

 Education

**WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**Grade 7: Module 2: Units 2 & 3
Student Workbook**

Name: _____



.....
Name:

.....
Date:

Directions: Study the two images of working conditions and answer the questions below.

1. Clearly, working conditions in textile mills have changed since the 1800s. What specific changes do you see in these photos? What remains similar?

2. Why have working conditions changed?

3. Who is responsible for changing working conditions?

**Agents of Change
For Working Conditions**

Workers	Governments
Consumers	Businesses

Name: _____

Date: _____

A. Early Life	
Childhood	
Young adult	
B. Organizing United Farm Workers	
Why he formed it	
What success the UFW Had	
C. Lasting Legacy	

Workers	Governments
<p>“At companies where farmworkers are protected by union contracts, we have made progress in overcoming child labor, in overcoming miserable wages and working conditions, in overcoming sexual harassment of women workers, in overcoming discrimination in employment, in overcoming dangerous pesticides ...”</p>	<p>“Hispanics began running for public office in greater numbers ... (and) our people started asserting their rights on a broad range of issues and in many communities across this land.”</p>
Workers	Governments
<p>“That is why we are asking Americans, once again, to join the farmworkers by boycotting California grapes. The newest Harris Poll revealed that 17 million Americans boycotted grapes.”</p>	<p>“The very fact of our existence forces an entire industry ... to spend millions of dollars year after year on increased wages, on improved working conditions, and on benefits for workers.”</p>

Directions: César Chávez says, “Our opponents must understand that it’s not just the union we have built. Unions, like other institutions, can come and go—but we’re more than institutions.”

Read the following quotes and discuss how Chávez illustrates that a union is “more than an institution.” What does he say it is?

“And one thing I hear most often from Hispanics, regardless of age or position, and from many non-Hispanics as well, is that the [United Farm Workers union] gave them the hope that they could succeed and the inspiration to work for change.”

“Our union will forever exist as an empowering force among Chicanos in the Southwest. That means our power and our influence will grow and not diminish.”

“Regardless of what the future holds for the union, regardless of what the future holds for farmworkers, our accomplishments cannot be undone. La causa, our cause, doesn’t have to be experienced twice.”

Commonwealth Club Address
San Francisco, November 9, 1984
Cesar Chavez

Thank you very much, Mr. Lee, Mrs. Black, ladies and gentlemen.

P1

Twenty-one years ago, this last September, on a lonely stretch of railroad track paralleling U.S. Highway 101 near Salinas, 32 Bracero farm workers lost their lives in a tragic accident. The Braceros had been imported from Mexico to work on California farms.

P2

5 They died when their bus, which was converted from a flatbed truck, drove in front of a freight train. Conversion of the bus had not been approved by any government agency. The driver had **tunnel vision**. Most of the bodies laid unidentified for days. No one, including the grower who employed the workers, even knew their names. Today, thousands of farm workers live under **savage** conditions, beneath trees and amid
10 garbage and human excrement near tomato fields in San Diego County; tomato fields, which use the most modern farm technology. Vicious rats gnaw at them as they sleep. They walk miles to buy food at inflated prices and they carry in water from irrigation ditches.

15 Child labor is still common in many farm areas. As much as 30 percent of Northern California's garlic harvesters are underage children. Kids as young as six years old have voted in states, conducted union elections, since they qualified as workers. Some 800,000 underage children work with their families, harvesting crops across America. Babies born to **migrant** workers suffer 25 percent higher infant **mortality** rates than the

P3

tunnel vision: defective sight in which objects not in the center field of vision cannot be properly seen

savage: harsh

migrant: moving from place to place in search of work

mortality: death

page 1

rest of the population. Malnutrition among migrant workers’ children is 10 times higher
 20 than the national rate. Farm workers’ average life expectancy is still 49 years, compared
 to 73 years for the average American.

All my life, I have been driven by one dream, one goal, one vision: to overthrow a P4
 farm labor system in this nation that treats farm workers as if they were not important
 human beings. Farm workers are not agricultural **implements**; they are not beasts of
 25 burden to be used and discarded. That dream was born in my youth, it was nurtured in
 my early days of organizing. It has flourished. It has been attacked.

I’m not very different from anyone else who has ever tried to accomplish something P5
 with his life. My motivation comes from my personal life, from watching what my
 mother and father went through when I was growing up, from what we experienced as
 30 migrant workers in California. That dream, that vision grew from my own experience
 with racism, with hope, with a desire to be treated fairly, and to see my people treated as
 human beings and not as **chattel**. It grew from anger and rage, emotions I felt 40 years
 ago when people of my color were denied the right to see a movie or eat at a restaurant
 in many parts of California. It grew from the frustration and humiliation I felt as a boy
 who
 35 couldn’t understand how the growers could abuse and exploit farm workers when there
 were so many of us and so few of them.

Later in the 50s, I experienced a different kind of exploitation. In San Jose, in Los P6
 Angeles and in other urban communities, we, the Mexican-American people, were
 dominated by a majority that was **Anglo**. I began to realize what other minority people
 40 had discovered; that the only answer, the only hope was in organizing. More of us had to
 become citizens, we had to register to vote, and people like me had to develop the skills
 it would take to organize, to educate, to help empower the **Chicano** people.

implements: tools

Anglo: a white American not of Hispanic
 descent

chattel: property or personal possession

Chicano: an American of Mexican descent

I spent many years before we founded the **union** learning how to work with people. P7
 We experienced some successes in voter registration, in politics, in battling racial
 45 discrimination – successes in an era where Black Americans were just beginning to
assert their civil rights and when political awareness among Hispanics was almost non-
 existent. But deep in my heart, I knew I could never be happy unless I tried organizing
 the farm workers. I didn't know if I would succeed, but I had to try.

All Hispanics, urban and rural, young and old, are connected to the farm workers' P8
 50 experience. We had all lived through the fields, or our parents had. We shared that
 common humiliation. How could we progress as a people even if we lived in cities,
 while the farm workers, man and women of our color, were condemned to a life without
 pride? How could we progress as a people while the farm workers, who symbolized our
 55 history in this land, were denied self-respect? How could our people believe that their
 children could become lawyers and doctors and judges and business people while this
 shame, this injustice, was permitted to continue?

Those who attack our union often say it's not really a union. It's something else, a P9
 social movement, a civil rights movement – it's something dangerous. They're half
 right. The United Farm Workers is first and foremost a union, a union like any other, a
 60 union that either produces for its members on the bread-and-butter issues or doesn't
 survive. But the UFW has always been something more than a union, although it's never
 been dangerous, if you believe in the Bill of Rights. The UFW was the beginning. We
 attacked that historical source of shame and infamy that our people in this country lived
 with. We attacked that injustice, not by complaining, not by seeking handouts, not by
 65 becoming soldiers in the war on poverty; we organized.

union: an organization of workers formed to
 advance the interests of its members

assert: claim

Farm workers acknowledge we had allowed ourselves to become victims in a democratic society, a society where majority rules and collective bargaining are supposed to be more than academic theories and political rhetoric. And by addressing this historical problem, we created confidence and pride and hope in an entire people's ability to create the future. The UFW survival, its existence, were not in doubt in my mind when the time began to come. P10

After the union became visible, when Chicanos started entering college in greater numbers, when Hispanics began running for public office in greater numbers, when our people started asserting their rights on a broad range of issues and in many communities across this land. The union survival, its very existence, sent out a signal to all Hispanics that we were fighting for our dignity, that we were challenging and overcoming injustice, that we were empowering the least educated among us, the poorest among us. The message was clear. If it could happen in the fields, it could happen anywhere: in the cities, in the courts, in the city councils, in the state legislatures. I didn't really appreciate it at the time, but the coming of our union signaled the start of great changes among Hispanics that are only now beginning to be seen. P11

I've traveled through every part of this nation. I have met and spoken with thousands of Hispanics from every walk of life, from every social and economic class. And one thing I hear most often from Hispanics, regardless of age or position, and from many non-Hispanics as well, is that the farm workers gave them the hope that they could succeed and the inspiration to work for change. P12

From time to time, you will hear our opponents declare that the union is weak, that the union has no support, that the union has not grown fast enough. Our obituary has been written many times. How ironic it is that the same forces that argue so passionately that the union is not influential are the same forces that continue to fight us so hard. P13

The union’s power in agriculture has nothing to do with the number of farm workers on the union contract. It has nothing to do with the farm workers’ ability to contribute to democratic politicians. It doesn’t even have much to do with our ability to conduct successful boycotts. The very fact of our existence forces an entire industry, unionized and non-unionized, to spend millions of dollars year after year on increased wages, on improved working conditions, and on benefits for workers. If we were so weak and unsuccessful, why do the growers continue to fight us with such passion? Because as long as we continue to exist, farm workers will benefit from our existence, even if they don’t work under union contract. It doesn’t really matter whether we have 100,000 or 500,000 members. In truth, hundreds of thousands of farm workers in California and in other states are better off today because of our work. And Hispanics across California and the nation who don’t work in agriculture are better off today because of what the farm workers taught people about organization, about pride and strength, about seizing control over their own lives.

Tens of thousands of children and grandchildren of farm workers and the children and grandchildren of poor Hispanics are moving out of the fields and out of the barrios and into the professions and into business and into politics, and that movement cannot be reversed. Our union will forever exist as an empowering force among Chicanos in the Southwest. That means our power and our influence will grow and not diminish.

Two major trends give us hope and encouragement. First, our union has returned to a tried and tested weapon in the farm workers non-violent arsenal: the **boycott**. After the **Agricultural Labor Relations Act** became law in California in 1975, we **dismantled** our boycott to work with the law. During the early and mid 70s millions of Americans supported our boycotts. After 1975, we redirected our efforts from the boycott to

boycott: refusal by a group to buy goods or services to show support for a cause

Agricultural Labor Relations Act: law enacted by the state of California in 1975 to protect, among other things, the right of farm workers to self-organize and negotiate the conditions of their employment

dismantle: take apart

organizing and winning elections under the law. That law helped farm workers make progress in overcoming poverty and injustice.

At companies where farm workers are protected by union contracts, we have made progress in overcoming child labor, in overcoming miserable wages and working conditions, in overcoming sexual harassment of women workers, in overcoming discrimination in employment, in overcoming dangerous pesticides, which poison our people and poison the food we all eat. Where we have organized these injustices soon passed in history, but under Republican Governor George Deukmejian, the law that guarantees our right to organize no longer protects farm workers; it doesn't work anymore.

