Capitalism and Socialism, Marx on Surplus Value

As you're reading the selection from Karl Marx's *Capital* (pp. 349-61), consider the questions below.

- 1. What are the two key characteristics of production in capitalism according to Marx?
- 2. How does the capitalist view labor-power? Does this seem like a dehumanizing way to see workers?
- 3. What is surplus value? What does it have to do with use-value and exchange-value?
- 4. How is surplus value created?
- 5. How does the process of laboring transform one's labor? Where do we find our labor after we done doing it?
- 6. How much does a capitalist pay a laborer? What does this have to do with the production of surplus value?
- 7. Why does the capitalist class claim to own surplus value?
- 8. Why can capitalists appropriate surplus value for themselves? Does this seem fair to you?
- 9. Who do you think properly owns surplus value? Why?