Economic Systems Continuum Activity

- Put students in small groups of 2-3
- Each group should be given a sheet with an Economic Continuum
- Each group should be given a Country Information Card sheet
- Groups should read each Country Information Card and place that Country’s Letter Name on the Economic Continuum where they think the country belongs based on the information provided on the Country Information Card.
- Groups should complete the Economic Systems Continuum Response sheet
- The teacher should walk around to facilitate the process, as well as, check group responses

Answers: Country A is Germany. Germany would fall to the market side of the continuum, but fairly far away from the United Kingdom (back towards command). Country B is the United Kingdom. The UK would be far to the market side of center on the continuum. Country C is Russia. Russia is practically in the dead center of the continuum.
**Country A**

1) **What to produce?** This country is primarily an export-based economy focusing on manufacturing and products.

2) **How to produce?** This country’s businesses are largely privately owned and independent. There are increasing amounts of government involvement in the financial sectors.

3) **For whom to produce?** This country survives largely based on their exports, which are determined by global markets.

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**Country B**

1) **What to produce?** This country is largely a service based economy but also has an extremely efficient agricultural sector.

2) **How to produce?** Industries have much freedom in this country. There have been recent moves to partially-nationalize certain industries like banking.

3) **For whom to produce?** The private sector produces goods and services for domestic and international markets based on the market price system.

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**Country C**

1) **What to produce?** The government of this country is still largely involved with many aspects of the economy.

2) **How to produce?** Making large scale production changes in this country is difficult due to the immense bureaucracy. There is a movement towards modernizing factories and agricultural equipment, but it is slow.

3) **For whom to produce?** Increasingly this country is trying to allow for market interaction, but high tariffs and minimal protection of private property make this difficult.
Economic Systems Continuum Activity: Group Response Sheet

Group Members: ____________________________________________________________

1. Country A
   Describe location on continuum ____________________________________________
   Explain your reasoning _________________________________________________
   Would Country A most likely represent the United Kingdom, Germany, or Russia? ______
   Explain the reasoning for your country selection. _____________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

2. Country B
   Describe location on continuum ____________________________________________
   Explain your reasoning _________________________________________________
   Would Country A most likely represent the United Kingdom, Germany, or Russia? ______
   Explain the reasoning for your country selection. _____________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

3. Country C
   Describe location on continuum ____________________________________________
   Explain your reasoning _________________________________________________
   Would Country A most likely represent the United Kingdom, Germany, or Russia? ______
   Explain the reasoning for your country selection. _____________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
Economic Systems Continuum Activity: Economic Continuum

Directions: On the continuum below, label Command Economy, Market Economy, and Mixed. Read the Country Information Cards then place the Country Letter Name at the appropriate location on the continuum. Write down your description of the location and your reasoning for each country on the Group Response Sheet. Sample descriptions: between command and mixed, but closer to command; between mixed and market, but closer to market than…
Economic Systems Continuum Activity: Economic Continuum KEY

Directions: On the continuum below, label Command Economy, Market Economy, and Mixed. Read the Country Information Cards then place the Country Name Cards at the appropriate location on the continuum. Write down your description of the location and your reasoning for each country on the Group Response Sheet. Sample descriptions: between command and mixed, but closer to command; between mixed and market, but closer to market than… These answers are not exact. They are based on information provided in the Teacher Notes.