P17

In 1982, corporate growers gave Deukmejian one million dollars to run for governor of California. Since he took office, Deukmejian has paid back his debt to the growers with the blood and sweat of California farm workers. Instead of enforcing the law as it was written against those who break it, Deukmejian invites growers who break the law to seek relief from governor's appointees. What does all this mean for farm workers? It means that the right to vote in free elections is a sham. It means the right to talk freely about the union among your fellow workers on the job is a cruel hoax. It means that the right to be free from threats and intimidation by growers is an empty promise. It means that the right to sit down and negotiate with your employer as equals across the bargaining table and not as peons in the field is a fraud. It means that thousands of farm workers, who are owed millions of dollars in back pay because their employers broke the law, are still waiting for their checks. It means that 36,000 farm workers, who voted to be represented by the United Farm Workers in free elections, are still waiting for contracts from growers who refuse to bargain in good faith. It means that for farm workers child labor will continue. It means that infant mortality will continue. It means that malnutrition among children will continue. It means the short life expectancy and the inhuman living and working conditions will continue.

P18

Are these make-believe threats? Are they exaggerations? Ask the farm workers who
 are waiting for the money they lost because the growers broke the law. Ask the farm
 145 workers who are still waiting for growers to bargain in good faith and sign contracts. Ask
 the farm workers who have been fired from their jobs because they spoke out for the
 union. Ask the farm workers who have been threatened with physical violence because
 they support the UFW, and ask the family of Rene Lopez, the young farm worker from
 Fresno who was shot to death last year because he supported the union as he came out of
 150 a voting booth. Ask the farm workers who watch their children go hungry in this land of
 wealth and promise. Ask the farm workers who see their lives eaten away by poverty and
 suffering.

These tragic events force farm workers to declare a new international boycott of
 California grapes, except the three present of grapes produced under union contract.
 155 That is why we are asking Americans, once again, to join the farm workers by boycotting
 California grapes. The newest Harris Poll revealed that 17 million Americans boycotted
 grapes. We are convinced that those people and that goodwill have not disappeared.
 That segment of the population which makes the boycotts work are the Hispanics, the
 Blacks, the other minorities, our friends in labor and the Church. But it is also an entire
 generation
 160 of young Americans who matured politically and socially in the 60s and the 70s, millions
 of people for whom boycotting grapes and other products became a socially accepted
 pattern of behavior. If you were young, Anglo, and/or near campers during the late 60s
 and early 70s, chances are you supported farm workers.

15 years later, the men and women of that generation are alive and well. They are in
 165 their mid 30s and 40s. They are pursuing professional careers, their **disposable**
 incomes are relatively high, but they are still inclined to respond to an appeal from farm
 workers. The union’s mission still has meaning for them. Only today, we must translate
 the importance of a union for farm workers into the language of the 1980s. Instead of
 talking

disposable: available

170 about the right to organize, we must talk about protection against sexual harassment in
the fields. We must speak about the right to quality food and food that is safe to eat. I
can tell you the new language is working, the 17 million are still there. They are
responding not to picket lines and leafleting alone, but to the high-tech boycott of today,
a boycott that uses computers and direct mail and advertising techniques, which has
revolutionized business and politics in recent years. We have achieved more success with
a boycott in
175 the first 11 months of 1984 than we achieved in the last 14 years, since 1970.

The other trend that gives us hope is the monumental growth of Hispanic influence P22
in this country. And what that means is increased population, increased social and
economic clout and increased political influence. South of the Sacramento River,
Hispanics now make up now more than 25 percent of the population. That figure will top
180 30 percent by the year 2000. There are now 1.1 million Spanish-**surnamed** registered
voters in California. In 1975, there were 200 Hispanic elected officials at all levels of
government. In 1984, there are over 400 elected judges, city council members, mayors,
and legislators. In light of these trends, it's absurd to believe or to suggest that we are
going to go back in time as a union or as a people.

185 The growers often try to blame the union for their problems, to lay their sins off on P23
us, sins for which they only have themselves to blame. The growers only have
themselves to blame as they begin to reap the harvest of decades of environmental
damage they have brought upon the land: the pesticides, the herbicides, the soil
fumigants, the fertilizers, the salt deposits from thoughtless irrigation, the ravages of
years
190 of unrestrained poisoning of our soil and water. Thousands of acres of land in California
have already been irrevocably damaged by this **wanton** abuse of nature. Thousands
more will be lost unless growers understand that dumping more and more poison from
the soil won't solve their problems on the short or on the long term.

surname: the family or last name

wanton: careless, undisciplined

195 Health authorities in many San Joaquin Valley towns already warn young children and pregnant mothers not to drink the water, because of nitrates from fertilizers which has poisoned the ground water. The growers have only themselves to blame for an increasing demand by consumers for higher-quality food, food that isn't tainted by toxics, food that doesn't result from plant mutations or chemicals that produce red luscious-looking tomatoes that taste like alfalfa. The growers are making the same mistake

200 American automakers made in the 60s and 70s when they refused to produce small economical cars and opened up the door to increased foreign competition.

205 Growers only have themselves to blame for increasing attacks on the publicly financed handouts and government welfare: water **subsidies**, mechanization research, huge subsidies for not growing crops. These special privileges came into being before the Supreme Court's "one person, one vote" decision, at a time when rural lawmakers dominated the legislature and the Congress. Soon, those handouts could be in jeopardy as government searches for more revenue and as urban taxpayers take a closer look at front programs and who they really benefit. The growers only have themselves to blame for the humiliation they have brought upon succeeding waves of immigrant

210 groups that have sweated and sacrificed for a hundred years to make this industry rich.

For generations, they have **subjugated** entire races of dark-skinned farm workers. These are the sins of growers, not the farm workers. We didn't poison the land. We didn't open the door to imported produce. We didn't covet billions of dollars in government handouts. We didn't abuse and exploit the people who work the land. Today

215 the growers are like a punch-drunk old boxer who doesn't know he's past his prime. The times are changing; the political and social environment has changed. The chickens are coming home to roost, and the time to account for past sins is approaching.

subsidies: money granted by the government **subjugate:** to control; to make submissive

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I am told these days farm workers should be discouraged and pessimistic. The
 Republicans control the governor’s office and the White House. There is a
 220 conservative trend in the nation. Yet, we are filled with hope and encouragement. We
 have looked into the future and the future is ours. History and inevitability are on our
 side. The farm workers and their children and the Hispanics and their children are the
 future in California, and corporate growers are the past. Those politicians who ally
 themselves with the corporate growers and against farm workers and the Hispanics are
 in for a big
 225 surprise. They want to make their careers in politics; they want to hold power 20 and 30
 years from now. But 20 and 30 years from now, in Modesto, in Salinas, in Fresno, in
 Bakersfield, in the Imperial Valley and in many of the great cities of California, those
 communities will be dominated by farm workers and not by growers, by the children and
 grandchildren of farm workers and not by the children and grandchildren of growers.

230 These trends are part of the forces of history which cannot be stopped. No person
 and no organization can resist them for very long; they are inevitable. Once social
 change begins it cannot be reversed. You cannot un-educate the person who has learned
 to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people
 who are not afraid anymore. Our opponents must understand that it’s not just the union
 235 we have built – unions like other institutions can come and go – but we’re more than
 institutions. For nearly 20 years, our union has been on the cutting edge of a people’s
 cause, and you cannot do away with an entire people and you cannot stamp out a
 people’s cause. Regardless of what the future holds for the union, regardless of what the
 future holds for farm workers, our accomplishments cannot be undone. *La causa*, our
 240 cause, doesn’t have to be experienced twice. The consciousness and pride that were
 raised by our union are alive and thriving inside millions of young Hispanics who will
 never work on a farm.

P29

245 Like the other immigrant groups, the day will come when we win economic and
 political rewards, which are in keeping with our numbers in society. The day will
 come when the politicians will do the right thing for our people out of political necessity
 and not out of charity or idealism. That day may not come this year. That day may not
 come during this decade, but it will come someday. And when that day comes, we shall
 see the fulfillment of that passage from the Book of Matthew in the New Testament:
 “The last shall be first, and the first shall be last.” And on that day, our nation shall fulfill
 its
 250 creed, and that fulfillment shall enrich us all. Thank you very much.

Commonwealth Club Address Structure Anchor Chart

<p>Central claim: Our union will forever exist as an empowering force among Chicanos in the Southwest. That means our power and our influence will grow and not diminish. (P15)</p>							
Paragraphs	1-7	8-15	16-21	22 and 27	23-26	28 and 29	
Main claim	<p>Farmworkers have faced difficult living and working conditions. Chávez' s own experience showed him that, and he decided to organize the union to empower farmworkers in general and Chicanos in particular.</p>			<p>The other trend is that Latinos have more influence politically because they are empowered and their numbers are growing.</p>			
<p>Connection to central claim What is the purpose of this section? How does this one section contribute or add to the text as a whole?</p>				<p>Our power and influence will grow because we vote.</p>			

Text-Dependent Questions for Paragraphs 1–7

Name: _____

Date: _____

Questions	Write the answer to each question in the left-hand margin of the text. Be brief; you do not need to use complete sentences.
<p>1. After reading P2: What story and images does Chávez tell to begin his speech?</p>	
<p>2. After reading P3: What does Chávez say about the working conditions of the farmworkers?</p>	
<p>3. After reading P5: How does Chávez know about the living conditions of the farmworkers?</p>	
<p>4. After reading P6 and P7: What does Chávez want to do about the conditions of farmworkers?</p>	

.....
Name:

