

FOUNDATIONS OF LENINISM  
(6 lessons)

LESSON 1: Material: Introduction, Chapters 1 and 2.

What is Leninism? Leninism grew strong in the fight against the opportunism of Social Democracy. What significance has this for our Party today?

What are the three most important contradictions of imperialism? And how are these expressed today?

Why did the first revolution take place in Russia?

What were the international consequences of the Russian Socialist Revolution?

What significance has the Soviet Union for the working class movement in capitalist countries today?

Examine the method of Leninism as distinct from the method of the Second International. (A.L.P. in Australia).

Dogmas of the Second International (examine A.L.P.) Words and deeds.

Criticism and self criticism: how to use in the Party.

LESSON 2: Material: Chapter 3.

What is the importance of theory in Communist Party work and what weaknesses in theory are to be seen in your branch or other Party organisation?

Examine examples of worshipping spontaneity and of economism in Australian Party organisations. How to overcome such failings?

The three basic ideas in the Leninist theory of the Proletarian revolution in relation to the present day world situation.

Weak links in the chain of imperialism.

Work out the setting of the bourgeois democratic revolution and the proletarian revolution in a number of countries today - China, France, Hungary, Viet-nam, Australia, etc.

The fundamental law of revolution.

LESSON 3: Material: Chapter 4.

Why is the dictatorship of the proletariat so important?

What functions does the proletarian dictatorship perform?

What is the State and how does the working class in power use the State against the overthrown bourgeoisie?

Are dictatorship and democracy contradictory?

Why must the working class smash the old State? How is this being done in the Peoples democracies?

Why are Soviets the form of the dictatorship of the proletariat and what is the position in this regard in the Peoples Democracies of Eastern Europe?

LESSON 4: Material: Chapters 5 and 6.

What position does the problem of the peasantry - or the farmers - occupy in Leninism?

The peasantry in the bourgeois-democratic revolution. Examine here also the role of the peasantry in East European countries, China, Viet-nam, Italy, etc.



#### LESSON 4: (Contd.) .....

The peasantry in the proletarian revolution - Australian farmers and the working class advance to power.

Peasantry under Soviet power and how to present advances of Soviet collective farmers to Australian farmers.

What is the Leninist conception of the National problem?

Aims in regard to Australian Aborigines.

What is meant by the principle of self-determination of nations?

What place does this struggle for self-determination hold in the struggle against imperialism today?

What national struggles must Communists support and what kind of Nationalism must we oppose?

National liberation struggles as part of the world proletarian revolution.

What are the tasks of the Party in regard to the national liberation struggles being waged in the world today? (Malaya, Viet-nam, etc.)

What should be done to strengthen internationalism in our Party?

#### LESSON 5: Material: Chapter 7.

Why do we need strategy and tactics as a science of leadership?

What is meant by strategy and what is our strategic aim in Australia today?

Where do we direct our main blow and what are the main reserves of the working class?

The tasks of strategic leadership as applied to Australian conditions?

What is meant by tactics?

Do changes in tactics mean changes in Communist principles?

What tasks of tactical leadership confront our Party today?

What forms of struggle are called for in present day conditions?

The Communist attitude to reforms in contrast to the A.L.P. attitude to reforms.

#### LESSON 6: Material: Chapters 8 and 9.

What are the characteristics of the ALP in the light of Leninism?

What are the features of the Communist Party?

Does your branch fulfil the role of part of a vanguard Party?

If not, how must this be remedied?

What can be done to bind the Party more closely to the working class?

How do our Party branches fulfil the role of organised detachment of the working class?

In what way should the Party guarantee leadership to all kinds of non-Party organisations - Youth, women, trade unions, etc.?

What is Party unity and discipline based upon?

What are the responsibilities of all Party members in the struggle against opportunism?

What style do we aim to achieve in our work?

NOTE: Where 7 lessons are possible, the Peasant question and the National question should be taken separately.

Added reading for Tutors: Stalin - On Organisation -, "Cadres decide everything".  
Lenin: Imperialism, Chaps. 7 to 10.  
C.R. March 1950 (Blako); C.R. May 1950 (Blako).