



Worksheet 1 – Concepts of political socialism - key terms

Match the key terms and definitions by connecting them with a line.

Key Term	Definition
Society	A separation within society caused by social or economic features.
Historical materialism	A Marxist expression meaning the ruling class of a capitalist society.
Dialectic	A Marxist expression meaning a class that survives through the sale of its own labour.
Social revolution	Socialists have regarded all human abilities and qualities to be determined by society.
Alienation	Socialists have viewed social equality, or equality of outcome, in absolute or relative terms.
Gradualism	A belief in the primacy of equality as a political value.
Bourgeois state	A belief that was created by summarising Karl Marx's views and beliefs into an organised and all-inclusive ideology.
Proletariat	A Marxist expression meaning that economic conditions construct the political and legal system, culture, art and religion of a society.
Eurocommunism	A Marxist expression meaning that historical change is due to a conflict between two opposing forces that leads to a more developed stage.
Marxism	To become isolated or separated from one's true nature.
Parliamentary socialism	A Marxist expression meaning the excess of value created by the work of the proletariat over the wages they are paid.
Bourgeoisie	A belief that socialism can only be achieved through the violent upheaval of the current political system.
Equality	Not merely a transformation of the existing political system, but a far wider reaching change in the economic conditions of society.
Revolutionary socialism	A Marxist expression meaning a political institution that acts in order to protect the interests of the ruling class.
Class	A belief that socialism can be achieved by using the institutions of liberal democracies.
Surplus value	A belief that socialism does not have to be created through a sudden revolution but through measured improvements to society taken step by step.
Egalitarianism	A belief that Marxism could be combined with liberal democratic values.