

Question 1

This essay will mainly divide the paradigms into 4 paragraphs which are positivism, social constructionism, critical paradigm, and postmodernism. This essay will also combine the answers in question A and B into 1 paragraph for each paradigm.

The first paradigm is the **positivism**. This paradigm is about the society can and should be studied empirically and scientifically (Every knowledge that we call it the truth must be proved by the observation or the test first.). Based on the movie, we can normally see that some people who had this paradigm believed in the truth (astronomy) that can be observed or proved, while some people who did not have this paradigm believed in something (the god) that cannot be measured or proved. The impact on the society is that there were some philosophies tried to explain about the astronomy (the movement of the Earth and other stars) with many hypothesizes. They believed in the astronomy because it can explain about the things that can be seen in the sky. Unfortunately, some people also died from their own belief as well. Hypatia, the astronomy professor who had many young philosophies studying with, had this kind of paradigm and tried to find the truth about the movement of the stars in the sky throughout her life. One phenomenon that can be explained this paradigm very well is that Hypatia said to her former student, Synesius "You do not question what you believe, or cannot. I must". Hypatia did not believe in the god because she cannot prove the existence of the god, but she believed in the astronomy as it can be explained or observed.

The second paradigm is the **social constructionism**. This paradigm is about the truth is a varying, socially constructed, and ever-changing notion (The truth depends on the belief and cognitive in each society.). Based on the movie, there were two groups of people which were Heretics and Christians. Heretics, people who lived in the city, believed in the philosophies and the science, while Christians, people who came from outside the city, believed in the god (intangible thing). The Christians told that the statue that Heretics believed was not real and tried to show that the god in their religion was real by walking through the walkway with fire in order to show their power of the god. However, some Heretics still did not believe in the Christian's show and tried to find the evidence to prove the walking through the fire show. This can show that people who live in the different society have different beliefs. The impact to the society is that there was a conflict between two groups of people which led to the civil war later (based on the movie.) The first phenomenon is that the walking through the fire show that I explained above. The second phenomenon is that some people believed that the world is flat, while some people believed that the world is round and tried to prove that if the world is flat, why we never heard about people falling from the edge of the Earth. The third phenomenon is that Heretics believed in the slavery system, while the Christians believed in the equality (For this part, I will clearly explain in the next paragraph, the critical paradigm.)

The third paradigm is the **critical paradigm**. This paradigm is about scientific investigation should be conducted with the express goal of social change in mind (People believe that they have ontology/guideline in their mind) and it mainly emphasizes in power, inequality and social change. Based on the movie, there were conflicts between the Heretics, the representative of slavery system, and the Christians, the representative of equality. Christians tried to show that people in the society were equal, including rich and poor. The slavery system (biased) created the belief and the society of the Heretics, while the equality created the belief and the society of the Christians. The slaves were told to believe that they were born to serve someone, and they did not have their freedom. This can show that how the power or the inequality shaped the society. After the arriving of the Christians, some slaves and people were changed their belief to the Christians because they found to change the imbalance power (slavery system, rich-poor) to be the equality. The impact to the society is that the Christians had power over the Heretics as they had more people and supporters. There was not any slavery system in the Christian society (positive impact to the society). However, the equality that the Christians was not real because people who did not believe in their religion and expressed their ideas also faced with the death penalty by throwing the rocks (negative impact to the society). The first phenomenon is that the Cyril told Davus that rich and poor people were equal, while Hypatia saw Davus as the slave. From this consequent, Davus chose to change his belief from Heretics to Christian over his love to Hypatia. The second phenomenon is that there were a lot of people joined the Christians because they wanted to change the imbalance of the society (no slave, no gap between rich-poor).

