



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**  
**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
**2020\_2 EXAMINATION...**

**COURSE CODE: POL 315**

**COURSE TITLE: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MARXISM**

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS**

**UNITS: 3**

**TIME ALLOWED: 3 Hours**

**(17.5 Marks allocated for each question)**

1. a. What is historical materialism? **(5.5marks)**  
b. Identify and discuss the **six** historical epochs as enunciated by Karl Marx **(2 marks each)**.
2. a. Explain Karl Marx's concept of dialectical materialism **(5.5marks)**.  
b. Contrast Marx's dialectical materialism with Hegel's dialectical idealism **(12marks)**.
3. Clearly elucidate the following immutable laws of Marxian dialectics:
  - a. The law of Transformation of Quantity to Quality
  - b. The Law of Unity and Conflict of Opposites
  - c. The Law of Negation of Negation**(5.5 marks each, 1 mark for good explanation)**
4. Write explanatory notes on **any three** of the following concepts:
  - a. Alienation
  - b. Ideology and False Consciousness
  - c. Base and Superstructure
  - d. State Power and the Superstructure
  - e. Vanguard Party/Proletarian Revolution**(5.5marks each, 1 mark for good explanation)**
5. a. Explain how exploitation and oppression informed the emergence of socialism in Europe **(7.5marks)**.  
b. Distinguish between Utopian and scientific socialism **(10marks)**.
6. Write brief explanatory notes on **any 5** of the following concepts:
  - a. Class
  - b. Productive forces
  - c. Mode of production
  - d. Relations of production
  - e. Surplus value

f. Primitive capital accumulation (**3.5 marks each**).