Name: _____ Date: _____

What Are the Basic Beliefs of Communism?

Document # 1

"All businesses must be taken out of the hands of private individuals. The owners of the means of production (Bourgeoisie) exploit and abuse their workers (proletariat). The **Bourgeoisie** use their workers to make enormous profits for themselves while their employees get nothing for their labor. The government, in the name of the people, must take over all businesses and industries. Only then will the **proletariat** receive equal pay and be treated fairly and humanely. This is the foundation of Communism."

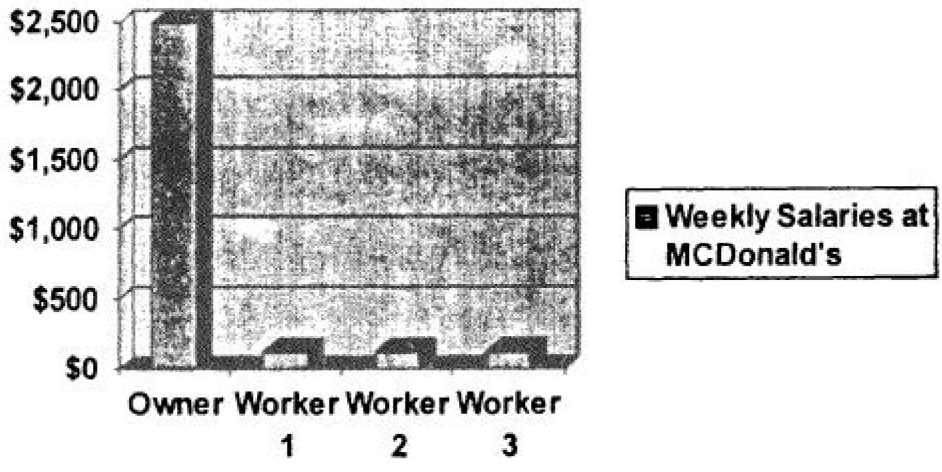
- Karl Marx, Das Capital

Based on this document, how will communism solve the problems of working people?

_____
_____
_____

Document #2

Does the graph below support Marx's Communist beliefs? Why? _____
_____
_____
_____
_____



1. Which class of society would be more likely to oppose communism; the **Bourgeoisie** or the **Proletariat? _____** because _____
_____
_____

2. “Business owners are too greedy and refuse to pay their workers a reasonable salary.”
This speaker probably believes in the economic system of _____
I agree / disagree with this statement because _____
_____
_____

3. “I risked my life savings when I started my business and I worked hard and took many risks in order to become successful. I deserve to make much more than my workers.”
This speaker believes in the economic system of _____
I agree / disagree with this statement because _____
_____
_____

4. “In order to gain justice and a decent life for the working people (85% of the population) , violence, including killing the wealthy business owners is justified.”
This speaker believes in the economic system of _____
I agree / disagree with this statement because _____
_____
_____

Document #4



Based on this document, what method would be used to replace the old system of capitalism? _____
_____

Vocabulary:
Bourgeoisie- wealthy business owners
Proletariat- working class people
Capitalism– economic system based upon the private ownership of businesses

I. Communism AKA Marxism
   A. Origin
      1. Based upon the writings of Karl Marx's book, Das Capital 1843
   B. Basic Beliefs
      1. Private individuals are too greedy and exploit their workers; therefore no one is allowed to own their own business. The government will own all means of production and will treat all workers fairly.
      2. Private businesses must be violently taken away from their owners, who shall be killed if they resist.
      3. The government must control most aspects of society. Religion is to be banned; individual rights are to be taken away from the people in order to build a peaceful and orderly society.