

# Summer work: Prechewed Politics: Introduction to Liberalism

- <https://www.prechewedpolitics.co.uk/liberalism.html>
- Username: [jhesketh@swchs.net](mailto:jhesketh@swchs.net)
- Temporary Password: \$wchs2023-24
- Watch Liberalism lessons 1 and 2 and complete the worksheets

1. What are the origins of liberalism?

Pre-chewed Politics



00:00 / 10:51

Worksheet - [Word](#) /

2. What are the core ideas and principles of liberalism?

Pre-chewed Politics



00:00 / 16:47

Worksheet - [Word](#) / [PDF](#)



## Political Ideas Induction 2025

What are your *political ideas* and how do they compare to *key thinkers*?

1. What is more important to you?

A - individual freedom?

OR

B - security and safety?

2. What is more important to you?

A - individual freedom?

OR

B - social equality?

## Aims of the induction session:



To think about your own political ideas about human nature, society, the role of the state and the economy



To compare your own political ideas with those of 'Key Thinkers' on the specification



To have a broad introduction to some political ideas: liberalism, socialism and conservatism

# What topics will I study in Paper 3 - Political Ideas?

- For Paper 3 you will study four political ideas, over two years:
- Liberalism
- Socialism
- Conservatism
- Nationalism

# What topics will I study in Paper 3 - Political Ideas?

- For each political idea you will learn about:
- different ideas about human nature, society, the state and the economy.
- 5-6 specified 'Key Thinkers'

# What topics will I study in Paper 3 - Political Ideas?

- You will be expected to bring in your learning from Unit 1 – UK Politics and Unit 2 – US-UK Comparative Politics to provide real life, current and historical examples of these ideas in action.

# Political Ideas do not map neatly on to political parties

- These ideas do not neatly equate with political 'parties' in the UK and the USA.

## In your UK Politics induction lesson, you were asked....



- You're on a desert island with 20 strangers. You have to decide how to make decisions. There's no internet, police, or laws.
- What would you do?
- Who should make the rules?
- How will decisions be made?
- How will decisions be implemented?
- What if someone breaks a rule?

# In Political Ideas, we grapple with this question too.



You wake up on an island with no laws, no government and no political institutions.

1. What kind of society would emerge, if any?
2. What would people co-operate or compete?
3. Would rules naturally form?

Roll the dice 1 = 4; 2 = 5;  
3 = 6

# Human Nature

**1. Would you rather** believe that humans are born cooperative and corrupted by capitalist society, or that they are naturally selfish and need controlling?

**2. Would you rather** live in a world where people are trusted to do the right thing, or one where rules and punishments are essential to keep order?

**3. Would you rather** be free to follow your instincts, or be shaped by a strong moral code imposed by society?

# The Individual in Society

**1. Would you rather** be completely free but alone, or slightly restricted but part of a strong community?

**2. Would you rather** have the right to live however you choose, even if it harms society, or be required to live in a way that benefits everyone?

**3. Would you rather** be judged by your individual actions or by your role in a wider social group?

# The Role of the State

**1. Would you rather** live under a government that leaves you alone unless you break the law, or one that actively tries to improve your life?

**2. Would you rather** have a state that guarantees equality of outcome, or one that only ensures equality of opportunity?

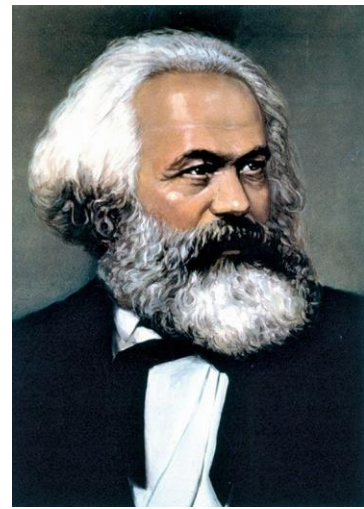
**3. Would you rather** be ruled by a strong leader who gets things done, or by a democratic system that's slower but more inclusive?

# The economy

**1. Would you rather** live in a society where you can become very rich but others may be poor, or one where everyone is equal but no one is wealthy?