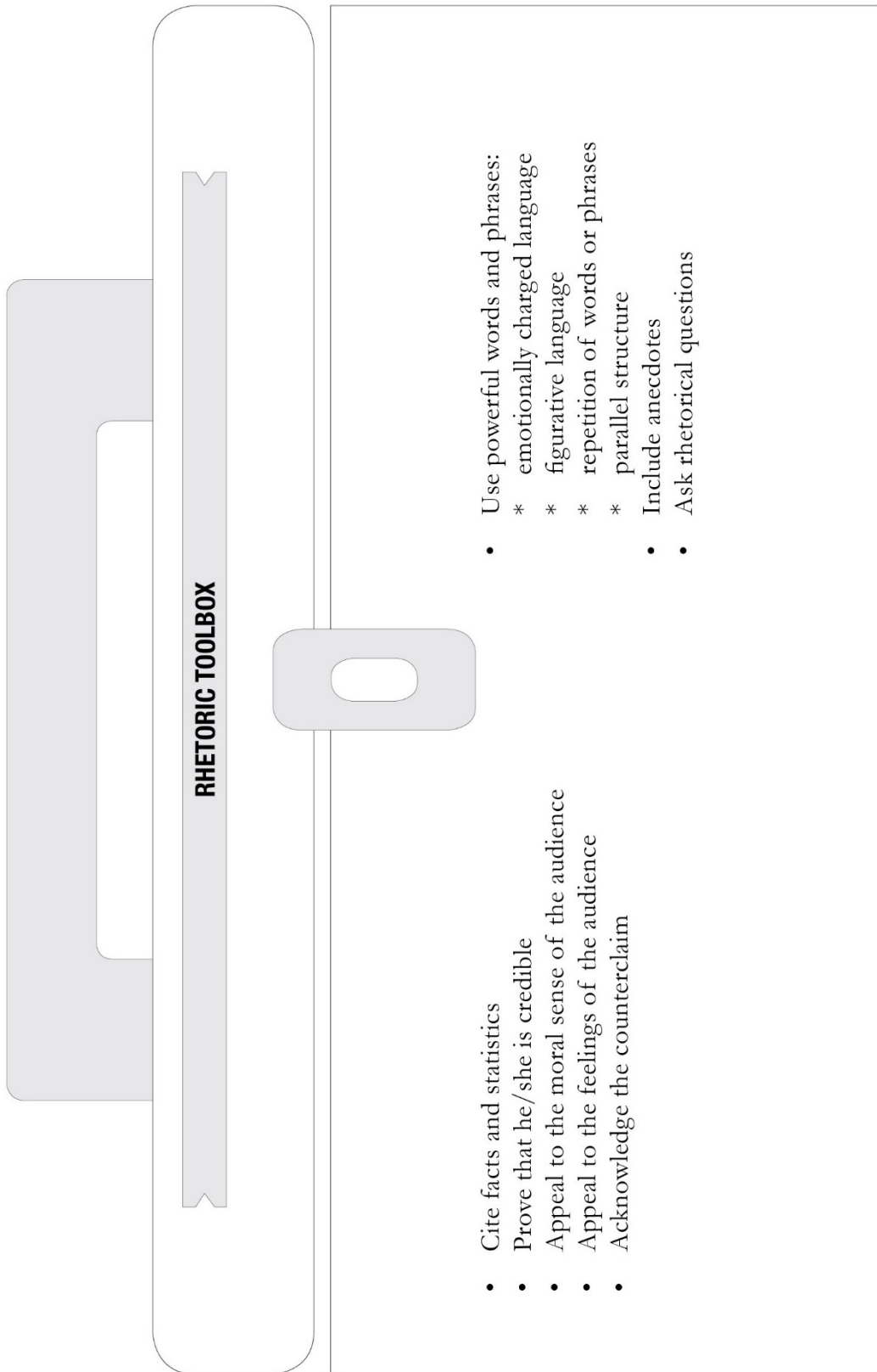
.....
Date:

Please look at the images and then answer the questions below.

1. What do you notice/wonder about these pictures?

2. How do these pictures connect with the Chávez speech you began reading yesterday?





The anchor chart is designed to look like a toolbox. It features a grey handle on the left side with a cutout for a hand. A grey metal latch is positioned in the center, overlapping the handle and the main content area. The main content area is a large white rectangle with a thin black border. At the top of this area, a grey metal bar is attached to the handle, and the words "RHETORIC TOOLBOX" are printed in bold, black, uppercase letters. Below this bar, two columns of bulleted text are listed, detailing various rhetorical strategies.

RHETORIC TOOLBOX

- Cite facts and statistics
- Prove that he/she is credible
- Appeal to the moral sense of the audience
- Appeal to the feelings of the audience
- Acknowledge the counterclaim

- Use powerful words and phrases:
 - * emotionally charged language
 - * figurative language
 - * repetition of words or phrases
 - * parallel structure
- Include anecdotes
- Ask rhetorical questions

.....
Name:

.....
Date:

Questions	Write the answer to each question in the left-hand margin of the text. Be brief; you do not need to use complete sentences.
<p>After reading P11 and 12: How did the UFW affect other Hispanics from all walks of life?</p>	
<p>After reading P13: What is the counterclaim here? What do you expect him to say to dispute this counterclaim in P14?</p>	
<p>After reading P14: This paragraph explains the accomplishments of the UFW. List three accomplishments, considering both tangible (things you can see and hear) and intangible (how people feel) accomplishments.</p> <p>Mark the rhetorical question. In the right margins, write down how this question helps him develop his claim.</p>	

<p>Questions</p>	<p>Write the answer to each question in the left-hand margin of the text. Be brief; you do not need to use complete sentences.</p>
<p>After reading P15: What will be the future of the UFW?</p>	

GRADE 7: MODULE 2A: UNIT 2: LESSON 4
Forming Evidence-Based Claims
Graphic Organizer for Paragraphs 8-15

Name: _____

Date: _____

Claim	What is a claim that Chávez makes about the UFW in Paragraphs 8–15?	
Evidence	Evidence	Evidence



Use Paragraphs 16–21 of Chávez’s Commonwealth Club Address to answer these questions.

Questions	Write the answer to each question in the left-hand margin of the text. Be brief; you do not need to use complete sentences.
1. Why did the UFW stop the boycott in 1975?	
2. What word does Chávez repeat in Paragraph 17? How does that help him develop the claim in this paragraph?	
3. In Paragraphs 18 and 19, Chávez criticizes Governor Deukmejian. For what does he criticize him?	
4. In Paragraph 20, what are the “tragic events” Chávez refers to? Why do these events make a boycott necessary?	
5. In Paragraphs 20 and 21, what evidence does Chávez offer to support his claim that the boycott will be successful?	

.....
Name:

.....
Date:

Use Paragraphs 23–26 of Chávez’s Commonwealth Club Address to answer these questions. Notice that you should write your answers on this paper, not on the speech.

Questions	Write the answer to each question in the left-hand margin of the text. Be brief; you do not need to use complete sentences.
1. After reading P23: Chávez says that the growers are now “reaping the harvest” of decades of actions. To “reap the harvest” means to gather a crop you have grown. What “crop” did the growers plant?	
2. After reading P24: What evidence does Chávez offer of the harm caused by the growers’ use of toxic chemicals?	
3. After reading P26: What language does Chávez use in this paragraph to describe the growers? How does this language help him develop his claim about the growers?	
4. After reading P23–26: What is the main claim of this section?	
5. What connections do you see between the claim of Paragraphs 23–26 and the central claim of the speech?	

GRADE 7: MODULE 2A: UNIT 2: LESSON 8
End of Unit Assessment: Analyzing the Structure
of Chávez’s Wrath of Grapes Speech

.....
Name:

.....
Date:

Directions: Here is one of your learning targets for this unit: “I can analyze the structure of Chávez’s speech and explain how each section contributes to his central claim.” In the next lesson, you will demonstrate how well you have reached this target on the End of Unit Assessment. You will read a new speech by Chávez and analyze its structure.

What has helped you progress toward meeting this standard?

What questions do you still have?

What will you do to be successful on this assessment?

Entry Task

.....
Name:

.....
Date:

When you get a job, what do you expect in terms of your working conditions?

Refer to the Working Conditions anchor chart and discuss what you would hope to find in at least three of those categories.

Category	Examples of PROBLEMS	Examples of FAIR WORKING	SUPPORTING QUESTIONS Research
Hours			
Compensation			
Health, Safety, and Environment			
Treatment of Individual Workers (Harassment, Discrimination)			
Treatment of Groups of Workers (Unions)			
Child and Forced Labor			

<p>Use this side to take notes and plan your ideas. Research Directions</p> <p>I. Setting a Purpose for Research Consider these two questions as you write about the purpose for researching working conditions in the garment industry: What is my definition of “ fair working conditions” ?</p> <p>Why are working conditions in the garment industry relevant to me?</p>	<p>Use this side to record notes (in your own words).</p> <p>The purpose of my research is ...</p>
<p>II. Research Notes</p> <p>Source 1</p> <p>This text will help you learn basic background information. This will help you begin to generate relevant questions about your topic.</p> <p>Supporting research questions:</p> <p>Exemplar question:</p> <p>Five supporting research questions I will use:</p>	<p>Source Title: _____ Useful?</p> <p>Credible? _____ Useful?</p> <p>Author:</p> <p>Publisher:</p> <p>Relevant information from Source 1:</p> <p>Possible supporting research questions based on Source 1:</p>

<p>Use this side to take notes and plan your ideas. Research Directions</p> <p>II. Research Notes</p> <p>Source 1</p> <p>This text will help you learn basic background information. This will help you begin to generate relevant questions about your topic.</p> <p>Supporting research questions:</p> <p>Exemplar question:</p> <p>Five supporting research questions I will use:</p>	<p>Use this side to record notes (in your own words).</p>
<p>Source Title:</p> <p>Credible? _____ Useful?</p> <p>Author:</p> <p>Publisher:</p> <p>Relevant information from Source 1:</p> <p>Possible supporting research questions based on Source 1:</p>	

<p>Use this side to take notes and plan your ideas. Research Directions</p>	<p>Use this side to record notes (in your own words).</p>						
<p>II. Research Notes Source 2: Use these steps for reading your source: Read for gist. Is this a source that is relevant to your topic and questions? Reread the text to find the answer to your questions. While you read, text-code important passages. After you' ve read, paraphrase the answer to your questions by using one of</p>	<p>Source Title: _____ Credible? _____ Useful? Author: _____ Publisher: _____ Relevant information from Source 2:</p>						
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>According to</td> <td>source</td> <td>+ paraphrased fact</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Source +</td> <td>writes illustrates notes observes states reports</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	According to	source	+ paraphrased fact	Source +	writes illustrates notes observes states reports		
According to	source	+ paraphrased fact					
Source +	writes illustrates notes observes states reports						
<p>Example: According to <u>The New York Times</u>, the workers must work 60 hours per week. <u>The New York Times</u> reports that workers must work 60 hours per week.</p>	<p>New supporting research questions based on Source 2:</p>						