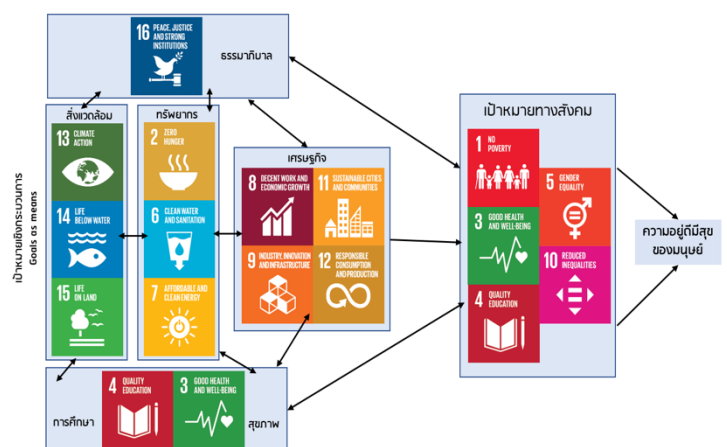
The fourth paradigm, the last one, is the **postmodernism**. This paradigm is about everything in the society is not the truth as it has biased in themselves. We do not see this kind of paradigm in the movie. All people had their own belief which were science, god, or even statue. If we use this kind of paradigm to look in the society in the movie, everything is biased. The Christians' society, the heretics, or even the astronomy are biased. The theory that they used to explain about the astronomy may be their own imagination because they cannot saw the whole moving process with their own eyes. How can you make sure that the knowledge from the former philosophies were not biased? The Christians and the heretics were the group of people who just want to have something to worship/ believe. There were no god or statue that they believed for real. The story of Jesus that they believed to may be someone's tales to make people to believe in him. How can we know that the man who is the god of Christian existed in the past?

Question 2

This essay will divide into 3 paragraphs. The first paragraph will explain about how the discourse of development had been constructed differently in different societies and what the common definition of development. The second paragraph will explain which hypothesis could explain best the determinant of development level in each society. The last paragraph will discuss about the development is conceivable without economic growth.

In different society, the discourse of development has been totally different depended on their knowledge and point of view to the society/world. According to the book "Szirmai (2015) ", the concepts of development are divided into development as economic growth, development as structural change, development as poverty reduction, development as social welfare, development as modernization, development as freedom, and development as sustainability. Each concept measures the development in the different ways. For example, the concept of development as freedom tells that if people in the country have more freedom, it can indicate to the better development as well. The concept of development as poverty reduction tells that the decrease in poverty has become a key aspect of the development concept because it indicates to the decreasing in income inequality and the improvement in employment situation. The concept of development as sustainability is about the development without diminishing the life opportunities of future generations. There is not any concept with the full explanation or clearly illustrate on the development, but each concept supports each other to define and measure the term "development" to be more and more clearly and understandable. In common, the definition of development should be "the improvement in overall living standard without disrupting the opportunity of others and future generations". The improvement in any factor from the living standard can illustrate to the better development. According to the "Where to invade next (2015)", there are many countries take the ideas about the living standard from America to use in their countries and develop the ideas to be better. Finland, one of the countries with low education level in the past, improves their education level to be the highest in the world with the concept "self-learning/developing and zero homework". The better education level can indicate to the better living standard which leads to the better development as well. People with high education tend to have more opportunity in their life. Iceland, the country with failure in banking system in the past, supports the equality between men and women. Iceland faced with the failure banking system because the majority of labors in the bank were man. After supporting the equality, women have more rights in the society, and they can improve the living standard to be better. Norway, the country with the lowest murder rate and prisoner, believes in the unity and giving the second chance to the prisoner. It has the best system of taking care the prisoner by treating them as a person in their family. From this consequence, the murder rate and the prisoner has been decreased to the lowest in the world. The low murder rate can improve the living standard because people do not to worry in their life and have more freedom, leading to the better development. However, there are no developed societies because the societies will never stop developing. There are only good or bad development.

The hypothesis that could explain best the determinant of development level in each society is the development as sustainability or the sustainability development. There are many definitions of this hypothesis, but the usual one is “the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. The society that uses a lot of resources to develop their society without sustaining tends to have high chance of getting high development in the present, but it tends to have low development in the future as the low amount of available resources. Another reason to support this hypothesis is that future generation may has more knowledge than previous generation as the improving in technology and education level. It means that the more available resources in the future leads to the chance of more development compared to the present. The society with low resources can indicate to the slow down on the development, while the society with high resources can indicate to the high chance of increasing in development. The society with sustainable development plan tends to have more chance to develop continuously further and further. The sustainable development also provides their goals to achieve in order to get a better and sustainable future for all people. If any society can reach these goals, they will have the sustainable future for sure.