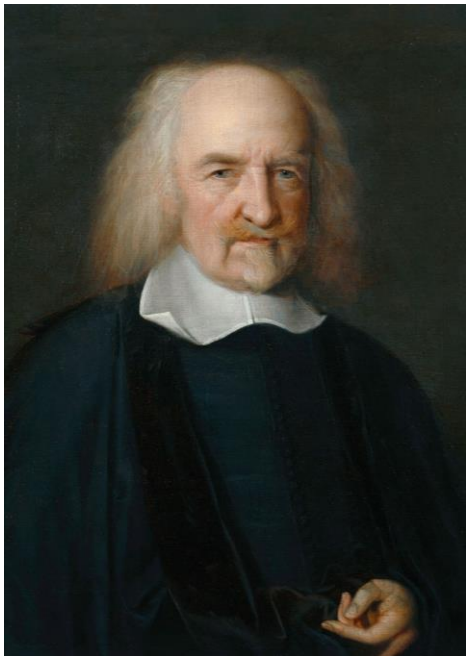
**2. Would you rather** pay high taxes for universal services, or low taxes and pay for everything yourself?

**3. Would you rather** work in a competitive free market, or in a planned economy where jobs and wages are guaranteed?



# Political Ideas Induction Quiz

Which Key Thinker's ideas are closest to yours?



# 1. What do you believe about human nature?

- A. People's potential is limited by social expectations, especially for women.
- B. People are rational and capable of self-governance.
- C. People are shaped by their material conditions and can be cooperative.
- D. People are naturally selfish and need strong control.

## 2. What is the main role of the state?

- A. To ensure equality and challenge systemic discrimination.
- B. To protect individual rights and property.
- C. To eventually wither away after class equality is achieved.
- D. To impose order and prevent chaos.

### 3. What causes inequality in society?

- A. Inequality is caused by capitalism and class struggle.
- B. Inequality is rooted in gender roles and cultural expectations.
- C. Inequality is natural and inevitable without authority.
- D. Inequality arises when the state fails to protect freedoms.

## 4. What should the economy look like?

- A. It should be collectively owned and planned.
- B. It should be free and based on private property.
- C. It should support equal opportunities for all genders.
- D. It should be regulated to prevent disorder.

## 5. What is freedom to you?

- A. The right to life, liberty, and property.
- B. Liberation from exploitation and class oppression.
- C. Safety and order under a strong authority.
- D. The ability to choose your own path, free from gender roles.

## 6. What's the biggest threat to a good society?

- A. Capitalist exploitation.
- B. Patriarchy and cultural oppression.
- C. Anarchy and lawlessness.
- D. Tyranny and violation of rights.

# 7. What should education aim to do?

- A. Empower individuals to challenge gender norms.
- B. Raise class consciousness and critical thinking.
- C. Instill discipline and respect for authority.
- D. Teach individuals to think freely and protect their rights.

## 8. What do you think about private property?

- A. It is a source of inequality and should be abolished.
- B. It must be protected by a strong authority to prevent conflict.
- C. It is a natural right that underpins freedom.
- D. It can reinforce inequality, especially for women and minorities.

## 9. What is the purpose of taxation?

- A. To fund the state so it can maintain order.
- B. To correct social imbalances and support equality of opportunity.
- C. To support essential services while respecting individual rights.
- D. To redistribute wealth and reduce class inequality.

# 10. Should wealth be redistributed?

- A. Only if it prevents unrest and maintains stability.
- B. Yes—especially to address systemic disadvantages faced by women and other groups.
- C. Yes—wealth should be shared to eliminate class divisions.
- D. Only to the extent that it doesn't infringe on personal liberty.

# Scoring Key

- Q1: A = Friedan, B = Locke, C = Marx, D = Hobbes
- Q2: A = Friedan, B = Locke, C = Marx, D = Hobbes
- Q3: A = Marx, B = Friedan, C = Hobbes, D = Locke
- Q4: A = Marx, B = Locke, C = Friedan, D = Hobbes
- Q5: A = Locke, B = Marx, C = Hobbes, D = Friedan
- Q6: A = Marx, B = Friedan, C = Hobbes, D = Locke
- Q7: A = Friedan, B = Marx, C = Hobbes, D = Locke
- Q8: A = Marx, B = Hobbes, C = Locke, D = Friedan
- Q9: A = Hobbes, B = Friedan, C = Locke, D = Marx
- Q10: A = Hobbes, B = Friedan, C = Marx, D = Locke



## Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)

*Interesting fact for those who did Elizabeth in GCSE History:* Thomas Hobbes died in Hardwick Hall and was a tutor for Bess of Hardwick's grandson



Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)

