**The Communist Manifesto – Frederich Engels and Karl Marx**

**Discussion Questions**

1. Write down the first sentence.

2. What do Marx and Engels mean (what is his theory of history) by this statement?

3. Who are the bourgeoisie, according to Marx?

4. Why and how do Marx and Engels *praise* capitalism in this chapter?

5. Who are the proletariat, according to Marx?

6 What does the Manifesto tell us about how the proletariat changes as capitalism develops and in making the revolution?

7. Who are the communists?

8. How do Marx and Engels characterize the relationship between communists and the proletariat?

9. To what extent is this a totalitarian document? Can the Communist Manifesto be seen as laying the groundwork for the dictatorships of the 20th century or should the ‘communism that developed in that century be seen as a betrayal of the principles of the Communist Manifesto?

10. Does the Communist Manifesto have relevance today? Can parts of it still be used to analyze capitalism as a system or is it a take-it-all-or-leave-it-all comprehensive theory? Should the manifesto be relegated to the ‘trash heap’ of history?