<p>Use this side to take notes and plan your ideas. Research Directions</p> <p>II. Research Notes</p> <p>Source 3: Use these steps for reading your source: Read for gist. Is this a source that is relevant to your topic and questions? Reread the text to find the answer to your questions. While you read, text-code important passages. After you've read, paraphrase the answer to your questions by using one of these sentence stems:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="753 1157 1161 1862"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="753 1650 813 1862">According to</th> <th data-bbox="753 1482 813 1650">source</th> <th data-bbox="753 1157 813 1482">+ paraphrased fact</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="813 1650 1161 1862">Source +</td> <td data-bbox="813 1482 1161 1650">writes illustrates notes observes states reports claims</td> <td data-bbox="813 1157 1161 1482"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Example: <i>According to <u>The New York Times</u>, the workers must work 60 hours per week.</i> <i><u>The New York Times</u> reports that workers must work 60 hours per week.</i></p>	According to	source	+ paraphrased fact	Source +	writes illustrates notes observes states reports claims		<p>Use this side to record notes (in your own words).</p> <p>Source Title: _____ Useful?</p> <p>Credible? _____ Useful?</p> <p>Author:</p> <p>Publisher:</p> <p>Relevant information from Source 2:</p>
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	<p>New supporting research questions based on Source 3:</p>						

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<p>Example: <i>According to <u>The New York Times</u>, the workers must work 60 hours per week.</i></p> <p><i><u>The New York Times</u> reports that workers must work 60 hours per week.</i></p> <p>the supporting research questions I will use:</p>							

<p>Use this side to take notes and plan your ideas. Research Directions</p>	<p>Use this side to record notes (in your own words).</p>
<p>III. Synthesize Your Findings For your End of Unit 3 Assessment, you will write a paragraph that synthesizes your findings about working conditions in the garment industry. Use the column to the right to plan your synthesis.</p>	<p>Use this side to organize your ideas. In what order will you address the supporting research questions you circled? What information will you use to address each question?</p>
<p>IV. Suggestions for Further Study After conducting this research, what are you wondering? What suggestions do you have for further study?</p>	

Researcher's Notebook

<p>Use this side to take notes and plan your ideas. Research Directions</p> <p>V. Plan of Action As an informed consumer, you have many options to influence the working conditions around the globe. Read through the list of options and pick one or two you believe are the best course of action. Explain your choice.</p> <p>Continue to buy clothes as you do. Buy clothes from companies recommended by the Fair Labor Organization or similar organization. Pay more money to order your clothes online from a company you believe supports fair working conditions. Make your own homespun clothing. Read the FLA guidelines for companies and write letters to companies urging them to take action. Continue to research working conditions and post your findings online.</p>	<p>Use this side to record notes (in your own words).</p>
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Entry Task

Name: _____

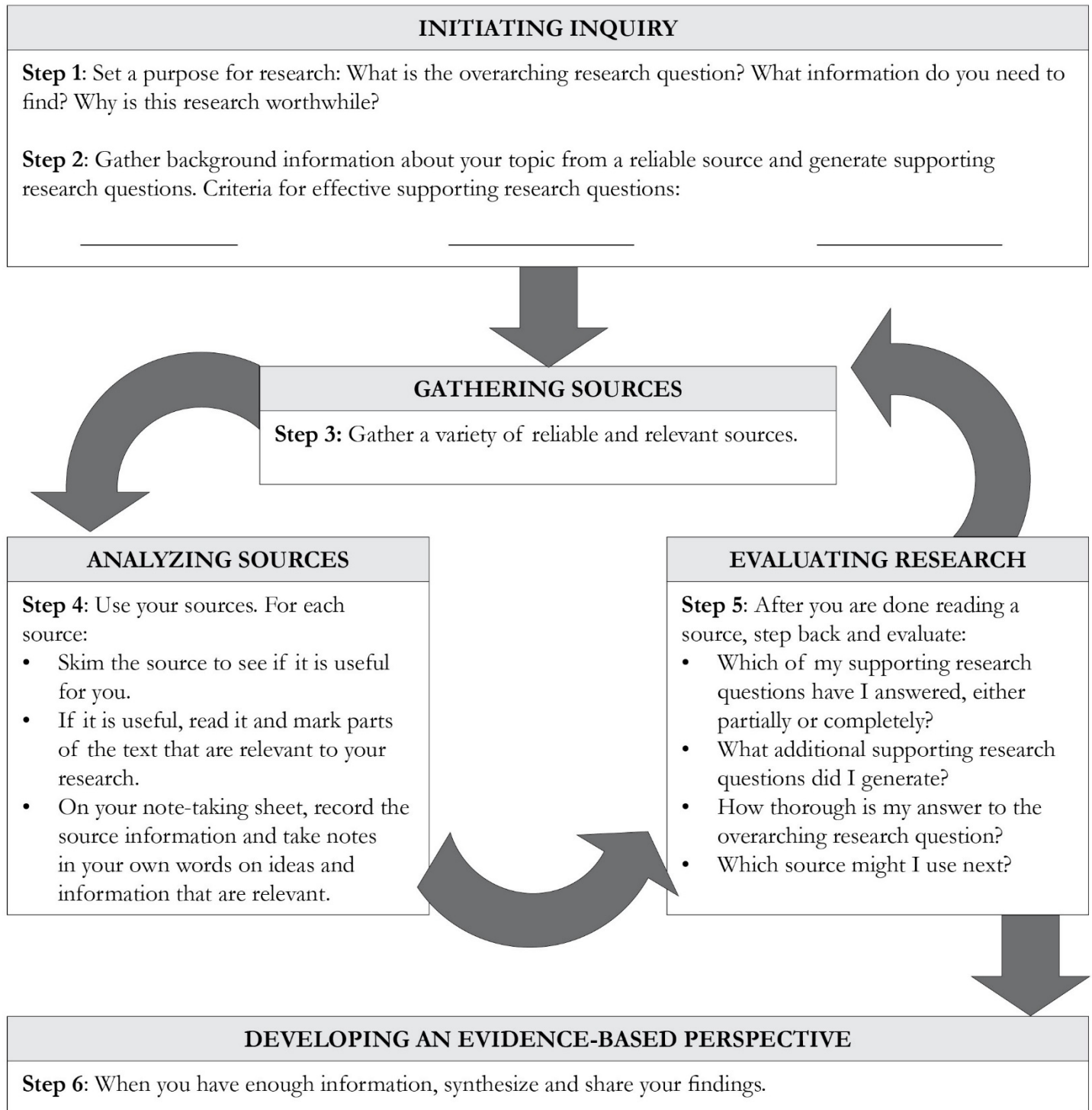
Date: _____

Directions: Please look carefully at the two images. Then write your responses on the chart below.

I notice...	I wonder...

Researcher's Roadmap Anchor Chart

Good researchers stop often to look around and see where they are, check their maps, and set their course toward their final destination. They sometimes take side trips, but they use their route-finding tools to reach their destinations.



Overview

Throughout this module, we have explored working conditions. We read *Lyddie* to glimpse the factories of the past and understand the challenges faced by workers. We studied César Chávez's speech to contemplate how individuals and groups affect working conditions. Now we are going to explore the working conditions of today and think about how you, a teenage consumer, influence working conditions around the world.

Prompt

You want to be an informed consumer, so you've decided to research some of the working conditions going on, right now, for the clothes you wear every day. Then you want to share this information with your peers so other teenagers can be informed consumers as well. Working conditions in the garment industry vary, and you want to remind your peers that the way they spend their dollars matters.

Preparation: Research (individually)

Conduct a short research project and complete a Researcher's Notebook. In your notebook you will gather information, generate questions, and summarize your findings in a well-written paragraph in which you acknowledge the source and synthesize your sources. The Researcher's Notebook will be the End of Unit 3 Assessment and will include:

Setting a Purpose for Research

Research notes

Synthesizing findings

Suggestions for Further Study as second to last item in list

Plan of action

Performance Task: Publish (with a partner)

With a partner, you will create *Threads: A Young Person's Guide to Buying Clothes*. This is a publishable brochure written for your peers, which will share your research findings with them. The brochure will include:

Overview

Working conditions in the garment industry

Advice to consumers

Below are key criteria students need to address when completing this task. Specific lessons during the module build in opportunities for students to understand the criteria, offer additional criteria, and work with their teacher to construct a rubric on which their work will be critiqued and formally assessed. .

Key Criteria for Success (aligned with ELA CCSS)

Brochure will demonstrate:

- Clear informational writing, appropriate to audience and task
- Coherent synthesis of current issues related to working conditions in the garment industry, drawing on evidence from research and reflecting both problems and solutions
- Mastery of conventions
- Use of technology to share ideas

Entry Task

Name:

Date:

Read the passage below. Use context to determine the meaning of *plagiarize* and *paraphrase*.

“I’ve heard that story before, Ben,” said his friend Bob. “It’s exactly the same as the movie I saw last week! Didn’t you tell me that you wrote it?” “I didn’t mean to *plagiarize*,” said Ben. “Why don’t you try *paraphrasing* some of the dialogue?” suggested Bob. “And maybe you could add some new characters or change the setting, too. Then it would be more your own.”

Plagiarize means:

Paraphrase means:

“Ethical Style: How is My T-Shirt Made?”

(Source 1)

Name:

Date:

Directions: As you read, you will practice writing the ideas of the author in your own words, or paraphrasing. To avoid plagiarizing, it’s very important that you credit your source of information. Use these sentence stems to help you:

According to +	source	+paraphrased fact
Source +	writes illustrates notes observes states reports claims	+ paraphrased fact

Original Text	Paraphrase
<p>P1. The cotton T-shirt ... is a staple of the American wardrobe. Your T-shirt can be made any number of ways, but more likely than not, it isn’t made in the United States. In 2011, we imported more than \$17 billion worth of cotton tees into American closets. Let’s take a look at where they probably came from—and how we can improve on the process, step by step.</p>	
<p>P2. The T-shirt begins as an idea. A team of designers determines the color, fit, and—most relevant to our interests—the fabric of your top. The world’s cotton demand has doubled since the 1960s, with 90 percent of harvested cotton getting spun into apparel. The U.S. has the highest demand for the finished cotton garment, and also happens to be the world’s largest exporter of the raw material. It dominates global cotton production in tandem with China, India, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, and Brazil.</p>	

“Ethical Style: How is My T-Shirt Made?”