*Hobbes' answer to what life was like  
without a state is:*

***“NASTY, BRUTISH AND SHORT”***



## Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)

*Hobbes **does** think we're rational. So why might the state of nature (which is what we call the situation before law exists) be nasty, brutish and short?*

*Can you think of any historical or modern examples that may support Hobbes' view?*



## Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)

*Given life in the state of nature is NASTY, BRUTISH and SHORT, what's the purpose of the state? What implications does this have?*



## Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)

*Imagine you live in ‘Scenario A’ (authoritarian dictatorship) from UK Politics.*

*Hobbes thinks the state of nature must be avoided at all costs. What are the implications for what you might do in this dictatorship?*



## Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)

*Thomas Hobbes is your first 'conservative' political thinker. What do you think makes Hobbes a conservative?*

## John Locke (1632 – 1704)

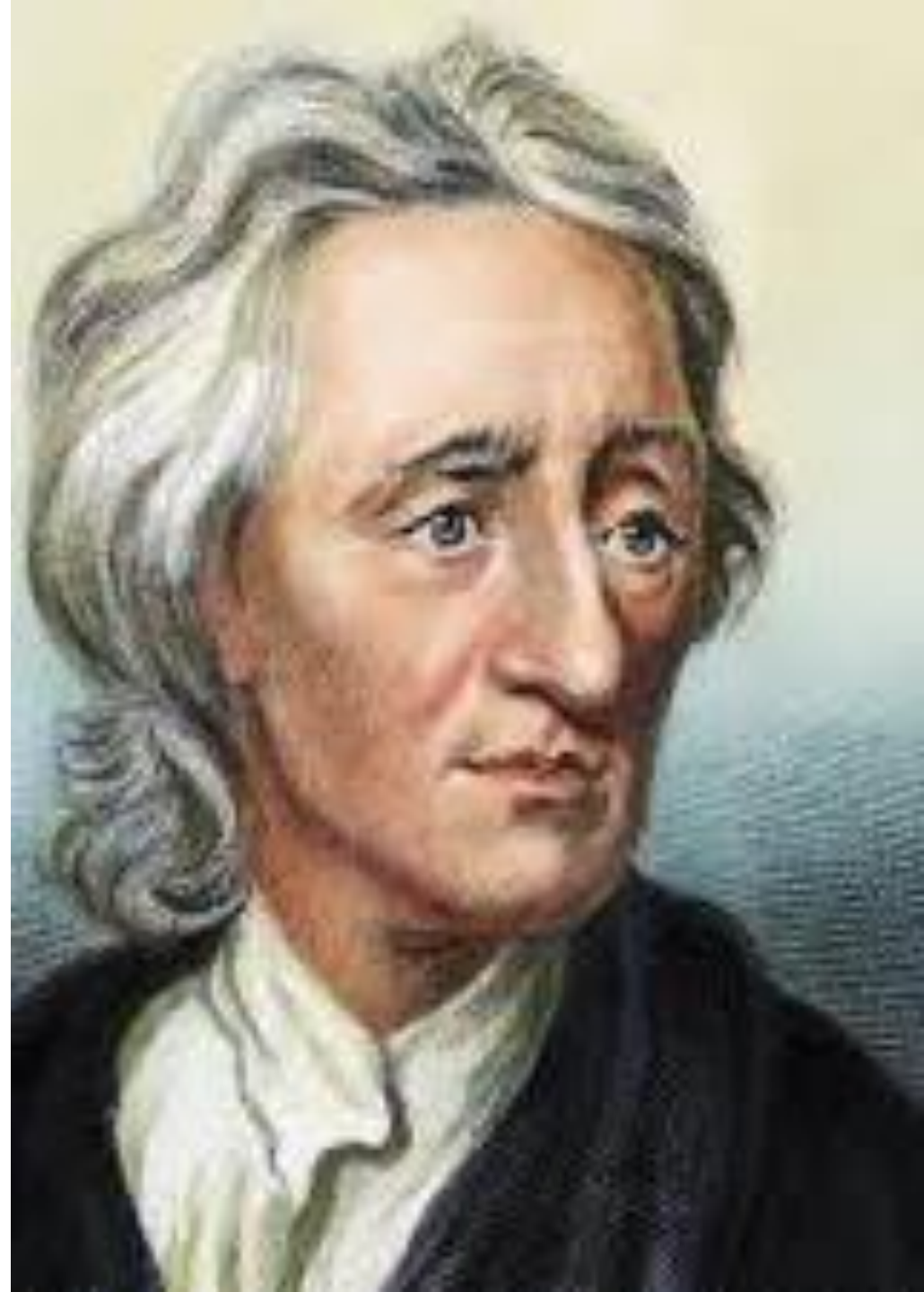
*John Locke also believes we're rational but comes to a very different conclusion. He argues that because we're rational, the state of nature isn't inherently violent and chaotic.*