I will explain further about the goals of sustainable development. It begins with the **resources which are food, water, and energy**. These are the things that human need to consume in order to survive. People who have these resources will have better standard living. If people consume more and more resources without sustaining, it will affect to the **environmental group which are climate change, life below water, and life on land**. People cannot have sustainable life if there are actions that have negative effects to the environment. The environment has the directly effect to the **economic group (8-12)** because the low resources illustrate to the low development of economy. The economic system cannot produce outputs to support our standard living as I said before. From this consequence, it affects to the people who have low income, so they will face with poverty, bad health, inequality, no education, and no jobs. This is the reason why they have to set goals on **the social group (1,3,4,5,10)** to solve these problems. The education and well-being are the factors which make people to have better life. Lastly, **the sixteenth goal (peace, justice and strong institutions)** is the working scope to achieve all sustainable goals.

These are the reasons why the sustainable development goals are so important to our society. These goals include all factor that can help present and future generation to approach the life with sustainability.

The development without economic growth is impossible. The economic growth is one of the importance factors of development, while the economic growth could occur without any economic development. It is true that the development involves more than economic growth and change in economic structures, but without the growth, there is no way to decrease poverty and income inequality which are the factors of low development in many societies. The development can be increased with the high level of economic growth. The growth in economic tend to improve the overall living standard which may determine to the high level of development. There is more money to improve or support the living standard in the society. Let's think in the common way. If there is a good economic growth, our government can collect more taxes which are used to improve the living standard of people in their society. People have the better life which can determine to the well development. This shows how importance of having economic growth in the development.

Question 3

This essay will divide into 3 paragraphs. The first paragraph will explain the concept of division of labors. The second paragraph will explain the concept of labor union. The last paragraph will explain the concept of technological development.

Let's begin with the concept of division of labor in Adam Smith's side. Smith said that the skilled workers or labors can generate more outputs than normal workers do. From the benefit of specialization, the virtuous circle is occurred. When workers can produce more outputs, the whole nation become richer as the wealth expands. Smith believed that one person does not have to become poorer in order for another to become richer. This idea is not true at all and it is contradicted with the concept of Marx. Marx said that the increasing division of labor has several effects (tend to be negative effect). First, the workers with specialization have to work more, so it increases the competition among workers for jobs which reduce their wage down. From the movie, we can see this effect in China. Chinese workers ready to work with lower wage because there are a lot of people who ready to work in their positions. They have to work hard to show their boss that they have benefit to him/her. Second, it simplifies labor by transforming them into a simple, monotonous productive force (things used to produce). Third, they have to join the working class. Finally, economic crises become more violent. There are many debates between Marx and Smith. First, Smith tells that the division of labor is necessary and efficient to the economy, while Marx tells that the division of labor separates the social class. Second, Smith believes that people can enjoy the benefit of division of labor and become wealthy together, while Marx tells that the firm will enjoy the benefit (paying lower wages and getting high output) from the competition among workers. The labors will not get the higher wage as they should base on the concept of Marx. Marx said that the workers have to work to earn wage rather than for their specific purposes. Higher wages mean to better slave-salary. According to the "American Factory", it proves that some concepts from Marx are right. As I mentioned before, labor in China have to work hard to prove that they are good in their positions. In America, people get the benefit from the labor union (as I will explain further in the 2nd paragraph) because it allows the firm to pay the higher wage as their workers should get and take care the living of labors in the factory. American does not have to compete in job positions as much as Chinese does. However, there are a lot of unemployed in America. Fuyao, Chinese factory in America, tries to bring their culture into the factory in America. They paid lower wages than American factory pays to their labors and they also force people to work more harder and harder. For example, the labors get force to work alone in the position that requires two or more people. If people cannot do it, they will become the part of unemployed. The concepts from Marx is similar to what China's company does to their labors.

