**“I, Assignment”**

This assignment is based on Leonard Read’s classic story, “I, Pencil”

Introduction to the concepts of specialization, cooperation, and free markets.

<https://youtu.be/67tHtpac5ws>

Next, watch this video detailing the construction of a pencil: <https://youtu.be/IYO3tOqDISE>

Finally, in an essay of 500 to 750 words (40 points):

1. Construct a story of your own (*not a pencil*) that demonstrates the complexity of producing or delivering a seemingly simple product. You should construct your response from the perspective of whatever item you choose. For example, ‘I, Milkshake, or I, Football, etc’. Possible products could include, but are not limited to:

Running Shoes

French fries

Notebook

Milkshake

Book

Baseball

Scrunchie

T-shirt

Pizza

Pair of socks

Cup of coffee

Down comforter

Be as creative as you wish, however, your essay must demonstrate specific research on the sources of materials, transportation, and manufacturing process of your item.

1. You do not need a formal citation, however please include a link(s) to the source(s) of your outside information at the end of your essay.
2. After completing your story, find an image of your product and insert it in your document.
3. Post your finished paper to your World Geo class folder.
4. Be prepared to discuss (during zoom class) why most people do not marvel at the cooperation and social coordination necessary to accomplish the task you describe in your story?

The full text of Leonard Read’s Essay “I, Pencil” on which the video is based, can be found here:

<http://www.econlib.org/library/Essays/rdPncl1.html>