*Why might our rationality lead to cooperation and respect for one another's rights?*



## John Locke (1632 – 1704)

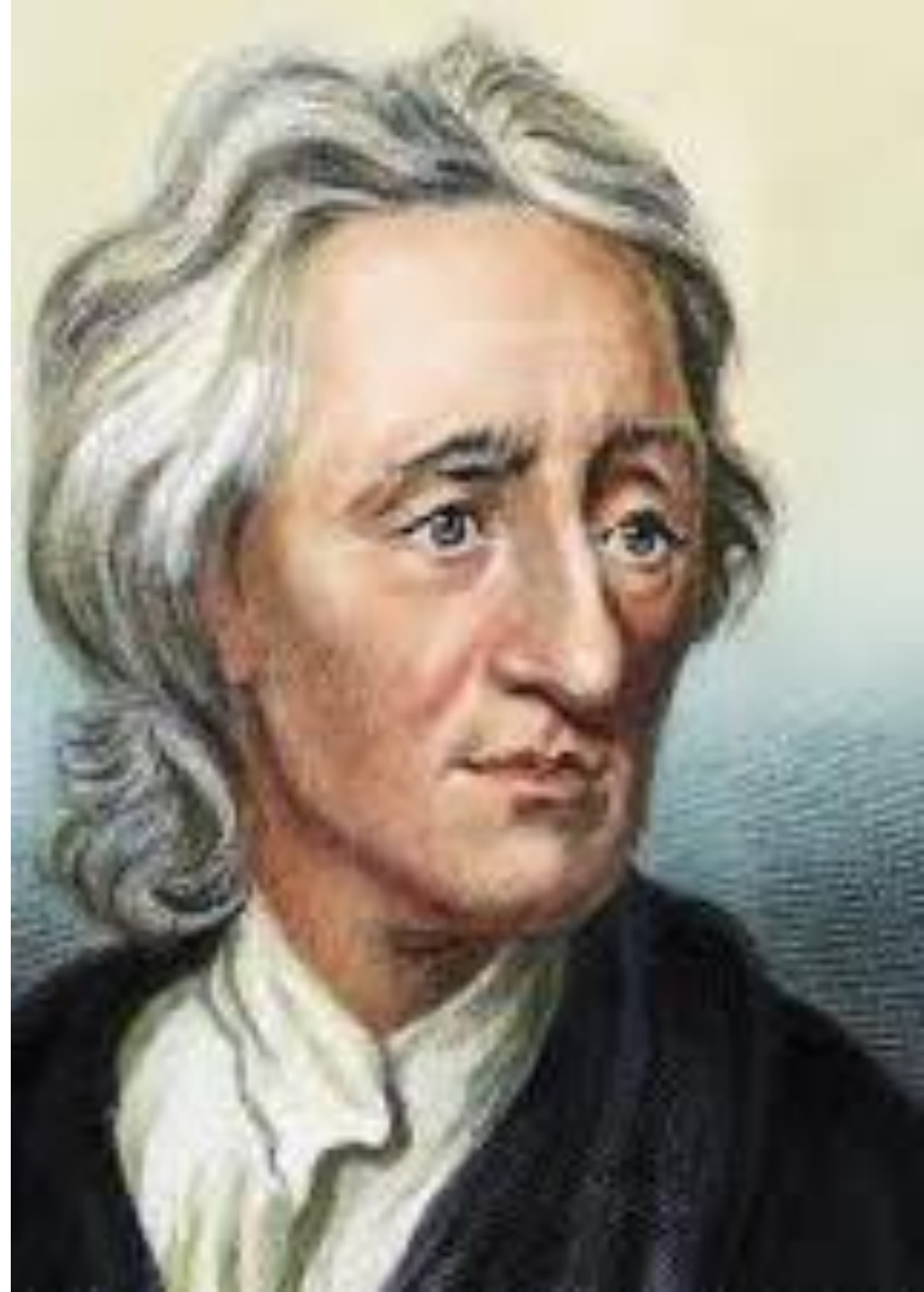
*Given the state of nature is tolerable,  
what's the purpose of the state?  
What are the implications for the  
state?*



