10 Modern World History (H) Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Bedar Block: \_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels: *The Communist Manifesto* (1848)**

Directions:

To prepare for our discussion, please:

A) Actively read the document

B) Answer the following questions (*all parts*); be ready to back up your answers by making specific reference to the text

Part I:What Are These Guys Talking About?

1) Read the introduction to the document. A) What is Marx’s political and intellectual background? B) What was the state of politics when the *Manifesto* was written (1848)? C) Why did Marx and Engels write this document?

2) A) How does Marxist Theory explain the course of history? B) What examples do Marx & Engels provide to support their view? C) What makes the era of the Industrial Revolution distinctive, in their opinion?

3) A) What are the ultimate *goals* of the communists? B) How will they achieve these goals?

4) Briefly summarize (in your own words) Marx & Engels’ explanation of the “antagonism of capital and wage-labour” (the basis of property):

5) A) What is freedom under the domination of the *bourgeoisie,* according to the *Manifesto?* B) What is freedom, actually, according to the *Marxists*?

6) How do the authors contrast the bourgeois treatment of women with how communists treat women?

7) Why would nation-states and war itself disappear under communism, according to the *Manifesto?*

8) Paraphrase the famous last paragraph of the document in your own words:

Part II: Evaluation

1. What do *you* think about the views expressed in this document? What ideas do/do not appeal to you, and why?
   1. To what extent is the *Manifesto* a reasonable response to the problems of the Industrial Revolution? Is this an improvement over capitalism?
   2. What are possible criticisms one could make of Marxist socialism?