

Communism and Democratic Socialism..... To the Left, To the Left....

Characteristic	Communism Far Left Radical/Extreme Collectivism	Democratic Socialism Left of Centre Moderate Collectivism with some Individualism
Philosophy		
Political System		
Public Property		
Private Property		
Employment		

Economic Decisions		
Freedoms		
Religion		
Class Structure		
Taxation		
Social Programs		
How to Achieve		

To the Left To the Left.....

Puzzle Pieces:

1. Copy, Cut and Paste these into the correct categories to review the differences between the two ideologies.

The state owns some large industries and the means of production, usually including control over natural resources.	From each according to his ability, to each according to his contribution.
Governed directly by the people (theory); dictatorship rule by one person or a small group (reality)	People can choose to work in the public or private sector. Large-scale industries are collective efforts and the profits from these industries benefit society as a whole.
The state owns all industries, the means of production, land and everything else.	People work for the state (since the state owns all industry) and the collective output is redistributed equally.
From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.	Personal property (houses, clothing, etc.) owned by the individual, along with small businesses and some larger industries.
No private property; replaced with the concept of commons and "user-ship".	Abolished - all religious ideas rejected.
Free, equal access to healthcare, daycare, education (including post-secondary) provided through social programs funded by taxation.	Change can be made gradually through peaceful, legal and democratic methods. Cooperatives may also be set up to model this system and convert others to this way.
Either the collective "vote" or the state's rulers make economic & political decisions for everyone, including jobs. In practice, rallies, force, propaganda etc. are used by the rulers to control the populace.	The state plans all decisions regarding investment, production and resource distribution. Planning is done in terms of physical units (quotas) instead of money.
Some form of democracy.	Freedom of religion, but usually promotes secularism (keeping religion separate from the state).
All class distinctions (i.e. rich – poor) are eliminated.	A violent revolution is necessary. Workers must unite to overthrow the capitalist ruling class.
Taxes are not necessary as the state controls every aspect of the economy.	The state distributes housing and basic goods, as well as providing all social programs such as health care and education.
While the state makes economic decisions for large-scale industries and natural resources, individuals and other businesses make their own economic decisions in the market.	Religion, jobs, & marriage are up to the individual. People have individual rights & freedoms (free speech, right to vote, freedom of the press, etc.) as well as economic freedom to buy or sell what they want.
Class distinctions (i.e. rich – poor) become weaker.	High taxation levels (~50% to 60% of one's income) collected to pay for the extensive social programs.

Answer Key:

	Communism	Socialism
Philosophy	From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.	From each according to his ability, to each according to his contribution.
Political System	Governed directly by the people (theory); dictatorship rule by one person or a small group (reality)	Some form of democracy.
Public Property	The state owns all industries, the means of production, land and everything else.	The state owns some large industries and the means of production, usually including control over natural resources.
Private Property	No private property; replaced with the concept of commons and "user-ship"	Personal property (houses, clothing, etc.) owned by the individual, along with small businesses and some larger industries.
Employment	People work for the state (since the state owns all industry) and the collective output is redistributed equally.	People can choose to work in the public or private sector. Large-scale industries are collective efforts and the profits from these industries benefit society as a whole.
Economic Decisions	The state plans all decisions regarding investment, production and resource distribution. Planning is done in terms of physical units (quotas) instead of money.	While the state makes economic decisions for large-scale industries and natural resources, individuals and other businesses make their own economic decisions in the market.
Freedoms	Either the collective "vote" or the state's rulers make economic & political decisions for everyone, including jobs. In practice, rallies, force, propaganda etc. are used by the rulers to control the populace.	Religion, jobs, & marriage are up to the individual. People have individual rights & freedoms (free speech, right to vote, freedom of the press, etc.) as well as economic freedom to buy or sell what they want.
Religion	Abolished - all religious ideas rejected.	Freedom of religion, but usually promotes secularism (keeping religion separate from the state).
Class Structure	All class distinctions (i.e. rich – poor) are eliminated.	Class distinctions (i.e. rich – poor) become weaker.
Taxation	Taxes are not necessary as the state controls every aspect of the economy.	High taxation levels (~50% to 60% of one's income) collected to pay for the extensive social programs.
Social Programs	The state distributes housing and basic goods, as well as providing all social programs such as health care and education.	Free, equal access to healthcare, daycare, education (including post-secondary) provided through social programs funded by taxation.
How to Achieve	A violent revolution is necessary. Workers must unite to overthrow the capitalist ruling class.	Change can be made gradually through peaceful, legal and democratic methods. Cooperatives may also be set up to model this system and convert others to this way.