do EITHER Part A OR Part B.

- A) Communists first came to power in Russia. However, I think Marx would have predicted that they would have come to power in England first. Why did they come to power in Russia, but never come to power in England?
- B) No pure economic system will work well. What modification could be made to pure socialism to make it more efficient? Explain why socialism does not work well and your proposal to improve it. Be specific about the reforms you are proposing.

7) (24 points) Do EITHER Part A OR Part B.

- A) Which (of the many problems that Russia is currently facing) is its worst problem? Why did you choose that one? How could Putin reduce that problem? Explain why your proposal will reduce the problem.
- B) Which aspect of Russia's transition from communism to capitalism was handled very poorly? Explain why you chose that aspect of the transition. What could have been done differently? How would your proposal have helped the transition?