

**Background Information:**

The American diet and agricultural practices have changed dramatically in recent decades. Industrial agriculture has changed our environment, diet, health, food choices and impacted many other surprising aspects of American life.

**Prompt:**

You will write an essay that explores some of the problems that have arisen within our food system and what has caused them. The negative impacts are far reaching and broad, so you should limit your focus to three or four main issues about which you have a variety of information.

**Requirements:**

- 1) The paper should be a minimum of 4 complete pages in length (not including Works Cited page)
- 2) The essay should follow proper MLA formatting guidelines.
- 3) You must make use of a minimum of 4 sources (chapters from Pollan, Leonard, or the films *Food Inc.* and/or “The Story of Stuff”)
- 4) Each body paragraph must compare/contrast at least two of the works/chapters discussed so far this semester. In other words, how do the works relate *thematically* or by topic?
- 5) Each body paragraph must contain at least two different pieces of direct evidence from the texts at hand (in the form of direct quotation).
- 6) Your paper must include at least one of each of the following (See the MLA Quoting PowerPoint on the course website):
  - a. A properly formatted block quote
  - b. A properly modified quote
  - c. A quote introduced with a complete sentence and a colon
  - d. A quote introduced by the word “that” or “as”
- 7) Your conclusion should suggest solutions to some of the problems (based on what you have learned)
- 8) Finally, your paper must include a properly formatted Works Cited page including all sources consulted for the paper.