(Source 1)

Original Text	Paraphrase
<p>P3. Unfortunately, your T-shirt label won't tell you where that cotton came from. Still, there are a few truths about cotton that don't need a label. For one, child labor is a major reality in cotton harvesting. From Uzbekistan to Egypt, children are forced into picking and separating cotton for pennies, if anything. Cotton certified as Fair Trade and in compliance with the International Labor Organization are the only viable indicators of fair cotton harvested without child labor ...</p>	

“Ethical Style: How is My T-Shirt Made?”

(Source 1)

Original Text	Paraphrase
<p>P4. Even if your T-shirt’s material was harvested in accordance with U.S. labor laws, the crop poses other ethical concerns. As a general rule of thumb, cotton is terrible for the environment. Cotton is the largest water guzzler in the natural fiber family. Major ecological damage has already been done. The devastating shrinkage of the Aral Sea is largely attributed to cotton farming; what water is left is contaminated by pesticides and herbicides. Five of the top nine pesticides used in U.S. cotton farming are known to be carcinogenic. All of them contaminate fresh groundwater. These ecological concerns can be circumvented with a shift toward organic cotton, but even organic cotton needs to drink.</p>	
<p>P5. When material, prototype, and samples are set, the T-shirt is put into mass production.... The production segment of the T-shirt supply chain is the one most scrutinized in the public eye, and with good reason. The factory process is inefficient, wasteful, and often still abusive. Though the public outcry against sweatshops gained sudden momentum a decade ago, garment manufacturing is still rife with complications.</p>	
<p>P6. Experts speculate that in India, child labor makes up 20 percent of the nation’s GDP.... Many adult workers face immense pressures as well. Even as the price of cotton rises (which it has, dramatically, in recent years), the export price remains depressed. The only way to meet the bottom line is to shave the last remaining pennies off of the wages of spinners and sewers.</p>	
<p>P7. Changes are being made step-by-step. A T-shirt’s country of origin was once the definitive stamp of the working conditions under which it was made. But today, individual factories are being held increasingly accountable for the specifics.... Some corporations have responded by implementing their own codes of conduct, and inviting external audits to comment on the validity of their claims ...</p>	

“Ethical Style: How is My T-Shirt Made?”

(Source 1)

Original Text	Paraphrase
<p>P8. The bottom line: There is much to be done at all steps of the fashion supply chain. If end consumers like us can gain a better understanding of our T-shirt’s production cycle—the sustainability of its fabric and the working conditions of its farmers and sewers—we can put pressure on these corporations to help us make a more informed and conscious decision about our clothes. The more transparent the entire production process becomes, the more claims to “ethical” and “sustainable” practices will become sought-after attributes of the printed T-shirt we see on the shelves.</p>	
Originally appeared on www.GOOD.is on February 9, 2012. Reprinted with permission from GOOD Worldwide.	

Entry Task:

Distinguishing between Good and Bad Paraphrasing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Each of these quotes contains a fact I would like to include in my report about the iPhone. Read the quote from the text. Then read the two paragraphs. Circle the one that best paraphrases the information and explain your choice.

Text: Duhigg, Charles and David Barboza. "In China, Human Costs Are Built into an iPad," *The New York Times*. Web. January 25, 2012.

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Quote from text	Paraphrase 1	Paraphrase 2	Rationale from choice
<p>A. Within seven months last year, two explosions at iPad factories, including in Chengdu, killed four people and injured 77. Before those blasts, Apple had been alerted to hazardous conditions inside the Chengdu plant, according to a Chinese group that published that warning.</p>	<p>According to the <i>New York Times</i>, there have been two separate deadly explosions at iPad factories. Before these blasts, an independent monitoring group in China had alerted Apple to the hazardous conditions.</p>	<p>Seven months ago, there were two explosions that killed four people. Apple had been alerted to the hazardous conditions inside the Chengdu plant, according to a Chinese group that published that warning.</p>	
<p>B. Two years ago, 137 workers at an Apple supplier in eastern China were injured after they were ordered to use a poisonous chemical to clean iPhone screens.</p>	<p>A few years ago, 137 workers at a factory that makes Apple products were hurt when they used a poisonous chemical to clean iPhone</p>	<p>Duhigg and Barboza report that two years ago, many workers were injured when they were forced to clean iPhones screens with dangerous chemicals.</p>	
<p>C. In 2010, Steven P. Jobs discussed the company’s relationships with suppliers at an <u>industry conference</u>. “ I actually think Apple does one of the best jobs of any companies in our industry, and maybe in any industry, of understanding the working conditions in our supply chain,” said Mr. Jobs, who was Apple’s chief executive at the time and who died last October.</p>	<p>Steve Jobs told <i>The New York Times</i> that the factories were just fine. In fact, he said, “ I mean, you go to this place, and it’s a factory, but, my gosh, they’ve got restaurants and movie theaters and swimming hospitals and swimming pools, and I mean, for a factory, it’s a pretty nice factory.”</p>	<p>Steve Jobs, the former CEO of Apple, told <i>The New York Times</i> that even though Foxconn is a factory, “ ... they’ve got restaurants and movie theaters and hospitals and swimming pools, and I mean, for a factory, it’s a pretty nice factory.”</p>	

An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?

(Source 2) By Steven Greenhouse

Sitting in her tiny living room here, Santa Castillo beams about the new house that she and her husband are building directly behind the wooden shack where they now live.

The new home will be four times bigger, with two bedrooms and an indoor bathroom; the couple and their three children now share a windowless bedroom and rely on an outhouse two doors away.

Ms. Castillo had long dreamed of a bigger, sturdier house, but three months ago something happened that finally made it possible: she landed a job at one of the world's most unusual garment factories. Industry experts say it is a pioneer in the developing world because it pays a "living wage"—in this case, three times the average pay of the country's apparel workers—and allows workers to join a union without a fight.

"We never had the opportunity to make wages like this before," says Ms. Castillo, a soft-spoken woman who earns \$500 a month. "I feel blessed."

The factory is a high-minded experiment, a response to appeals from myriad university officials and student activists that the garment industry stop using poverty-wage sweatshops. It has 120 employees and is owned by Knights Apparel, a privately held company based in Spartanburg, S.C., that is the leading supplier of college-logo apparel to American universities, according to the Collegiate Licensing Company.

For Knights, the factory is a risky proposition, even though it already has orders to make T-shirts and sweatshirts for bookstores at 400 American universities. The question is whether students, alumni and sports fans will be willing to pay \$18 for the factory's T-shirts—the same as premium brands like Nike and Adidas—to sustain the plant and its generous wages.

Joseph Bozich, the C.E.O. of Knights, is optimistic. "We're hoping to prove that doing good can be good business, that they're not mutually exclusive," he says.

Not everyone is so confident. "It's a noble effort, but it is an experiment," says Andrew Jassin, an industry consultant who says "fair labor" garments face a limited market unless deft promotion can snare consumers' attention—and conscience. "There are consumers who really care and will buy this apparel at a premium price," he says, "and then there are those who say they care, but then just want value."

Mr. Bozich says the plant's T-shirts and sweats should command a premium because the company uses high-quality fabric, design and printing.

An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?

(Source 2) By Steven Greenhouse

In the factory's previous incarnation, a Korean-owned company, BJ&B, made baseball caps for Nike and Reebok before shutting it in 2007 and moving the operation to lower-wage countries. Today, the reborn factory is producing under a new label, Alta Gracia, named after this poverty-ridden town as well as the Virgin of Altagracia, revered as protector of the Dominicans. (Alta gracia translates to "exalted grace.")

"This sometimes seems too good to be true," says Jim Wilkerson, Duke University's director of licensing and a leader of American universities' fair-labor movement.

He said a few other apparel companies have tried to improve working conditions, like School House, which was founded by a 25-year-old Duke graduate and uses a factory in Sri Lanka. Worker advocates applaud these efforts, but many say Alta Gracia has gone further than others by embracing higher wages and unionization. A living wage is generally defined as the amount of money needed to adequately feed and shelter a family.

"What really counts is not what happens with this factory over the next six months," Mr. Wilkerson says. "It's what happens six years or 10 years from now. We want badly for this to live on."

Santa Castillo agrees. She and many co-workers toiled at other factories for the minimum wage, currently \$147 a month in this country's free-trade zones, where most apparel factories are located. That amount, worker after worker lamented in interviews for this article, falls woefully short of supporting a family.

The Alta Gracia factory has pledged to pay employees nearly three and a half times the prevailing minimum wage, based on a study done by a workers' rights group that calculated the living costs for a family of four in the Dominican Republic.

While some critics view the living wage as do-gooder mumbo-jumbo, Ms. Castillo views it as a godsend. In her years earning the minimum wage, she said she felt stuck on a treadmill—never able to advance, often borrowing to buy necessities.

"A lot of times there was only enough for my kids, and I'd go to bed hungry," she says. "But now I have money to buy meat, oatmeal and milk."

With higher wages, she says, her family can move up in the world. She is now able to borrow \$1,000 to begin building her future home and feels able to fulfill her dreams of becoming a minister at her local evangelical church.

An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?

(Source 2) By Steven Greenhouse

“I hope God will continue to bless the people who brought this factory to our community,” she says.

In many ways, the factory owes its existence to an incident a decade ago, when Joe Bozich was attending his son’s high school basketball game. His vision suddenly became blurred, and he could hardly make out his son on the court. A day later, he couldn’t read.

A doctor told him the only thing that would cause his vision to deteriorate so rapidly was a brain tumor.

So he went in for an M.R.I. “My doctor said, “The good news is you don’t have a brain tumor, but the bad news is you have multiple sclerosis,”” he says.

For three days, he couldn’t see. He worried that he would be relegated to a wheelchair and ventilator and wouldn’t be able to support his family. At the same time, a close friend and his brother died, and then one of his children began suffering from anxiety.

“I thought of people who were going through the same thing as my child and me,” Mr. Bozich recalls. “Fortunately, we had the resources for medical help, and I thought of all the families that didn’t.”

“I started thinking that I wanted to do something more important with my business than worry just about winning market share,” he adds. “That seemed kind of empty after what I’ve been through. I wanted to find a way to use my business to impact people that it touched on a daily basis.”

He regained his full vision after three weeks and says he hasn’t suffered any further attacks. Shortly after Mr. Bozich recovered, Knights Apparel set up a charity, weKAre, that supports a home for orphans and abused children. But he says he wanted to do more.