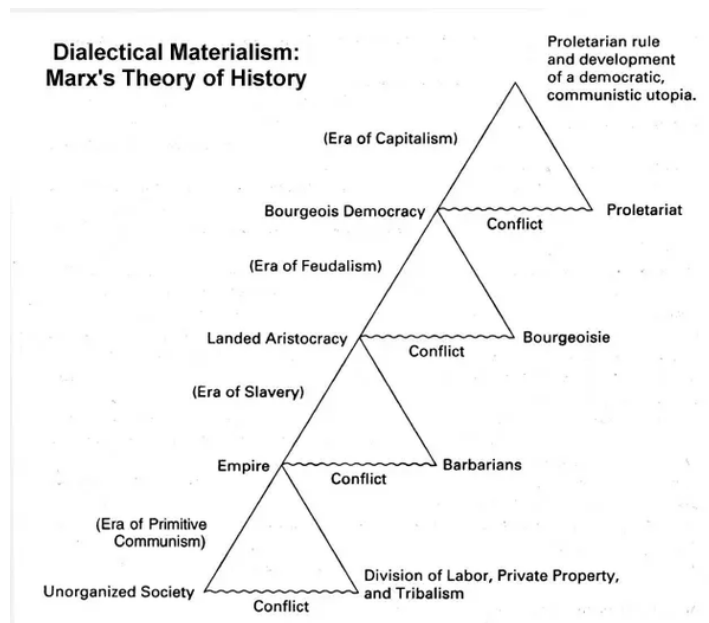
Move to the concept of labor union, it is an organized association of workers to protect and further their rights and interest. The debate between Smith and Marx is in the previous paragraph. If people really gain the benefits together from the work as Smith thinks, this organization may not occur. The labor union is built up to protect the workers from the Marx's aspect. People do not have to work as the machine does and people also have the right of being protect from danger during the work. They do not have to take risks of doing some kind of work that may have chance to hurt them in the working place.

However, the labor union in different countries do not act in the same way. According to the “American factory”, the labor union in China does not have the power to the company much as we can see that the Chinese workers still have to work hard and get the lower wage than the American workers in the same company (different factory) does or may be the Chinese workers may want to work hard for the company!?. The labor union in America really has the power to the company. First of all, it will become the middleman between the company and the labors. When the labors want to report the problems, they can report directly to the labor union without the permission to the company. Second, labor union will protect people from the work that is dangerous as it cares their people’s health. Third, labor union will give the right to people not to work over the working time as the Chinese companies want their labor to do. Lastly, labor union will request the company to pay the wage to the labors in the appropriate proportion. These are the reasons why Fuyao does not want to have labor union in the factory in America. They will lose a lot of benefits from this situation. Fuyao has fired a lot of people from their company by reasoning about the mistake in their work. American labors in Fuyao demanded to have the labor union in this Chinese factory, but it failed as the voting of having labor union was lower than not having labor union. Fuyao gets a lot of benefits from this consequence because they know that labors in the factory still are in their side. Some American labors think that the hard work with low payment is better than being part of unemployed, so they choose to be the company’s side. This proves that the idea of Karl Marx is actually true (people will work as machines and gain the low benefit/ separate the social class between rich and poor/ people get force to join the working class).

