



ELA Virtual Learning

Composition and Reading 2

April 14, 2020



Composition and Reading II

Lesson: April 14, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will be able to examine socio economic theory by examining Marxist literary criticism.



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Starting Question(s):

Before reading anything, please answer the following questions in your notebooks to assess prior knowledge:

- 1. What do you know about Karl Marx?**
- 2. In your opinion, what role should the economy play in the way we interact with one another?**



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Lesson/Activity:

Please read the two articles attached below. One should supplement your knowledge from the starting questions, and the other is about theory itself. As you read, assess how Marx and Marxist theorists criticize the relationships between people of different social strata.

[Who is Marx?](#)

[What is Marxist Criticism?](#)

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Practice:

Complete the following practice in your notebooks.

1. Despite the moniker, how discordant is Marxist theory from the ideas of Karl Marx himself?
2. Can Marx's theories be applied to anything else beyond economics?
3. In what ways are class disparities reinforced through social media?

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Practice *Answer Key*:

1. Despite the nomenclature, how discordant is Marxist theory from the ideas of Karl Marx himself?

Marxist theory is more akin to socioeconomic theory rather than perfect communism as Marx theorized. What Marxist literary theory argues is class consciousness rather than an overthrowing of the *bourgeoisie*.

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Practice *Answer Key*:

1. Can Marx's theories be applied to anything else beyond economics?
 - a. The relationship to capital is how many people present themselves through music, film, etc. The idea of "clout" is tied directly to material wealth, so Marx would probably not be a fan.
2. In what ways are class disparities reinforced through social media?
 - a. Twitter has allowed for more transparency among billionaires and corporations, highlighting some immoral practices that these people and businesses participate in, which allows people across all classes to see how much disparity there truly is, not just economically, but perhaps morally.