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# CAPITALISM: WHY SO UNPOPULAR?

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**Segment Length: 5:45 minutes**

## **Lesson Description:**

News reports, articles, and websites tell us of the waning belief in capitalism. What do you think about capitalism? Is capitalism evil? Or has it lifted billions of people out of poverty? This segment looks at capitalism.

## **Concepts and Key Terms:**

*Capitalism*— An economic system in which the provision of products and services is generally arranged by buyers and sellers without interference by government. Capitalism is often used interchangeably with the terms “free enterprise,” “free market,” and “laissez-faire.”

*Entrepreneur*— A person who entails risk to start a business or venture in an attempt to gain financially.

## **Objectives:**

Students will be able to:

- explain various views of capitalism.
- compare and contrast capitalism as a synonym for free markets and the economic system in our country today.
- weigh the effects of capitalism and communism.

## **Preview Activity and Questions:**

Have students answer the following question in their notebooks:

When you think of capitalism, what words come to mind?

Use Think, Pair, Share to have students answer the preview question. Ask them to look for similarities and differences in their answers and have them rate their answers as either “positive” or “negative.” After a few minutes, poll the students and ask them to explain their answers. Are there more positive or negative? Why?

## **OR**

Have students answer the following question in their notebooks:

Why is America so rich in contrast to most of the world?

Use Think, Pair, Share to have students answer the preview question. Ask them to look for similarities and differences in their answers. After a few minutes, poll the students and ask them to explain their answers.

## **OR**

Distribute copies of the K-W-L worksheet (page 72) to the class. Have students fill in the K and W sections. After showing the video, have students complete the L section and answer the question at the bottom of the worksheet.

## **Viewing Guide:**

It is recommended that teachers show the video segment twice: once to allow students to view the video and focus on the issues presented, and once to allow them time to complete the viewing guide. After they complete the viewing guide, allow students a few minutes to work in pairs sharing and verifying answers.

## **Answers to Viewing Guide:**

1. capitalism
2. produce
3. untold
4. innovative
5. security

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

## Capitalism: Why So Unpopular? Viewing Guide

**Directions: As you watch the video, fill in the blanks with the correct words.**

1. Before \_\_\_\_\_, 300 years ago, 99 percent of the population of the Earth were poor.
2. Today, everybody, including the poor, are much, much richer than anybody was back then, and it's all due to capitalism. It's all due to the freedom, to property rights, the ability of people to go out there and make and \_\_\_\_\_ at whatever level they can and to feed themselves.
3. One of the \_\_\_\_\_ stories really of the last 40 or 50 years is the fact that 800 million people have come out of poverty in Southeast Asia, 800 million people out of poverty in Southeast Asia because they've implemented a little bit of capitalism.
4. And of course, the more you make, the more productive you are, the more wealth you create, the more \_\_\_\_\_ you are, the more you've used your mind, the harder you work, the more they take from you.
5. When I was in communist Russia, people told me – some people, anyway – that they liked the \_\_\_\_\_ that communism gave them; they knew they had a job.

**Now, take a few moments to reflect on the video and answer the questions below:**

In the video, John Stossel suggested sharing is good. Yaron Brook said that sharing leads to gulags (forced labor prison camps). Are they talking about the same kind of sharing? \_\_\_\_\_

In their discussion, how is the meaning of sharing different? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Should people be forced to share? \_\_\_\_\_ Why / Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If people should be forced to share, with whom should they have to share? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How much of what they have or earn should they be forced to share? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion and Analysis:

1. What is capitalism?
2. Why do you think the word “capitalism” has taken on a negative connotation with so many people?
3. Why do you think socialism is viewed positively by so many people?
4. In the beginning of the video, a person being interviewed said that capitalism “creates so many poor people.” How does capitalism create poor people? Does that person’s answer suggest that those people wouldn’t have been poor except for capitalism? How would they have not been poor?
5. John Stossel said that where there is capitalism, there is income inequality. Does that matter? Don’t some people deserve to make more than others? What about sports stars? Entrepreneurs and inventors? Corporate executives? Should there be any limits on how much people can make? Why / Why not?
6. Based on your study of history, do you agree with Yaron Brook that almost everyone on Earth was poor hundreds of years ago? How did that change? Does your answer support or contradict Yaron Brook’s statement?
7. Yaron Brook said that freedom, property rights, and the ability of people to create and produce for themselves and for others have made people richer and has improved the lives of everyone, including the poor. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
8. What is a mixed economy? Why does Yaron Brook say that we don’t have capitalism today, that we have a mixed economy?
9. Why do you think some people want to change or tamper with free markets?
10. Some people say that a mixed economy is simply an economy in flux, moving from capitalism toward socialism or from socialism toward capitalism. Which way do you think our economy is moving? What evidence can you cite to support your position?
11. A tenet of communism and socialism is that people share. Isn’t sharing good? Are there times when it might not be? In those systems, is sharing voluntary or are people forced to share?
12. Toward the end of the video, John Stossel interviewed several people in Russia who said they liked communism because they didn’t have to worry. Doesn’t that sound good? What reason then might people have for not wanting that kind of economic system?
13. What incentives are there to invent, to create, to produce in socialist or communist countries? In which countries do you think people live better? Why?
14. What are some long term results – unintended consequences – of taking care of people rather than their taking care of themselves?
15. Do we really need eight brands of toilet paper? Who decides? Who should decide? What might be the benefits of there being more than one brand of toilet paper or any other product? Are there any negatives to having numerous brands of products?
16. Does the American ideal of equality mean that all people should be equal or that they should have equal opportunity? What’s the difference? Why does it matter?
17. In which system are people the most free? Why? Is freedom more important than being equal? Why / Why not?

## Discuss These Lines from the Video:

1. Capitalism is an evil system set up to benefit the few at the expense of the many.
2. Before capitalism, 300 years ago, 99 percent of the population of the Earth were poor.
3. I think we need to be careful not to conflate all we have today with capitalism. I mean, what we have today is this mixed economy.
4. So we don't have capitalism today, but when it's tried, and to the extent that it's tried, China today, millions of people rise out of poverty.
5. To sit here and argue for communism, when communism has been directly responsible for the brutal murder of well over 100 million people... .
6. And, of course, the more you make, the more productive you are, the more wealth you create, the more innovative you are, the more you've used your mind, the harder you work, the more they take from you. And that's, in my view, that is inherently unjust.
7. Life requires worrying. Life requires a certain amount of stress. That's what it is. So they want to live off of somebody else worrying. Somebody actually has to produce the stuff that they live off of.
8. I worked for a while with somebody who had come from the Soviet Union who was complaining that he had to go into the grocery store and choose between eight different types of toilet paper and that really upset him.
9. If you don't challenge yourself, if you don't have a little bit of anxiety in life, if you're not a little pushed, if you're not trying to strive toward something, life becomes dull and boring and meaningless.

## Quotes for Discussion

*I was guilty of judging capitalism by its operations and socialism by its hopes and aspirations; capitalism by its works and socialism by its literature.*

– Sidney Hook

*Either you believe in markets or you believe in government.*

– Lawrence Kudlow

*Capitalism knows only one color: that color is green; all else is necessarily subservient to it, hence, race, gender and ethnicity cannot be considered within it.*

– Thomas Sowell

*Socialism states that you owe me something simply because I exist. Capitalism, by contrast, results in a sort of reality-forced altruism: I may not want to help you, I may dislike you, but if I don't give you a product or service you want, I will starve. Voluntary exchange is more moral than forced redistribution.*

– Ben Shapiro

*When I read things like the foundations of capitalism are shattering, I'm like, maybe we need that. Maybe we need some time where we're walking around with a donkey with pots clanging on the sides.*

– Louis C. K.

*Fascism is capitalism in decay.*

– Vladimir Lenin

*Capitalism needs neither propaganda nor apostles. Its achievements speak for themselves. Capitalism delivers the goods.*

– Ludwig von Mises

*The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of the blessings. The inherent blessing of socialism is the equal sharing of misery.*

– **Winston Churchill**

*I find capitalism repugnant. It is filthy, it is gross, it is alienating... because it causes war, hypocrisy, and competition.*

– **Fidel Castro**

*Under capitalism, man exploits man. Under communism, it's just the opposite.*

– **John Kenneth Galbraith**

*Capitalism is always evaluated against dreams. Utopia is a dream. It doesn't exist.*

– **Rush Limbaugh**

*Capitalism has worked very well. Anyone who wants to move to North Korea is welcome.*

– **Bill Gates**

*I am convinced that the way to build a new and better world is not capitalism. Capitalism leads us straight to hell.*

– **Hugo Chavez**

*Critics of consumer capitalism like to think that consumers are manipulated and controlled by those who seek to sell them things, but for the most part it's the other way around: companies must make what consumers want and deliver it at the lowest possible price.*