A national collegiate bodybuilding champion at Vanderbilt, Mr. Bozich was hired by Gold’s Gym after graduation and later founded a unit in the company that sold Gold’s apparel to outside retailers. Building on that experience, Mr. Bozich started Knights Apparel in 2000.

Still solidly built at 47, he has made apparel deals with scores of universities, enabling Knights to surpass Nike as the No. 1 college supplier. Under Mr. Bozich, Knights cooperates closely with the Worker Rights Consortium, a group of 186 universities that press factories making college-logo apparel to treat workers fairly.

An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?

(Source 2) By Steven Greenhouse

Scott Nova, the consortium’s executive director, says Mr. Bozich seems far more committed than most other apparel executives to stamping out abuses—like failure to pay for overtime work. Knights contracts with 30 factories worldwide. At a meeting that the two men had in 2005 to address problems at a Philippines factory, Mr. Bozich floated the idea of opening a model factory.

Mr. Nova loved the idea. He was frustrated that most apparel factories worldwide still paid the minimum wage or only a fraction above—rarely enough to lift families out of poverty. (Minimum wages are 15 cents an hour in Bangladesh and around 85 cents in the Dominican Republic and many cities in China—the Alta Gracia factory pays \$2.83 an hour.)

Mr. Bozich first considered opening a factory in Haiti, but was dissuaded by the country’s poor infrastructure. Mr. Nova urged him to consider this depressed community, hoping that he would employ some of the 1,200 people thrown out of work when the Korean-owned cap factory closed.

Mr. Bozich turned to a longtime industry executive, Donnie Hodge, a former executive with J. P. Stevens, Milliken and Gerber Childrenswear. Overseeing a \$500,000 renovation of the factory, Mr. Hodge, now president of Knights, called for bright lighting, five sewing lines and pricey ergonomic chairs, which many seamstresses thought were for the managers.

“We could have given the community a check for \$25,000 or \$50,000 a year and felt good about that,” Mr. Hodge said. “But we wanted to make this a sustainable thing.”

The factory’s biggest hurdle is self-imposed: how to compete with other apparel makers when its wages are so much higher.

Mr. Bozich says the factory’s cost will be \$4.80 a T-shirt, 80 cents or 20 percent more than if it paid minimum wage. Knights will absorb a lower-than-usual profit margin, he said, without asking retailers to pay more at wholesale.

“Obviously we’ll have a higher cost,” Mr. Bozich said. “But we’re pricing the product such that we’re not asking the retailer or the consumer to sacrifice in order to support it.”

Knights plans to sell the T’s for \$8 wholesale, with most retailers marking them up to \$18.

An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?

(Source 2) By Steven Greenhouse

“We think it’s priced right and has a tremendous message, and it’s going to be marketed like crazy,” says Joel Friedman, vice president of general merchandise at Barnes & Noble College Booksellers. He says Barnes & Noble will at first have smaller-than-usual profit margins on the garments because it will spend heavily to promote them, through a Web campaign, large signs in its stores and other methods.

It helps to have many universities backing the project. Duke alone placed a \$250,000 order and will run full-page ads in the campus newspaper, put postcards in student mailboxes and hang promotional signs on light poles. Barnes & Noble plans to have Alta Gracia’s T’s and sweats at bookstores on 180 campuses by September and at 350 this winter, while Follett, the other giant college bookstore operator, plans to sell the T’s on 85 campuses this fall.

Still, this new, unknown brand could face problems being sold alongside Nike and Adidas gear. “They have to brand this well—simply, clearly and elegantly—so college students can understand it very fast,” says Kellie A. McElhaney, a professor of corporate social responsibility at the University of California, Berkeley. “A lot of college students would much rather pay for a brand that shows workers are treated well.”

Nike and Adidas officials said their companies have sought to improve workers’ welfare through increased wages and by belonging to the Fair Labor Association, a monitoring group that seeks to end sweatshop conditions. A Nike spokesman said his company would “watch with interest” the Knights initiative.

To promote its gear, Knights is preparing a video to be shown at bookstores and a Web documentary, both highlighting the improvements in workers’ lives. The T-shirts will have hanging tags with pictures of Alta Gracia employees and the message “Your purchase will change our lives.” The tags will also contain an endorsement from the Worker Rights Consortium, which has never before backed a brand.

In a highly unusual move, United Students Against Sweatshops, a nationwide college group that often lambastes apparel factories, plans to distribute fliers at college bookstores urging freshmen to buy the Alta Gracia shirts.

“We’re going to do everything we can to promote this,” says Casey Sweeney, a leader of the group at Cornell. “It’s incredible that I can wear a Cornell hoodie knowing the workers who made it are being paid well and being respected.”

An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?

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One such worker is Maritza Vargas. When BJ&B ran the factory, she was a stand-up-for-your-rights firebrand fighting for 20 union supporters who had been fired.

Student groups and the Worker Rights Consortium pressed Nike and other companies that used the factory to push BJ&B to recognize the union and rehire the fired workers. BJ&B relented. Today, Ms. Vargas is president of the union at the new plant and sings a very different tune. In interviews, she and other union leaders praised the Alta Gracia factory and said they would do their utmost to make it succeed and grow. Mireya Perez said the living wage would enable her to send her 16-year-old daughter to college, while Yolando Simon said she was able to pay off a \$300 debt to a grocer.

At other factories, workers said, managers sometimes yelled or slapped them. Several said they were not allowed to go home when sick, and sometimes had to work past midnight after beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Comparing this factory with other ones, Ms. Vargas said, “the difference is heaven and earth.”

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“It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing is ‘Ethically Made’”

by Anne D’Innocenzio

NEW YORK (AP) — You can recycle your waste, grow your own food and drive a fuel-efficient car. But being socially responsible isn't so easy when it comes to the clothes on your back.

Take Jason and Alexandra Lawrence of Lyons, Colo. The couple eat locally grown food that doesn't have to be transported from far-flung states. They fill up their diesel-powered Volkswagen and Dodge pickup with vegetable-based oil. They even bring silverware to a nearby coffeehouse to avoid using the shop's plastic utensils.

But when it comes to making sure that their clothes are made in factories that are safe for workers, the couple fall short.

"Clothing is one of our more challenging practices," says Jason Lawrence, 35, who mostly buys secondhand. "I don't want to travel around the world to see where my pants come from."

Last week's building collapse in Bangladesh that killed hundreds of clothing factory workers put a spotlight on the sobering fact that people in poor countries often risk their lives working in unsafe factories to make the cheap T-shirts and underwear that Westerners covet.

The disaster, which comes after a fire in another Bangladesh factory killed 112 people last November, also highlights something just as troubling for socially conscious shoppers: It's nearly impossible to make sure the clothes you buy come from factories with safe working conditions.

Very few companies sell clothing that's so-called "ethically made," or marketed as being made in factories that maintain safe working conditions. In fact, ethically made clothes make up a tiny fraction of 1 percent of the overall \$1 trillion global fashion industry. And with a few exceptions, such as the 250-store clothing chain American Apparel Inc., most aren't national brands.

It's even more difficult to figure out if your clothes are made in safe factories if you're buying from retailers that don't specifically market their clothes as ethically made. That's because major chains typically use a complex web of suppliers in countries such as Bangladesh, which often contract business to other factories. That means the retailers themselves don't always know the origin of clothes when they're made overseas.

“It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing is ‘Ethically Made’”

And even a "Made in USA" label only provides a small amount of assurance for a socially conscious shopper. For instance, maybe the tailors who assembled the skirt may have had good working conditions. But the fabric might have been woven overseas by people who do not work in a safe environment.

"For the consumer, it's virtually impossible to know whether the product was manufactured in safe conditions," says Craig Johnson, president of Customer Growth Partners, a retail consultancy. "For U.S.-made labels, you have good assurance, but the farther you get away from the U.S., the less confidence you have."

To be sure, most global retailers have standards for workplace safety in the factories that make their clothes. And the companies typically require that contractors and subcontractors follow these guidelines. But policing factories around the world is a costly, time-consuming process that's difficult to manage.

In fact, there were five factories alone in the building that collapsed in Bangladesh last week. They produced clothing for big name retailers including British retailer Primark, Children's Place and Canadian company Loblaw Inc., which markets the Joe Fresh clothing line.

"I have seen factories in (Bangladesh and other countries), and I know how difficult it is to monitor the factories to see they are safe," says Walter Loeb, a New York-based retail consultant.

And some experts say that retailers have little incentive to be more proactive and do more because the public isn't pushing them to do so.

America's Research Group, which interviews 10,000 to 15,000 consumers a week mostly on behalf of retailers, says that even in the aftermath of two deadly tragedies in Bangladesh, shoppers seem more concerned with fit and price than whether their clothes were made in factories where workers are safe and make reasonable wages.

C. Britt Beemer, chairman of the firm, says when he polls shoppers about their biggest concerns, they rarely mention "where something is made" or "abuses" in the factories in other countries.

"We have seen no consumer reaction to any charges about harmful working conditions," he says.

“It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing is ‘Ethically Made’”

Tom Burson, 49, certainly is focused more on price and quality when he's shopping. Burson says that if someone told him that a brand of jeans is made in "sweatshops by 8-year-olds," he wouldn't buy it. But he says, overall, there is no practical way for him to trace where his pants were made.

"I am looking for value," says Burson, a management consultant who lives in Ashburn, Va. "I am not callous and not unconcerned about the conditions of the workers. It's just that when I am standing in a clothing store and am comparing two pairs of pants, there's nothing I can do about it. I need the pants."

In light of the recent disasters, though, some experts and retailers say things are slowly changing. They say more shoppers are starting to pay attention to labels and where their clothes are made.

Swati Argade, a clothing designer who promotes her Bhoomki boutique in the Brooklyn borough of New York City as "ethically fashioned," says people have been more conscious about where their clothes come from.

The store, which means "of the earth" in Hindi, sells everything from \$18 organic cotton underwear to \$1,000 coats that are primarily made in factories that are owned by their workers in India or Peru or that are designed by local designers in New York City.

"After the November fire in Bangladesh, many customers says it made them more aware of the things they buy, and who makes them," Argade says.

Jennifer Galatioto, a 31-year-old fashion photographer from Brooklyn, is among the shoppers who have become thoughtful about where her clothes are made. Galatioto has been making trips to local shops in the Williamsburg, a section of Brooklyn that sells a lot of clothes made locally. She has also ventured to local shopping markets that feature handmade clothing.