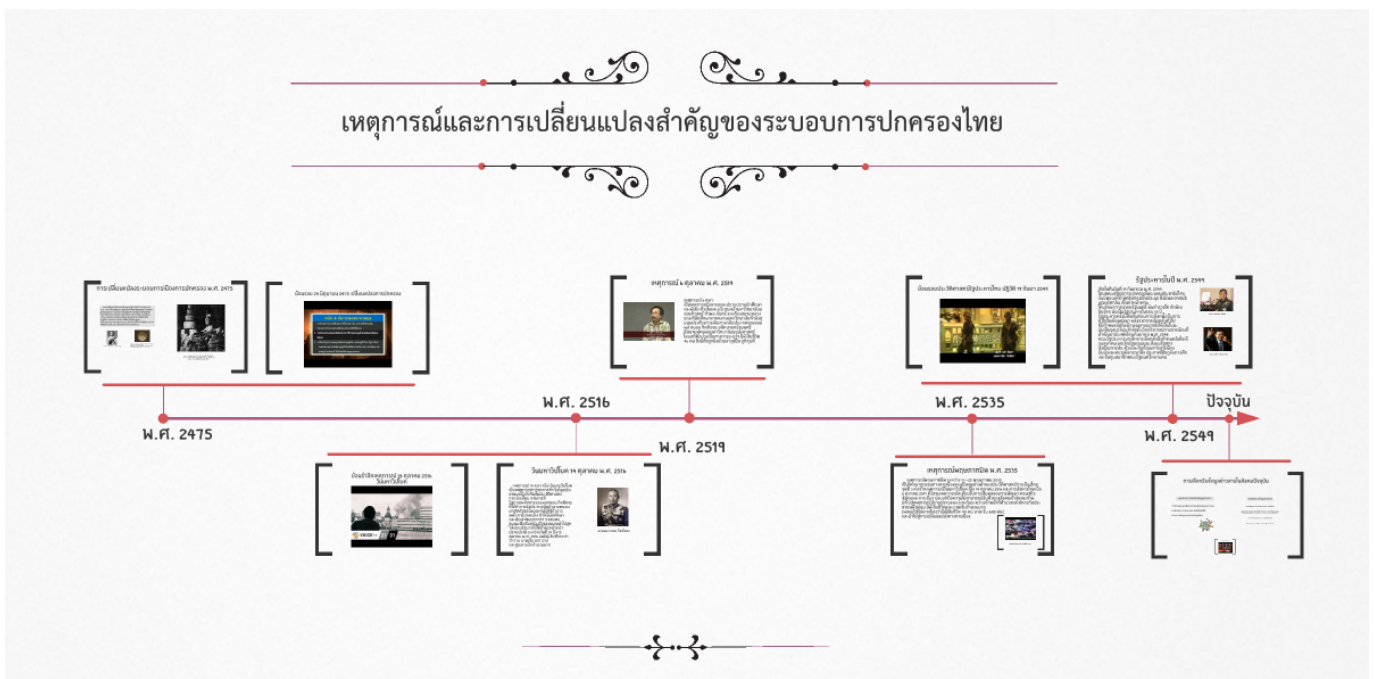
Move to the concept of technological development, the machines show to us that they can work better than human in some jobs with more efficient and outputs. This is the reason why many companies choose the machine to product their output instead of using human. In the Smith’s aspect, he may tell that people and machines can work together and generate a lot of benefit together. People can work less and still enjoy the benefit together. In the Marx’s aspect, he may tell that when the firms can find the way that they will get more benefits, they will choose that way for sure. If the company can develop the machine that can work better than their labors, it will choose the machine instead of labors for sure as it generates more output with lower cost. According to the movie, we can see that Fuyao discovers the machine that can generate more outputs than human does, so they will fire the human that work in that position and replace with the machine. Many labors will get fire from work from this consequence. Technological development has the benefits to our living standard and the economic, but it also causes a lot of people to become unemployed. People have to study harder in the knowledge for the job that cannot replace by the machine. In the past, the idea of Smith may true as people just only exchange the things that they had specialization to produce and gained the benefits together. Now, people who have more power will take control of people who have lower power and take the benefits from them as Karl Marx told that “the worker will become a commodity, the production of which is subject to the ordinary laws of supply and demand”. The capitalists will become more and more wealthy which illustrates to the discrimination between the social class.

Question 4

Marx's theory of history is about the struggle between the ruling class and the productive class due to the inequality and conflict. Karl Marx believed that every era always has the inequality among people. There will be people who have power (ruling class) rule normal people (productive class). The way to solve this conflict is that the society has to change their regime into the communism. This system will rule people equally. There will not have inequality that discriminate the social class. To explain further, you can see from the picture below that every era, there will be the conflict between two groups that lead into the changing into new era.



This essay will choose the importance situation that occurred in the past in Thailand to apply with the Marxist historical development. Each paragraph will explain in difference period of time or situation. The below diagram illustrates to the timeline of each situation.