## John Locke (1632 – 1704)

*Imagine you live in ‘Scenario A’ (authoritarian dictatorship) from UK Politics.*

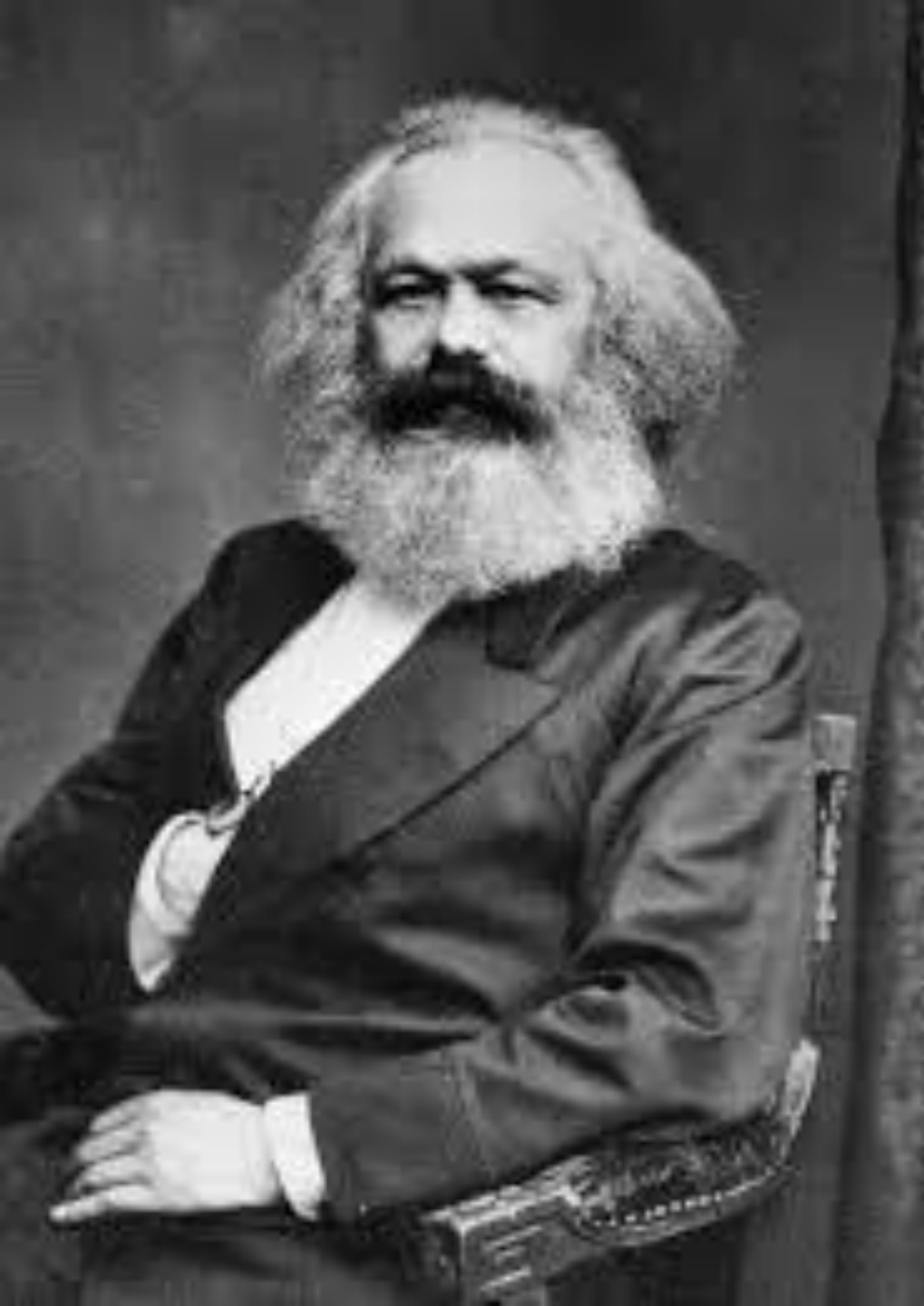
*Locke thinks the state of nature is tolerable. What are the implications for what you might do in this dictatorship?*



