

Chapter 2

Winners and Losers: The Differential Effects of Technological Change

Short Answers

1. How did Caliente, Nevada exemplify “death by dieselization”? p. 24-25
2. What was the goal of the McCormick reaper manufacturing plant installing pneumatic molding machines in the 1880s? Did they achieve this goal? p. 25
3. Who were the Luddites? Where did they live? What did they do? Why did they do it? pp. 26-28
4. Why did Luddite outbreaks cease by the middle of the 19th century? pp. 27-28
5. Name some governmental agencies that have strongly influenced the course of technological change. p. 28-29
6. What is meant by a “closed system”? How does this concept help us to understand the limitations of using technology to solve problems? pp. 32
7. Define “technocracy.” In theory, why is this form of government appealing? Why doesn’t it really work in practice? pp. 33-35
8. What is meant by a “residue problem”? Give an example. p. 32-33

Essay Questions

1. Why were automobiles expected to be a cure for urban problems in the 1920s? What really happened? pp. 30-31
2. What is meant by a “technological fix”? Give some examples of technological fixes and justify if they were successful or unsuccessful. p. 29-30
3. Describe the basic elements of Frederick W. Taylor’s Scientific Management. Who benefitted from it? Who opposed it? pp. 34-37
4. How does administration differ from politics? How does this distinction help us understand the limits of technocracy? pp. 36-37