



Listening Guide

Episode 10: The Extracted

A visit to West Africa and Western Europe to look at the cocoa trade. Did the colonial side of early capitalism – Western countries getting rich at the expense of poorer nations – ever change, or does it continue today?

Features
of Capitalism

Accumulation and Investment of Capital

Profit Motive

Legal Framework

SCENE **•ON** RADIO
Season 7: Capitalism

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Interviews with Achike Chude, Chernoh Bah, Bart Van Besien, and others.

Visit sceneonradio.org/capitalism-educator-resources to access transcripts, the Features of Capitalism explainer, and other resources.

Before You Listen

- Picture your favorite chocolate bar. It begins as cocoa beans – the seeds of the *Theobroma cacao* tree – that are grown within a narrow 20-degree “cocoa belt” north and south of the Equator.
 - What steps might transform cocoa beans into the chocolate bar you buy at the store? Do a quick Internet search.
 - Where might those different steps take place?

While You Listen

This listening guide divides the podcast into sections. All sections of this episode are recommended for listening.

Section	Questions to Consider
Section 1 Colonialism After Independence? 0:00-11:08 Recommended	- How do Ellen and John describe the relationship between colonialism and the rise of capitalism in Europe (which is discussed in detail in Episode 3)? - John and Nigerian-born journalist Ugochi Anyaka-Oluigbo note that “so many commodities that make modern life possible come from places like Africa and South America.” - What are some of these commodities? - To what extent did you know the origins of these goods before listening? - Nigeria is a former colony of Britain and gained independence in 1960. What examples does Ugochi give to show how “fingers from outside” continue to shape Nigeria today? - Ugochi says that “the ‘problem’ of migration is directly related to the exploitative, neo-colonial relationship between the rich Global North and countries in the South.” - What does she mean by this? - How does the story of Pato, Fati, and Marie help demonstrate her point?

Global North and **Global South** are terms generally used to distinguish wealthier countries, many of which are in Europe and North America, from lower-income countries, many of which were formerly colonized.

Section 2 Cocoa Farming in Côte d'Ivoire 11:09-27:05 Recommended	• How is Côte d'Ivoire connected to the chocolate bars we see at the grocery store checkout line? • What challenges do Ivoirians who work in cocoa face? Consider challenges driven by climate change, government, and the practices of chocolate companies. • How are these challenges connected to the migration journeys of Ivoirians like Pato, Fati, and Marie?
Section 3 Drivers of Challenge and Pushes for Change 27:06-45:40 Recommended	• According to Ugochi, how do the following forces contribute to poverty and pressures to migrate from countries like Côte d'Ivoire? ▪ Export of raw commodities for production in the Global North ▪ Western-backed political leadership of African countries ▪ Policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank (international intergovernmental organizations) ▪ Profit-maximizing practices of European chocolate companies • Ugochi discusses several efforts to change how the cocoa industry operates. ▪ What different approaches to change do you hear? ▪ What does each approach seek to change about who has power or who benefits from the cocoa trade?
Section 4 Unpacking the Episode 45:41-55:09 Recommended	• Near the end of the episode, Ugochi, John, and Ellen explain that the cocoa trade is just one example of a larger pattern between the Global North and the Global South. What other examples do they discuss? • Scholar Jason Hickel and his colleagues "estimate that every year, the Global North drains 10.8 trillion dollars from the Global South." What does this mean, and how does it happen?

After You Listen

- What is one moment or quote from the episode that stands out to you? It might be something that surprised you, challenged or confirmed your thinking, or prompted a new understanding.
- At the outset of the episode, John poses a question: "Did the fundamental economic reality – rich, capitalist countries extracting wealth from what folks now call the Global South – did that ever change? Or does it continue today?"
 - Based on the episode, to what extent has this economic relationship changed, and in what ways does it continue? What examples from the episode most shape your answer?
 - Consider the **Features of Capitalism** listed at the beginning of this guide. How do these features help you understand the economic relationships described in the episode?