– **James Surowiecki**

*Capitalism improves the quality of life for the working class not just because it leads to improved wages but also because it produces new, better, and cheaper goods.... Indeed, with capitalism, the emphasis shifted to producing goods as cheaply as possible for the masses – the working class – whereas artisans had previously produced their goods and wares mostly for the aristocracy. Under capitalism every business wants to cater to the masses, for that is where the money is.*

– **Thomas J. DiLorenzo**

*If capitalism persists for several more centuries, as seems to be highly likely, then from the vantage point of the future, capitalism may be seen as the system responsible for the transformation of the human condition from one of mass subsistence to mass prosperity.*

– **Victor D. Lippit**

*Resentment is at work when one so hates somebody for his more favorable circumstances that one is prepared to bear heavy losses if only the hated one might also come to harm. Many of those who attack capitalism know very well that their situation under any other economic system will be less favorable.*

– **Ludwig von Mises, *The Anti-Capitalistic Mentality***

## **Activities:**

1. Have students complete the K-W-L worksheet (page 72) in class or for homework.
2. Distribute individual quotes from the “Quotes for Discussion” section (above) to pairs of students. Have the students discuss the meaning of the quote, and write the meaning on the back of the quote. Collect the quotes and the students’ explanations as an exit ticket.
3. Pair students homogeneously and, using the Quotes Activity on pages 73-78, distribute a quotation to each pair of students. Have them read the quotation and develop and write an explanation for the quote they are given. Quotations vary in complexity and should be assigned based on student capabilities. This activity can be used as an exit ticket.



4. What causes poverty? Some people say capitalism causes poverty. Others say it is merely the state of nature. Research poverty and report on it to the class.
5. Produce a “man-on-the-street” video in which you ask people to explain why they prefer capitalism, communism, or socialism. (See links in the Resources section for help in producing man-on-the-street videos.)
6. Conduct a classroom debate about capitalism. To get students to look at capitalism from a different perspective, consider having them argue from a view with which they disagree. Students should be given time to research their position prior to debating. (See link in the Resources section for a guide to conducting classroom debates.)
7. Film producer Michael Moore is a critic of capitalism. Research Michael Moore and write a biography about him. You might want to include the documentaries he has produced and his view of capitalism. (See link in the Resources section for a guide to writing biographies.)
8. Research Michael Moore’s political views and his view of capitalism, and how he has made his money. Is there any contradiction between his views and his actions? Write a persuasive essay in which you take a position on this question. Be sure to address the opposing side of the argument in your essay. (See links in the Resources section for help in writing persuasive essays.)
9. Research and write a biography of Ayn Rand. You might want to include her life in Russia, life as an immigrant in the United States, her philosophy, and the books she wrote, among other information. (See links in the Resources section for help in writing a biography.) As an alternative, produce a biographical slideshow. (See links in the Resources section for help in preparing a slideshow.)
10. Research and prepare a slideshow comparing life in a country with capitalism and life in a communist or socialist country.
11. Yaron Brook’s parents were socialists, yet he has become an ardent supporter of capitalism. Research Yaron Brook and write a biography of him. (See links in the Resources section for help in writing a biography.)
12. Yaron Brook has authored or co-authored numerous books. Read one of those books and write a book report.
13. Research and report to the class on the rise of entrepreneurship and the reduction of poverty in China. Is it mere coincidence or is there a link between the two?
14. Write a persuasive essay (pro or con) about capitalism. Be sure to address the opposing side of the argument in your essay. (See links in the Resources section for help in writing persuasive essays.)
15. Create a tri-fold brochure about capitalism. You might want to include historical information, descriptions of life in capitalist and non-capitalist countries, and a list of reasons to support capitalism.
16. Read one of the articles in the Resources section and either write a summary of it or take Cornell Notes as you read the article. (See links in the Resources section for help in taking Cornell Notes.)
17. Read one of the books in the Resources section and write a book report. (See link in the Resources section for help in writing a book report.)
18. Write a tweet, poem, or song about capitalism, socialism, or the debate over which is better for humanity.

