

AP Human Geography Summer Reading Assignment

The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy: An Economist Examines the Markets, Power, and Politics of World Trade by Pietra Rivoli, 2005.

***After reading the book, please answer the following questions briefly (less than a paragraph each). Responses should be typed in 12 point font.**

Chapter ONE

1. How does the author answer the following question, which is the title of this chapter: "Are subsidies the reason America has dominated the global cotton industry for 200 years?" (Support your answer.)

Chapter TWO

2. Use specific examples to support the thesis that the American cotton market has dominated the world market by "ducking the labor markets."

Chapter THREE

3. Explain the impact of genetically modified cotton on production. What corporation has been a leader in this technological advance? What has been the response from Lubbock cotton growers?

Chapter FOUR

4. Explain the plight of West African cotton farmers. (Use citations from the text to support your explanation.)

Chapter FIVE

5. Describe the author's impression of Number 36 Cotton Yarn Factory.

Chapter SIX

6. Explain the following quote: "The floods of cheap cotton clothing that flow today from China to the United States are almost an symmetric reversal of the trade flows of a century ago."

Chapter SEVEN

7. What transformation has occurred in the former textile centers of Manchester, England; Charlotte, North Carolina; the state of Alabama; and Osaka, Japan? How has Hong Kong's apparel industry changed?

Chapter EIGHT

8. Explain what Nike is doing to provide "corporate social responsibility" activities?

Chapter NINE

9. Explain the rules for cotton T-shirts associated with "preferential treatment status" in free-trade agreements.

Chapter TEN

10. What is the author's answer to the following: "How did the United States—as the self-anointed free trade champion of the universe—end up with such a dauntingly complex and downright silly mass of barriers to the import of T-shirts?"

Chapter ELEVEN

11. How did quota allocations help a nation like the Philippines? Since 2004, why have nations that once supported such quota allocations begun to have second thoughts?

Chapter TWELVE

12. Explain how the author's section subtitled "Try This New Underwear" support the following quote: "Sometimes a wall limits our fortunes; other times a wall can incite much more creativity than an open door."

Chapter THIRTEEN

13. What happens to America's castoff T-shirts and how is their plight the first example of a fully functioning free market at work in the story of a T-shirt's life from the cotton fields to the Salvation Army bin?

Chapter FOURTEEN

14. Describe the Manzese market in Dar Es Salaam.