



The dilemma of the system

Social Sciences 1st term 3rd ESO

THE ECONOMIC ORGANISATION OF SOCIETY

After the Second World War, the world's nations each followed one of two economic models: the capitalist model led by the United States or the communist model led by the Soviet Union. Each insisted that its system was better and more just than the other and that it guaranteed liberty, justice and progress. Which system would you choose?

After the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989), communism gradually disappeared and is now practiced in very few countries. However, there is currently an intense debate about what constraints, if any, should be placed on capitalism. Some countries prefer a neoliberal interpretation of capitalism while others, especially in Europe, have taken the 'welfare state' route.

Imagine that the government of a newly created state has to decide which economic system to implement. Before making a decision, they want to see a reliable comparative analysis of the two systems: one based on capitalism and another one based on a communist planned economy. You and three classmates are a team of international experts in economic planning. The government of the new country will ask your opinion before they decide which system to adopt. You will use a **Google slide presentation** for this task.

Do a comparative analysis & study between the two economic systems with a **Google slide presentation**.

1. **RESEARCH & DESCRIBE.** Carry out some research (class notes, textbook, Internet) to describe the main characteristics of both systems. Complete this table with the information you find. After that, share it with your teammates.

ELEMENTS TO DESCRIBE	CAPITALISM	COMMUNISM
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP		
COMPETITION		
FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE		
THE ALLOCATION OF PROFITS		
STATE CONTROL		
THE SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE ECONOMY		

2. **SWOT MATRIX ANALYSIS.** Analyse the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of each system by completing a **SWOT** matrix. Two students can work on the Capitalist SWOT matrix and the other two on the Communist SWOT one.

SWOT matrix

ECONOMIC MODEL		
	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
INTERNAL FACTORS		
	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
EXTERNAL FACTORS		

3. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

3.1. In teams, compare the SWOT matrices of both economic systems. Orally compare each element and discuss which system is in your opinion better for each element.

With regard to "the type of ownership", one strength of the capitalist system is ...

Regarding "competition", one strength of the communist system is ...

Whereas in a communist system, people can/can't ..., in a capitalist system people can/ can't ...

3.2. Discuss the following questions with your teammates (orally).

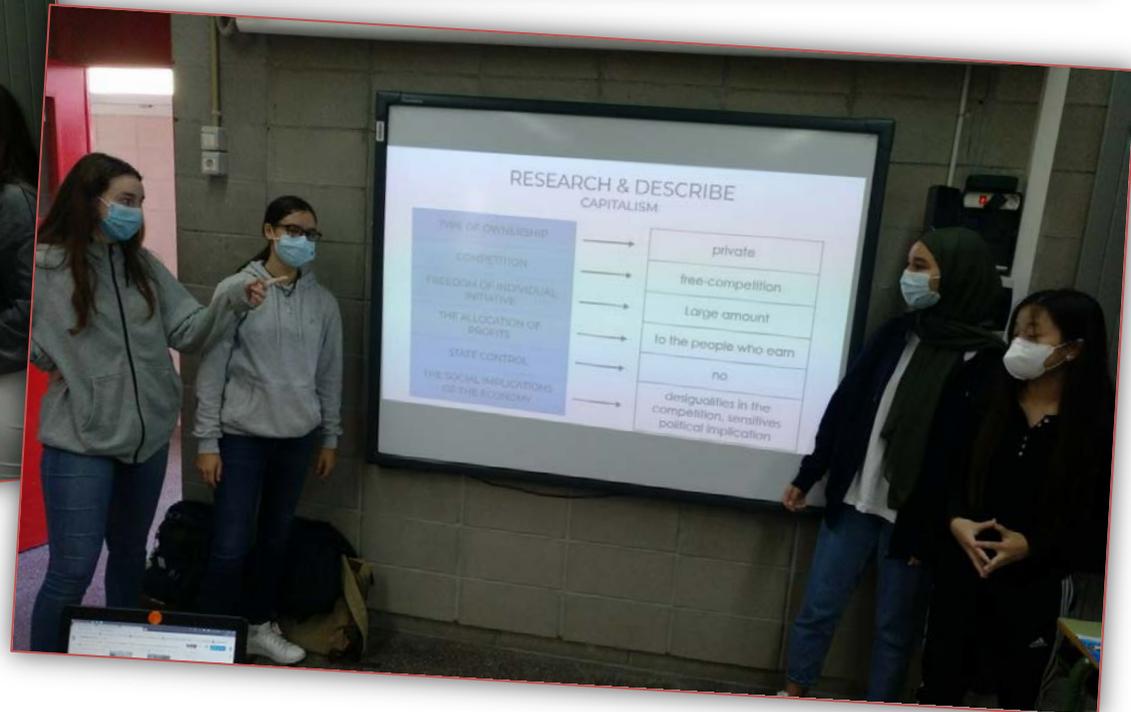
- Should a State economy work according to the **laws of supply and demand**?
- Should a State **privatise** aspects of society such as **health, education and pensions**? Or should the State **intervene** in health, education and pensions
- Should the State **organise the economy** to ensure a good quality of life for its citizens?
- Taking all the elements into account, which economic system would you recommend?

Yes, I think so, because although...

No, I don't think so, because...

4. **PRESENT YOUR RESEARCH** to the rest of the class. **Design** an attractive **Google slide presentation** to convince the government of a newly created state or new country's government about which economic system to implement.

- Justify your choice. Explain which option you recommend and why.
- Present arguments based on economic theory rather than historical examples that you might know of.
- End the presentation with a recommendation of one of the systems studied in the SWOT analysis or with a different or new system.



Class multimedia presentations



OUR ECONOMIC PLAN

G1 Aya Oulahyane, Emma Torrent, Noa Vilaboa, Kexi Wei

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 - b. Planned economy
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01 RESEARCH & DESCRIBE

Main characteristics of capitalism & communism.

02 SWOT

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats.

03 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Compare the SWOT of both economic systems.

04 CONCLUSIONS

Recommendation of one economic system.

ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

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