

Fast Food Nation

Study Guide for Summer Reading

Directions: read the book *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser. Answer the questions for each chapter as a précis. Please see the Files section for proper précis format. Save the answers as a Word document. I'll look forward to reading your assignment, which is due the first week of school.

Book One: The American Way

Chapter 1/the founding fathers p. 13-29

- What is the significance of Schlosser's use of titles in chapter 1?

Chapter 2/your trusted friends p. 31-57

- What is the tone Schlosser uses extensively in Chapter 2?

Chapter 3/behind the counter p. 59-88

- How has the fast food industry shaped communities?

Chapter 4/success p. 81-107

- Discuss the benefits and perils of franchising.

Book Two: Meat and Potatoes

Chapter 5/why the fries taste good p. 111-131

- Discuss the lure and dangers of artificial flavorings added to fast food.

Chapter 6/on the range p. 113-147

- What are the trends in the chicken raising and cattle ranching business?

Chapter 7/cog in the great machine p. 149-166

- What are the more disturbing facets of the slaughterhouse industry?

Chapter 8/the most dangerous job p. 169-170

- Discuss the merits of Schlosser's evidence used to support his claim of "the most dangerous job" (Schlosser 169).

Chapter 9/what's in the meat p. 194-222

For AP English Language and Composition students

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- How has the industrial model of agriculture and food production encourage outbreaks of *e. coli* and other pathogens?

Chapter 10/global realization p. 225-252

- Discuss Schlosser's claim that "Plauen has been a battle for these competing ideologies ..." (Schlosser 226).

Chapter 11/ epilogue: have it your way p. 255-270

- What examples does Schlosser provide that offer a glimmer of hope for a healthier, more environmentally sound future?

Afterword: the meaning of mad cow p. 271-280

- How was McDonald's more effective than the FDA in assuring compliance with federal cattle feed regulations?