## Resources:

### Guides

How to write a biography:

<http://www.infoplease.com/homework/wsbiography.html>

<http://homeworktips.about.com/od/biography/a/bio.htm>

A good explanation of K-W-L, with a sample chart, and a chart for downloading:

<http://www.readingquest.org/strat/kwl.html>

Also helpful for K-W-L:

<https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/think-pair-share-lesson-idea>

Think, Pair, Share

A brief explanation of the Think, Pair, Share instructional strategy, with examples:

<http://www.readingquest.org/strat/tps.html>

A video explanation of Think, Pair, Share:

<https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/think-pair-share-lesson-idea>

Conducting classroom debates:

<http://712educators.about.com/cs/lessonsss/ht/htdebate.htm>

[http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/socstud/frame\\_found\\_sr2/tns/tn-13.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/socstud/frame_found_sr2/tns/tn-13.pdf)

<http://busyteacher.org/7245-conducting-class-debate-essential-tips.html>

How to write a book report:

<http://www.infoplease.com/homework/wsbookreporths.html>

How to write a persuasive essay:

[https://www.scribendi.com/advice/how\\_to\\_write\\_a\\_persuasive\\_essay.en.html](https://www.scribendi.com/advice/how_to_write_a_persuasive_essay.en.html)

<http://www.infoplease.com/homework/writingskills7.html>

How to produce a man-on-the-street interview:

<http://onemarketmedia.com/2009/02/16/seven-ideas-to-help-get-the-most-out-of-a-man-on-the-street-interview/>

<http://watchdogwire.com/blog/2014/08/25/man-on-the-street-interview-tipsheet/>

For a clear, simple explanation of the Cornell note-taking system:

<http://coe.jmu.edu/learningtoolbox/cornellnotes.html>

<http://www.bucks.edu/~specpop/Cornl-ex.htm>

Preparing effective slideshow presentations:

[http://www.slideshare.net/satyajeet\\_02/how-to-make-effective-presentation](http://www.slideshare.net/satyajeet_02/how-to-make-effective-presentation)

<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Tips-for-creating-and-delivering-an-effective-presentation-f43156b0-20d2-4c51-8345-0c337cefb88b>

<http://smallbiztrends.com/2016/07/effective-powerpoint-presentations.html>

### Articles

“Capitalism In No Way Created Poverty, It Inherited It” by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/objectivist/2013/02/25/capitalism-in-no-way-created-poverty-it-inherited-it/#129e40895250>

“Charles Koch: This is the one issue where Bernie Sanders is right”

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/charles-koch-this-is-the-one-issue-where-bernie-sanders-is-right/2016/02/18/cdd2c228-d5c1-11e5-be55-2cc3c1e4b76b\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/charles-koch-this-is-the-one-issue-where-bernie-sanders-is-right/2016/02/18/cdd2c228-d5c1-11e5-be55-2cc3c1e4b76b_story.html)



- “The Dog-Eat-Dog Welfare State Is Lose-Lose” by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/objectivist/2012/07/12/the-dog-eat-dog-welfare-state-is-lose-lose/#6540ae15bdc8>
- “Majority of Americans Don’t Like Capitalism: YouGov Poll” by Ben Geier  
<http://fortune.com/2015/11/03/majority-of-americans-dont-like-capitalism-yougov-poll/>
- “President Obama Jabs At Ayn Rand, Knocks Himself Out” by Wendy Milling  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2012/10/30/president-obama-jabs-at-ayn-rand-knocks-himself-out/#686dd1e4203c>
- “The Sad Decline Of The Word ‘Capitalism’” by Alejandro Chafuen  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/alejandrochafuen/2013/05/01/the-sad-decline-of-the-word-capitalism/#1f9f7b635f4c>
- “When It Comes to Wealth Creation, There Is No Pie” by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/objectivist/2011/06/14/when-it-comes-to-wealth-creation-there-is-no-pie/#600274b07c1c>
- “Without Question, Capitalism Is Supremely Moral” by Wendy Milling  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2013/03/21/without-question-capitalism-is-surpreme-moral/#2b63f02b5dc7>

## Books

- Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand
- The Anti-Capitalistic Mentality* by Ludwig Von Mises
- Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal* by Ayn Rand
- Empire Builders: How Michigan Entrepreneurs Helped Make America Great* by Burton Folsom
- Equal Is Unfair: America’s Misguided Fight Against Income Inequality* by Don Watkins and Yaron Brook
- Family Pride: Profiles of Five of America’s Best-Run Family Businesses* by Thomas Goldwasser
- Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand’s Ideas Can End Big Government* by Yaron Brook and Don Watkins
- Gross National Happiness* by Arthur Brooks
- How Capitalism Saved America* by Thomas J. DiLorenzo
- The Myth of the Robber Barons* by Burton Folsom
- What’s So Great About America* by Dinesh D’Souza

## Websites

- Ayn Rand Institute  
<http://www.aynrand.org>
- The Capitalism Site  
<http://capitalism.org/>

## Videos

- Capitalism Without Guilt: The Moral Case for Freedom by Yaron Brook  
<https://ari.aynrand.org/issues/government-and-business/capitalism/Capitalism-without-Guilt>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

## Capitalism: Why So Unpopular? K-W-L Chart

**Directions:** Complete the **K** and **W** sections prior to watching the video. After you have seen the video, complete the **L** section and answer the two questions below the K-W-L chart.