"I am trying to learn the story behind the clothing and the people who are making it," she says.

Some retailers are beginning to do more to ease shoppers' consciences.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, said in January that it would cut ties with any factory that failed an inspection, instead of giving warnings first as had been its practice. The Gap Inc., which owns the Gap, Old Navy and Banana Republic chains, hired its own chief fire inspector to oversee factories that make its clothing in Bangladesh.

“It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing is ‘Ethically Made’”

Still, Wal-Mart, Gap and many other global retailers continue to back off from a union-sponsored proposal to improve safety throughout Bangladesh's \$20 billion garment industry. As part of the legally binding agreement, retailers would be liable when there's a factory fire and would have to pay factory owners more to make repairs.

Fair Trade U.S.A., a nonprofit that was founded in 1998 to audit products to make sure workers overseas are paid fair wages and work in safe conditions, is hoping to appeal to shoppers who care about where their clothing is made. In 2010, it expanded the list of products that it certifies beyond coffee, sugar and spices to include clothing.

The organization, known for its black, green and white label with an image of a person holding a bowl in front of a globe, says it's working with small businesses like PrAna, which sells yoga pants and other sportswear items to merchants like REI and Zappos. It also says it's in discussions with other big-name brands that it declined to name.

To use the Fair Trade label on their products, companies have to follow certain safety and wage standards that are based on established industry auditing groups, including the International Labor Organization. They include such things as paying workers based on a formula that allows them to meet basic cost-of-living needs.

Local nongovernment groups train the retailers' workers on their rights. And workers are provided a grievance process to report problems directly to the Fair Trade organization.

Still, well under 1 percent of clothing sold in the U.S. is stamped with a Fair Trade label. And shoppers will find that Fair Trade certified clothing is typically about 5 percent more expensive than similar items that don't have the label.

Fair Indigo is an online retailer that sells clothes and accessories that are certified by Fair Trade U.S.A., including \$59.90 pima organic cotton dresses, \$45.90 faux wrap skirts and \$100 floral ballet flats.

Rob Behnke, Fair Indigo's co-founder and president, says some shoppers are calling in and citing the latest fatalities in Bangladesh. The retailer, which generates annual sales of just under \$10 million, had a 35 percent rise in revenue (compared with last year) following the disaster. That was in line with the 38 percent revenue surge it had during the November-December season, following the factory fire.

“It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing is ‘Ethically Made’”

Behnke says that the company's catalog and website that features some of the garment workers in countries including Peru are resonating with shoppers.

"We are connecting consumers with the garment workers on a personal level," he says. "We are showing that the garment workers are just like you and me."

While some retailers are working to improve safety overseas, others are making a "Made in USA" pitch.

Los Angeles-based American Apparel, which says it knits, dyes, cuts and sews all of its products in-house in California, touts on its website that the working conditions are "sweatshop free." The company highlights how it pays decent wages, offers subsidized lunches, free onsite massages and an onsite medical clinic.

American Apparel officials didn't return phone calls for this article, but in an interview in November with The Associated Press, the company's founder and CEO, Dov Charney, said that companies can control working conditions but they need to bring the production to the U.S.

"When the company knows the face of its worker, that's important," Charney said.

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Teens in Sweatshops

USA

Teens in Sweatshop

Who made the clothes you're wearing? Was it someone your age?

By Victor Landau

“Rats were running all over the place. It was impossible not to step on them,” Erica C. remembers. When she complained, she says, her boss told her to “shut up, get back to work, or quit.”

In 2000, Erica, then 18 and an illegal immigrant from Mexico, had few options. So she stayed at her job as a seamstress. Erica worked in a **garment** (clothing) factory in Los Angeles, California, that supplied shirts to Forever 21, a teen-fashion company.

Earning \$250 dollars, or less, for a 50-hour workweek meant that survival was a struggle.

“I’d work 12 hours a day without any break,” Erica told *JS*. “The bathrooms were disgusting and full of cockroaches. But I had to work. I needed money for rent, for food.”

Erica was later fired from her job after working 60-hour weeks during the Christmas shopping season. She says she was dismissed for complaining that she did not receive her overtime pay.

What Is a Sweatshop?

U.S. laws protect worker safety and guarantee minimum hourly wages (currently set at \$5.15 an hour for most U.S. jobs). Still, many businesses operate “sweatshops” to increase company profits at laborers’ expense.

“A sweatshop is any business that uses child labor, pays **substandard** [below minimum] wages, or creates an unsafe workplace,” says Darlene Atkins of the National Consumers League, a nonprofit **advocacy** (support) group. “It involves a lot of different products, not just clothing. There are sweatshops for shoes, toys, jewelry, sporting goods, fruits and vegetables, and just about any kind of product.”

Today, most U.S. sweatshops employ adults and illegal immigrants. The increased **scrutiny** (attention) from U.S. authorities has deterred sweatshop owners from hiring child laborers. According to Atkins, young workers are used mostly in sweatshops in Asia and South America.

“Many of the countries in those areas do have child labor laws. But there’s not a lot of political will to enforce them,” says Atkins.

In recent years, several well-known clothing brands, including the Gap, have been accused either of operating or profiting from sweatshops in the U.S. and overseas.

PAGE 8: JAIMIE RUEBLAND/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

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Teens in Sweatshops

"No factory is perfect," admits Dan Henkle, a Gap Inc. executive.

In response to charges that the Gap profits from sweatshop labor, the company designed a "Code of Vendor Conduct" to ensure workers' rights. Should a manufacturer fail to comply with these principles over time, Henkle told *JS*, the Gap will cease to do business with that factory.

S "People Are Afraid"
Jeanne Zhuo's family immigrated to New York City from China in the 1980s. At age 13, she began to work at the same garment sweatshop as her mom, aunt, and other relatives.

"It was very crowded," Jeanne says. "In the summer, there was no [air conditioning]. A lot of machines gave off heat, [and] the windows were always closed. It got so hot, it was hard to breathe."

Today, Jeanne works as an inves-

tigator for the New York State Department of Labor. She inspects garment factories throughout New York City.

"I know how bad life can be [in a sweatshop]," she says. "People are afraid to speak up, to stand up for their rights."

According to the department, about 50 percent of the city's 4,000 garment factories **violate** (break) the minimum-wage laws. Last year, the department recovered more than \$3 million in back wages for sweatshop workers.

The Struggle Continues

Today, Erica C. is 21 and continues to work as a seamstress, but for another company. She likes her new job and says that she is paid fairly. In 2002, Erica won part of a legal settlement from Forever 21.

But many other sweatshop workers are not as fortunate. In 2000, Antonio M. worked in a

garden-hose factory in Brooklyn, New York. An illegal immigrant, Antonio, 42, was earning about \$300 dollars a week for 50 hours of work.

One night, he went to the hospital with a bloody nose. Doctors told him that exposure to the factory's toxic chemicals had damaged his kidneys.

"No one ever warned me about the chemicals," says Antonio. "A friend I worked with is now dead [from the exposure]. Another is dying in a hospital. I need a new set of kidneys or the same will happen to me."

Make the Road by Walking, an advocacy group in New York City, has filed a lawsuit on behalf of Antonio. Any financial award or settlement he receives will go toward his urgently needed transplant.

"This is injustice," says Antonio. "What happened to me shouldn't happen to anyone. They didn't pay me much when I worked there [at the factory]. And now, I'm the one who's paying." *JS*



Workers sew at a *maquila*, or sweatshop, in Guatemala City, Guatemala.

 GLOBAL EXCHANGE
www.globalexchange.org

Your Turn

WORD MATCH

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. garment | A. support |
| 2. substandard | B. attention |
| 3. advocacy | C. break |
| 4. scrutiny | D. below minimum |
| 5. violate | E. clothing |

THINK ABOUT IT

Were the clothes, games, or sports equipment you brought recently made in a sweatshop? How could you find out?

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Some Retailers Say More about Their Clothing Origins

By Stephanie Clifford

The revolution that has swept the food industry is expanding to retail: origins matter.

With fair-trade coffee and organic fruit now standard on grocery shelves, consumers concerned with working conditions, environmental issues and outsourcing are increasingly demanding similar accountability for their T-shirts. The issue has been brought to the forefront by the garment factory collapse in Bangladesh, which killed more than 800 people.

And some retailers are doing what was once unthinkable, handing over information about exactly how, and where, their products were made.

Everlane, an online boutique, last week added paragraphs to its Web site describing the factories where its products are made.

Nordstrom says it is considering adding information about clothes produced in humane working conditions.

An online boutique breaks down the number of workers involved in making each item and the cost of every component, while a textiles company intends to trumpet the fair-trade origins of its robes when Bed Bath & Beyond starts selling them this month.

And a group of major retailers and apparel companies, including some — like Nike and Walmart — with a history of controversial manufacturing practices overseas, says it is developing an index that will include labor, social and environmental measures.

New research indicates a growing consumer demand for information about how and where goods are produced. A study last year by professors at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard showed that some consumers — even those who were focused on discount prices — were not only willing to pay more, but actually did pay more, for clothes that carried signs about fair-labor practices.

“There’s real demand for sweat-free products,” said Ian Robinson, a lecturer and research scientist at the University of Michigan who studies labor issues. Consumers “don’t have the information they need, and they do care.”

Some Retailers Say More about Their Clothing Origins

By Stephanie Clifford

The garment factory collapse that killed more than 800 workers in Bangladesh last month has added urgency to the movement, as retailers have seen queries stream in from worried customers.

“In the clothing industry, everybody wears it every day, but we have no idea where it comes from,” said Michael Preysman, Everlane’s chief executive and founder. “People are starting to slowly clue in to this notion of where products are made.”

Major retailers have long balked at disclosing the full trail, saying that sourcing is inherently complex — a sweater made in Italy may have thread, wool and dye from elsewhere. Another reason: Workplace protections are expensive, and cheap clothes, no matter where or how they are manufactured, still sell, as H&M, Zara and Joe Fresh show through their rapid expansion.

But labor advocates note that consumers’ appetite for more information may put competitive pressure on retailers who are less than forthcoming. In recent weeks, government officials, including Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany, and labor and consumer advocates have cited the Bangladesh collapse in calling for the adoption of fair-trade standards or labeling. In direct response to what happened in Bangladesh, Everlane added information to its Web site about the factories where its clothing is made. “This factory is located 10 minutes from our L.A. office,” one description for a T-shirt reads. “Mr. Kim, the owner, has been in the L.A. garment business for over 30 years.”

