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Volti, Society and Technological Change, 8th Edition

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