

Name _____

Date _____

Comparing Totalitarian Political Systems

Totalitarian: A government with total control over people's lives. They use harsh laws, secret police, armed conflict, no freedom of speech, and government propaganda to control the people. Propaganda means media that tries to brainwash citizens into supporting the government (nationalism) using images, radio announcements, books, and speeches that are biased towards the state.

Examples

Communism: Joseph Stalin's type of totalitarian government in the Soviet Union where the government controlled the economy

Characteristic	Description (summary or quote)	Source
<i>Harsh Laws</i>	Government control of the economy (called a command economy), like forcing workers to industrialize quickly and moving peasants onto collective farms	"Joseph Stalin" from <i>The Great Big Book of Horrible Things</i> by Matthew White
<i>Secret Police</i>	The NKVD or KGB arresting people and shipping them to work camps and prisons in Siberia "By 1939, the network of forced labor camps, prisons, and colonies held 2.9 million people..."	"Joseph Stalin" from <i>The Great Big Book of Horrible Things</i> by Matthew White
<i>Armed Conflict</i>	1) Fighting against the people of Ukraine for protesting the collectivization 2) Almost every loser in Stalin's earlier climb to power (Bukharin, Amenev, Rykov, and Zinoviev...) was arrested, beaten into confessing, paraded through show trials ¹ , and shot."	1) "Addendum to the minutes of [December 6, 1932] Politburo [meeting] No. 93" <i>Soviet Archives Exhibit, Library of Congress (adapted)</i> 2) "Joseph Stalin" from <i>The Great Big Book of Horrible Things</i> by Matthew White
<i>No Freedom of Speech</i>	"Stalin expanded Lenin's political prisons... The system was packed with outcasts, troublemakers, complainers, dissidents, and other dangerous enemies of the state"	"Joseph Stalin" from <i>The Great Big Book of Horrible Things</i> by Matthew White
<i>Propaganda</i>	Poster of men swinging hammers in a factory	Powerpoint from class

¹ Fake trials that were designed to find the defendant guilty (no real use of evidence or lawyers)

Fascism: Adolf Hitler (Germany), Benito Mussolini (Italy), and Francisco Franco's (Spain) type of totalitarian government where the government controlled everything except the economy

Characteristic	Description (summary or quote)	Source
<i>Harsh Laws</i>	Free market control of the economy with the government banning unions and strikes	
<i>Secret Police</i>		
<i>Armed Conflict</i>		
<i>No Freedom of Speech</i>		
<i>Propaganda</i>		