Everlane says it will soon add cost breakdowns for all of its clothing, along with photographs of factories where that clothing is made and information about the production.

Mr. Preysman says Everlane has long received questions from customers “around where the products are sourced from and how we can tell that the labor is good.” It is an inexact science, he said. But he added that he looks for factories certified by independent outside organizations and has executives spend time with a factory’s owner to see if he or she “is a decent human being.”

Honest By, a high-fashion site introduced last year, includes even more specific information about its products. Take a cotton shirt that costs about \$320: it took 33 minutes to cut, 145 minutes to assemble and 10 minutes to iron at a Belgian factory, then the trim took an additional 10 minutes at a Slovenian plant. The safety pin cost 4 cents, and transportation about \$10.50.

Some Retailers Say More about Their Clothing Origins

By Stephanie Clifford

Bruno Pieters, the site's founder, said by e-mail that "as long as we keep paying companies to be unsustainable and unethical, they will be." But, he said, that may be changing. He cited a spike in sales that he asserted was in response to issues raised by recent overseas sourcing disasters.

Lush Cosmetics, a company based in Britain, has added video from its factories and photographs from buying trips to places like Kenya and Ghana to its Facebook page. Simon Constantine, head perfumer and ethical buyer, said he would like to add links to the factories Lush buys from, to encourage other cosmetics companies to support them.

Nordstrom said it had provided factory information in response to shoppers' calls, and was considering going a step further, said Tara Darrow, a spokeswoman. The Nordstrom Web site specifies eco-friendly products, "so how can we do the same with people-friendly?" Ms. Darrow asked. "Hearing from customers and knowing they care definitely compels us to want to do more."

A variety of groups are working on new apparel industry labor standards.

The Sustainable Apparel Coalition, which includes big names like Nike, Walmart, Gap, J. C. Penney and Target, has been testing an index called the Higg Index. It started last year with environmental goals, but the new version due this fall will include social and labor measurements.

The coalition was formed in 2011 to create one industry standard for sustainability and labor practices, rather than a patchwork approach. Some of the companies supporting this index have had sourcing problems — Walmart subcontractors were using the Tazreen factory, the Bangladesh plant where a fire killed 112 workers last November. Gap, Target and Penney produced clothing at another Bangladesh factory, where a fire killed about 30 workers in 2010. Nike, which faced a global boycott over sweatshop conditions in its overseas factories, was among the first major apparel companies pressured to disclose the factories it uses.

For now, the index is just for companies' internal use. But Jason Kibbey, executive director of the coalition, said the goal was to give the information to shoppers, too, through a label or via the Web or apps. Labor advocates like Scott Nova, executive director of the Worker Rights Consortium, however, say that self-regulation may be ineffective.

Some Retailers Say More about Their Clothing Origins

By Stephanie Clifford

Another certification, Fair Trade USA, began in coffee and only recently moved into apparel. PrAna, a yoga company that is among the first American apparel firms to be fair-trade certified, said the process included tours of its cut-and-sew plant in Liberia and other factories, a review of factory books and systems, and an assessment of workers' pay relative to local salaries. PrAna sold one fair-trade T-shirt in 2011, and now sells nine such products.

Those products are priced 10 percent more than a comparable item, said its chief executive, Scott Kerslake, and they have been selling well, but PrAna has to be careful not to “completely chase away consumers on it” given the more expensive process. Now, it is trying to do more to alert consumers to the certification: the logo is only on PrAna's tags, but it plans to put the certification logo on garments.

For some shoppers, the fair-trade pitch goes only so far. Marci Zaroff, founder of Under the Canopy, which is introducing a fair-trade certified bathrobe at Bed Bath & Beyond this month, said it could be hard to convey the message, and “that's why we sell on style, quality and price.”

Neeru Paharia, an assistant professor at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown, recently completed a study on consumers' attitudes toward sweatshop labor. She found that the complex supply chain in retailing made it easier for consumers to justify poor labor practices.

“Most people probably would not hire a child, lock them in their basement, and have them make their clothes,” she said, “but this system is so abstracted.”

She also found that consumers were concerned with labor practices — as long as they were not that interested in buying a product like shoes. But “if the shoes are cute — if they like the shoes — they actually think sweatshop labor is less wrong,” she said.

The collapse in Bangladesh may be changing that. One look at the Facebook site of Joe Fresh, which produced clothing at that factory, suggests that customers are upset, and Joe Fresh's parent, Loblaw Companies, has vowed to audit factories more aggressively and compensate the victims' families. Shoppers like Lauri Langton, 62, of Seattle, plan to push retailers for more information. “You should be able to tell, right away, where the product is produced, so that you can walk away from the product and not buy it if you do not believe it was produced in a humane way,” she said. “That's where we have power as consumers.”

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Suggested Texts Chart

Suggested Texts	Possible Supporting Research Questions
<p>a. “It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing is ‘Ethically Made’”</p>	<p>Are there any examples of consumers doing anything to change the working conditions of garment factories?</p> <p>What are some corporations that are trying to improve the working conditions in garment factories?</p>
<p>b. “Teens In Sweatshops”</p>	
<p>c. “Some Retailers Say More about Their Clothing Origins”</p>	<p>Who gives consumers like me information about working conditions?</p> <p>What are some corporations that are trying to improve the working conditions in garment factories?</p>

Model Research Synthesis

Working conditions in the electronic industry are sometimes good, but often bad. For instance, there is some conflicting information about how Foxconn workers are treated. On one hand, the company says its workers are treated well. Steve Jobs, the former CEO of Apple, told *The New York Times* that even though Foxconn is a factory, “... they’ve got restaurants and movie theaters and hospitals and swimming pools, and I mean, for a factory, it’s a pretty nice factory.” (Duhigg) Workers say that compared to other factories, it is much cleaner and safer—and recently, Foxconn has limited the overtime hours workers must work without lessening their pay. (Huffington Post)

However, several incidents lately suggest that the working conditions are not safe. According *The New York Times*, there have been two separate deadly explosions at iPad factories. Before these blasts, an independent monitoring group in China had alerted Apple to the hazardous conditions. Mr. Duhigg also reports that two years ago, many workers were injured when they were forced to clean iPhones screens with a dangerous chemical. There have been riots at the factory, and *The New York Times* reports that this discontent is because “Employees work excessive overtime, in some cases seven days a week, and live in crowded dorms. Some say they stand so long that their legs swell until they can hardly walk.” But interestingly, some of the workers like these long hours. The Huffington post reported that Wu, a young employee, said she wants to work overtime. “We work less overtime, it would mean less money,” she said.

Investopedia.com reports that Foxconn workers get paid \$1.78 per hour. According to *Dateline*, the total cost of labor for each iPhone is between \$12.50 and \$30. That means that if Apple sells the phones for a few hundred dollars, it is making more than 90% profit. Clearly it can afford to pay the Foxconn workers more. Lois Woo, a Foxconn executive, told Bill Weir of *Dateline* that the company would be open to paying its employees more if Apple would facilitate that. Some people doubt that will ever happen. *The New York Times* quotes a former worker as saying, “Apple never cared about anything other than increasing product quality and decreasing production cost.... Workers’ welfare has nothing to do with [Apple’s] interests.”

Module 2A Performance Task Rubric

Directions: Read the model performance task.

Criteria	Questions to discuss with your partner	What a 4 look like? Write three bullets here.
Content	What are the three parts of this project? What do you notice about the recommended action?	
Command of Evidence	What kinds of facts does the author use? How are facts presented?	
Cohesion/Style	What do you notice about the layout? What is the intended audience? How do you know?	
Conventions	What do you notice about the language? Grammar? Spelling? Conventions?	

Performance Task:
 Planning the Final Brochure

With a partner, you will create *Threads: A Young Person’s Guide to Buying Clothes*. This is a publishable brochure written for your peers that will share your research findings with them.

The brochure will include the following:

Title: *Threads: A Young Person’s Guide to Buying Clothes*
 (or our own title:
)

Section I: Overview (or your own title:
)

What is the basic information someone your age needs to know about the garment industry?

Section II: Working Conditions in the Garment Industry
 (or your own title:
)

What are the six most compelling pieces of information someone your age needs to know about the garment industry? (Remember to include a mix of positive and negative facts.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Section III: Advice to Consumers (or your own title:
)

What can consumers do with this information? What action, if any, do you think they should take?

Performance Task:
Planning the Final Brochure

Section IV: Works Cited

Here are the articles we have read and discussed as a class. Star the sources that you and your partner used in your research. Then copy those sources into your brochure, making sure to keep them in alphabetical order:

“Are Your Clothes Made in Sweatshops?” *Oxfam Australia*. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 May 2013.

Clifford, Stephanie. “Some Retailers Say More about Their Clothing Origins.” *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 09 May 2013. Web. 29 May 2013.

Greenhouse, Steven. “An Apparel Factory Defies Sweatshop Label, but Can It Thrive?” *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 18 July 2010. Web. 20 May 2013.

“Imas’ Story.” *Oxfam Australia*. n.d. Web. 29 May 2013.

“It’s Incredibly Difficult to Prove That Clothing Is ‘Ethically Made’” *Business Insider*. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 May 2013.

Kay, Tabea. “Ethical Style: How Is My T-Shirt Made?” *GOOD*. GOOD, 9 Feb. 2012. Web. 16 May 2013.

Landauro, Victor. “Teens In Sweatshops.” *Junior Scholastic* 106.8 (2003): 8. *Middle Search Plus*. Web. 29 May 2013.

Working Conditions Reflection

This is not a test!

The purpose of this assignment is to provide you with some time to reflect on what you have learned about working conditions in this module. It will be graded only for completeness and thoughtfulness; there are no right answers. You may find it helpful to refer to the Working Conditions anchor chart that we have been using throughout this module.

1. When you get a job, which category of working conditions do you think will matter most to you? Why? What will you look for in that category?

2. We talked about four agents of change for working conditions: workers, the government, consumers, and businesses. Which example of how working conditions were changed for the better was most interesting or compelling for you? Why? What agent(s) of change were responsible for this change?

3. To what extent has our study of working conditions affected the decisions you make as a consumer? Are there new questions you will ask yourself when you're shopping? Why or why not?

4. Do you think working conditions are better now than they were in *Lyddie*? Why or why not?