## John Locke (1632 – 1704)

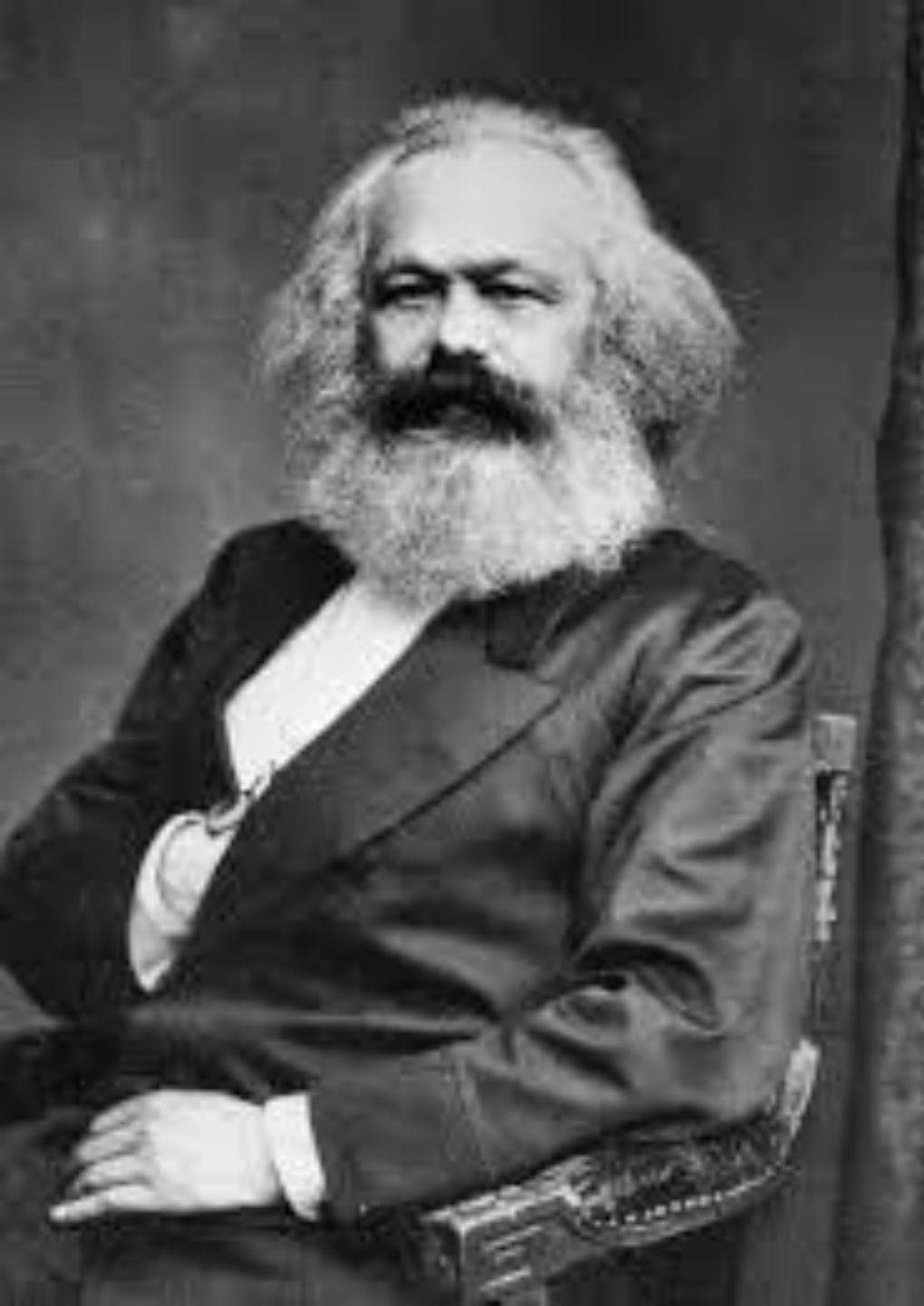
*Locke is your first liberal political thinker. What makes Locke a liberal?*





