WATCHING THE “NEW INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR” AND “WALLERSTEIN’S WORLD SYSTEMS THEORY” IN ACTION IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE, CHINA

Within the past 20 years, thousands of factories have been built in Guangdong Province, China, that now employ millions of workers. Those factories were built with foreign direct investments, in response to Chinese government policies that promote economic growth. After watching the video entitled “Guangdong: Globalization in the Pearl River Delta,” answer the following questions:

1. What are the site factors causing the location of factories to Guangdong Province? ____________________________, ____________________________, and ____________________________.

2. How in particular does agglomeration play a role in Guangdong Province?

3. What are the situational factors supporting this location?

4. What other economic development besides factories do you see in the video?

5. How does the location of factories in Guangdong Province contribute to economic imbalance (a “core-periphery split”) within China?

6. What is the average age of the workers shown in the video? How does this fit the concept of migration selectivity?

7. Does Guangdong Province look like the same as the rural villages in Vietnam or India (as shown in earlier videos)? __________

8. Might China fall into a “semi-periphery,” somewhere between the extreme wealth of the MDCs and between the extreme poverty of LDCs? __________ With this in mind, ask me about the Wallerstein World Systems Theory.

9. In your own words, describe the new international division of labor.

10. Think back to the unit on Culture. How do advances in worldwide communications and the globalization of popular culture relate to the new international division of labor?

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