

Honor 2103
Marx Reading Questions

1. Marx opens the first chapter with the famous phrase: “The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles.” In what way does this represent a Darwinian view of human (economic and class) history? (Draw examples/illustrations from the text.)
2. Who are the “bourgeois” and “proletarians”? What role does each play in the history told by Marx?
3. Why does (should) history lead to a communist revolution, according to Marx? Is this a very Darwinian idea (as mentioned in the first question)?
4. Compare and contrast Marx’s history of the class struggle with a social Darwinist view of class competition?
5. Compare and contrast Marx’s views about political structure with Mills’ account in *On Liberty*.
6. As a bonus: read Engels’ “Revolution in Science” included in your selection and answer the following questions:
 - a. What is Engels’ explanation for the origins of morality?
 - b. Compare and contrast this with Mills’ account of morality in *Utilitarianism*.