Begin with B.E.2475, there was the changing the regime from absolute monarchy into democracy. Before changing the regime, the king had too much power and rights over the citizen and the development in that era was too slow compared to the other countries. From this consequence, the political party "Khana Ratsadon" which had Pridi Banomyong as one of the importance leaders was established in order to demand the king to sign the contract to change the regime from absolute monarchy into democracy. Luckily, the king also agreed with that idea because he already thought about it and he also wanted to change the regime too. There were not any people got any damage on that revolution. The king had lower power, while the citizens has more power to rule themselves. Based on the Marx's theory of history, there were conflict between two groups of people which were the king with his side and the political party "Khana Ratsadon" who wanted to change the rule of Thailand. "Khana ratsadon" was not similar to the productive class because they were not the lower class in the society, and they had power to hire labors to work. However, if we compare them to the king, the king got the benefits from them as some part of their income were paid to the king and had power over them. The king was similar to the ruling class, while other people can be compared to the productive class. The conflict between two group changed Thailand into the new era "Democracy era".

Move to the 14 October or B.E.2516, Thailand was managed or ruled by the military around 15 years. The current leader of the Thailand was Thanom Kittikachorn, the military commander, or we knew him as the leader of the dictatorial government. This revolution started from the people who disagreed with the management under the military and there was many bad news about it, so many people, especially the students, more than 500,000 came to protest. They demanded the government to change the regime from under the dictator to be the democracy again. Unfortunately, Thanom did not agree with them and order his people to stop the protest. From this consequence, there were a civil war between citizens and government. There were a lot of deaths and injuries from this situation. Finally, Thanom declared to quit from the position and traveled to the foreign country. The king Rama 9 also participated in helping his citizens to stop the civil war too. Under the dictatorial era, there were the conflict between citizens and the government which leads to the new era of democracy again. This is similar to the society that was managed by the military (the ruling class), while the citizens were the productive class. The military had power over the citizens and took control of many county's activities.

Move to the 6 October or B.E.2519, there were the conflicts between the citizens, especially Thammasat students, and the military due to many factors. The economic under the current government at that time was really bad which led to the protesting of the labors. The military suggested to the government that they should give power back to the military in order to develop Thailand by changing the regime from the democracy back to the dictatorial era again. On top of that, there were some news about the arriving of communism into Thailand. The image of communism in Thailand was very bad because people did not know the true intent of the communism which is the equality among society. The communist idea is not accepted by many people, especially rich people, because they fear to lose their power and money. The communist also known as the left side of the society. In addition, many people heard the news about "Thanom will come back to Thailand", so there were many students came to protest in the Thammasat university because they strongly disagreed with this news. Some people believed that the soldier

thought that the communism also participated in this protest too. Finally, the military decided to send the army to the Thammasat university and ordered to kill any people who did not give up from their protesting. From this consequence, there were a lot of deaths and injuries and it was recorded as one of the worst days in Thailand. After that, Thailand changed the regime from the democracy back to the dictatorial era again. This situation illustrated to the failure in the society in the idealistic of Karl Marx because the communist was not acceptable by many Thai people. When some Thai people heard about the communist's news, there will be some people come to protest for sure. This situation also illustrated the class struggle between the workers who were affected by the economic problems and the government. Also, it illustrated to the conflict between the students and the military that they had different idea in the political way. However, the side with the power always rule the society and take the control of country again.

In conclusion, we can see that the theory of Karl Marx is very similar to Thailand's situation. When there is a change in regime, it comes from the conflict between two groups of people. As the Karl Marx said, "Revolution is the product of proper conditions for change, and a conscious productive class moved to action by intense conflict with ruling class."

Additional explain about the Karl Marx's society in idealistic, he said that the society should be as the communist as it illustrates to the equality between people. There will not have rich or poor in the society. However, Soviet already took his idea "Marxism-Leninism" to manage their society and they discovered that there were some people did not agree with this management because people who worked hard or less got the reward (foods, water, and etc.) equally, so they did not have the incentive to work hard as they used to be. From this consequence, Soviet faced with the serious economic problems. However, there are some countries that takes Marx's idea and combined with many ideas to develop their own regime. China also has the regime as the communist. They discover that the democracy is not appropriate to their country, so they changed into the communist with combing many ideas from other regimes. From this result, the economic in China grows very fast and China will become the wealthiest country soon. We can see that there is not any regime that have the perfect idea on the management. Every regime always has advantages and disadvantages. It depends on us of how to make the regime that we use to be the perfect regime as China does. Equality is the things that most people concern but is it good enough for us to bring them into the society? or we will face the same problem as the Soviet did.