

Write your name on the cover of the test booklet and nowhere else. Enclose this sheet with the booklet. 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 12-point question should take 10 minutes. I can give some extra time, but not a lot.

1) (8 points) What is the greatest weakness of socialism? Briefly explain your logic.

2) (12 points) Answer EITHER Part A OR Part B.

A) Do you think Marx would have approved of Lenin's NEP? Explain your logic.

B) What was *perestroika*? Why wasn't it successful?

3) (14 points) Answer EITHER Part A OR Part B.

A) If you were the head of the Polish government, what policy from the past would you change? Why would you make that change? Why would that have a positive effect on the economy?

B) What is the biggest problem which is left over from Poland's communist past? Explain why you made that choice.

4) (14 points) Answer EITHER Part A OR Part B.

A) What part of the transition of the Czech economy to a capitalistic economy do you think they did particularly well? Explain your logic.

B) If you had been Václav Havel, the leader of Czechoslovakia after the *Velvet Revolution*, would you have taken a gradualism or a shock therapy approach to reforming your economy? Explain your logic.

5) (14 points) Answer EITHER Part A OR Part B.

A) President Putin is a controversial figure and I think he has been bad for Russia, but not everybody agrees. What evidence can you give that he has been good for Russia?

B) Boris Yeltsin is a controversial figure and I think he was bad for Russia, but not everybody agrees. What evidence can you give that he was good for Russia?

6) (20 points) For a country which you **DID NOT** present, what advice would you give the current leader of the country? Explain why you would give that advice and how it would help that country. Note that the three countries are Russia, Poland, and the Czech Republic. If you presented Poland or the Czech Republic, you **can** answer this question for the other one.

7) (22 points) Answer EITHER Part A OR Part B.

A) Socialism corrects some of the problems of capitalism. What is one problem with capitalism which socialism does not have as big a problem with it? Explain why it is a problem with capitalism AND why it is not a problem with socialism.

B) What does Marx predict about the wages? Why did he feel this? How accurate is his theory? Explain your logic.

8) (22 points) Answer EITHER Part A OR Part B.

A) What do you think were the two biggest causes of the fall of the Soviet Union? How did they cause the fall?

B) What two things would Marx have done differently if he had been running the USSR during the times of Lenin and Stalin? Explain why he would not have done what they did and what he would have done instead.

9) (24 points) For TWO of the countries, Russia, Poland, and the Czech Republic, which country will do better in the future? Explain your logic using one strength of that country and one weakness of the other country.