<b>K</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>
What I know about capitalism:	What I want to know about capitalism:	What I've learned about capitalism:

After watching the video and discussing it in class, did you views of capitalism stay the same or change? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Capitalism: Why So Unpopular? Quotes Activity

Names: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**A: In a capitalist society, all human relationships are voluntary. Men are free to cooperate or not, to deal with one another or not, as their own individual judgments, convictions and interests dictate.**

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Names: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**B: Capitalism is a social system based on the recognition of individual rights, including property rights, in which all property is privately owned.**

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Names: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**C: Capitalism is based on self-interest and self-esteem; it holds integrity and trustworthiness as cardinal virtues and makes them pay off in the marketplace, thus demanding that men survive by means of virtues, not of vices.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**D: The issue is freedom versus dictatorship. It is only after men have chosen slavery and dictatorship that they can begin the usual gang warfare of socialized countries—today, it is called pressure-group warfare—over whose gang will rule, who will enslave whom, whose property will be plundered for whose benefit, who will be sacrificed to whose “noble” purpose.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**E: The flood of misinformation, misrepresentation, distortion, and outright falsehood about capitalism is such that the young people of today have no idea (and virtually no way of discovering any idea) of its actual nature. While archeologists are rummaging through the ruins of millennia for scraps of pottery and bits of bones, from which to reconstruct some information about prehistorical existence—the events of less than a century ago are hidden under a mound more impenetrable than the geological debris of winds, floods, and earthquakes: a mound of silence.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**F: The economic value of a man's work is determined, on a free market, by a single principle: by the voluntary consent of those who are willing to trade him their work or products in return. This is the moral meaning of the law of supply and demand.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**G: America's abundance was created not by public sacrifices to the common good, but by the productive genius of free men who pursued their own personal interests and the making of their own private fortunes. They did not starve the people to pay for America's industrialization. They gave the people better jobs, higher wages, and cheaper goods with every new machine they invented, with every scientific discovery or technological advance—and thus the whole country was moving forward and profiting, not suffering, every step of the way.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**H: Capitalism has created the highest standard of living ever known on earth. The evidence is incontrovertible. The contrast between West and East Berlin [was] the latest demonstration, like a laboratory experiment for all to see. Yet those who are loudest in proclaiming their desire to eliminate poverty are loudest in denouncing capitalism. Man's well-being is not their goal.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**I: In a capitalist society, all human relationships are voluntary. Men are free to cooperate or not, to deal with one another or not, as their own individual judgments, convictions and interests dictate. They can deal with one another only in terms of and by means of reason, i.e., by means of discussion, persuasion, and contractual agreement, by voluntary choice to mutual benefit. The right to agree with others is not a problem in any society; it is the right to disagree that is crucial. It is the institution of private property that protects and implements the right to disagree—and thus keeps the road open to man's most valuable attribute (valuable personally, socially, and objectively): the creative mind.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**J: Capitalism has been called a system of greed—yet it is the system that raised the standard of living of its poorest citizens to heights no collectivist system has ever begun to equal, and no tribal gang can conceive of.  
Capitalism has been called nationalistic—yet it is the only system that banished ethnicity, and made it possible, in the United States, for men of various, formerly antagonistic nationalities to live together in peace.  
Capitalism has been called cruel—yet it brought such hope, progress and general good will that the young people of today, who have not seen it, find it hard to believe.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**K: Capitalism was the only system in history where wealth was not acquired by looting, but by production, not by force, but by trade, the only system that stood for man's right to his own mind, to his work, to his life, to his happiness, to himself.**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**L: Let anyone who believes that a high standard of living is the achievement of labor unions and government controls ask himself the following question: If one had a “time machine” and transported the united labor chieftains of America, plus three million government bureaucrats, back to the tenth century—would they be able to provide the medieval serf with electric light, refrigerators, automobiles, and television sets?**

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**Names:** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_

Read the quote from Ayn Rand. Discuss the meaning of the quote with your partner, and write your explanation below.

**M: Prior to the American Revolution, through centuries of feudalism and monarchy, the interests of the rich lay in the expropriation, enslavement, and misery of the rest of the people. A society, therefore, where the interests of the rich require general freedom, unrestricted productiveness, and the protection of individual rights, should have been hailed as an ideal system by anyone whose goal is man’s well-being.**

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