## Karl Marx (1818 – 1883)

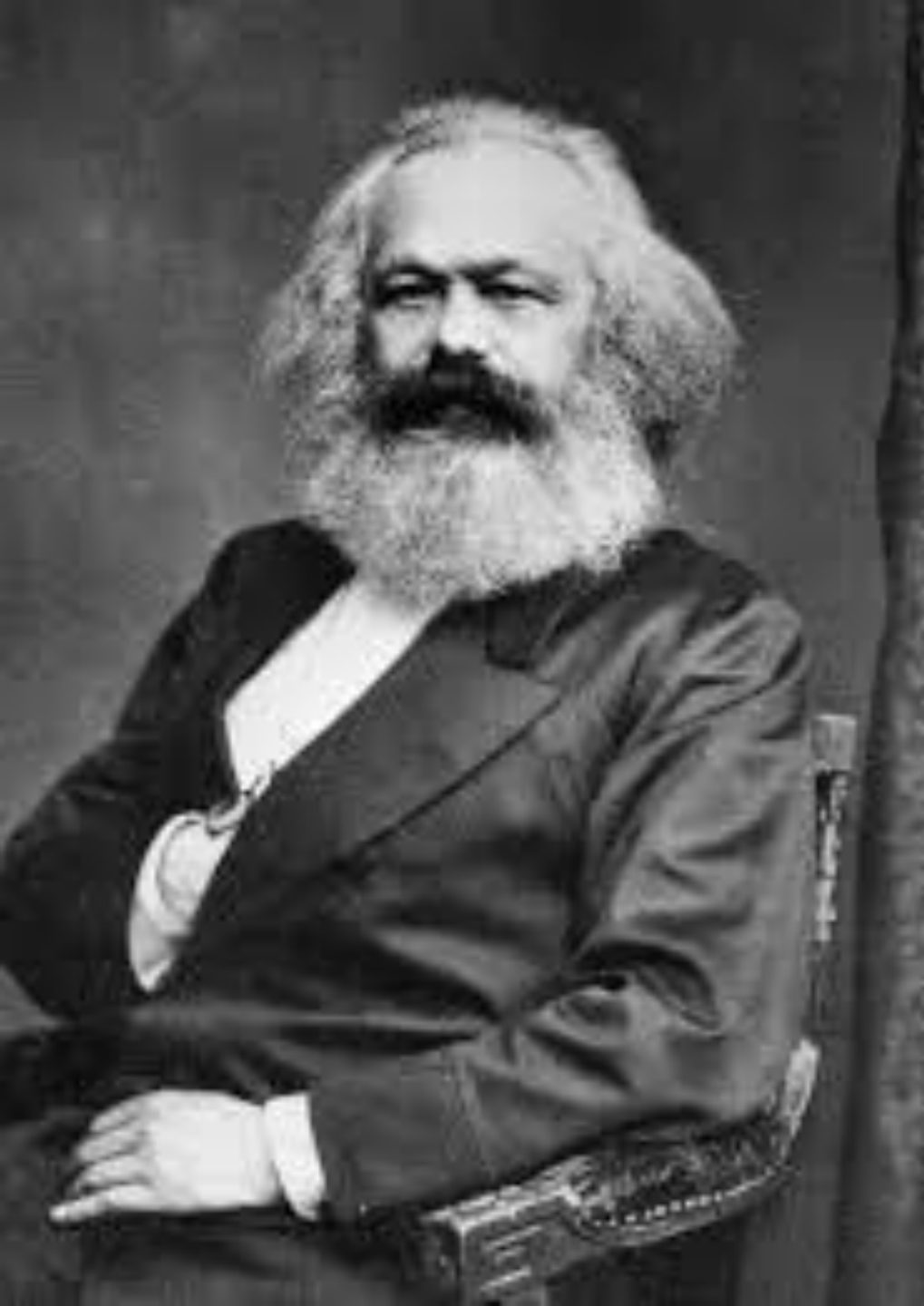
*Karl Marx believes that it is capitalism which has made us competitive, selfish and violent. What might he say the state of nature was like (i.e. before capitalism?)*



## Karl Marx (1818 – 1883)

*Marx believed the first stage of society was 'primitive communism' where:*

- *People had to co-operate to survive*
- *There were no social classes or exploitation*
- *Decision making was communal*



## Karl Marx (1818 – 1883)

*Marx believes the modern state has been developed to protect exploitative capitalism. He believes the state must be overthrown because it only serves the bourgeoisie (the wealthy)*



Karl Marx (1818 – 1883)

*Marx is your first socialist key thinker.  
What makes him a socialist?*



You wake up on an island with no laws, no government and no political institutions. How would Hobbes, Locke and Marx answer these questions? What do you think now?

1. What kind of society would emerge, if any?
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## Political Ideas Induction 2025

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