

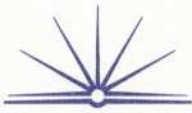
Section 3 Question 21

A local economic activity in our area is the Sugar Cane Industry. Many changes have occurred to the Industry throughout its history. From its first being grown and cultivated to the new technological advances being used now.

The Sugar industry of Australia mostly consists of New South Wales and Queensland. New South Wales sugar supplies Australia with all their sugar demand. Queensland sugar gets exported to countries overseas for example Japan.

The New South Wales sugar industry is the focus of ~~our~~ our studies. The sugar that supply's Australia is affected ~~by~~ in its buying price by the stock market that states what the sugar is worth to the world. This affects the sugar mildly.

The main changes include technology advances in machinery mostly, that enable the harvesting of sugar to be easier and more cost effective for Australia. New technology enables us to control the contents of the soil so it is nothing



but the best quality. The most problem here is Acid Sulfate Soils. This kills the cane and damages crops. New inventions etc. have found a way to neutralise the harmful substance.

Environmental issues cause for changes in the way things are gone about, harvesting and milling and even the planting. Previously the cane when ready for harvesting was burnt. Now due to more environmental awareness the cane is now cut green. This keeps more of the goodness from nutrients in the soil. It also prevents the killing of key micro-organisms in the plant and soil.

On a political scale the ownership and the running of the mill used to be controlled by CSR the large corporation. Now due to their decision to sell the mill and all aspects of the industry are run and controlled by the farmer themselves.

Another extreme change that could affect the



~~on a large~~

industry to a large degree is if the demand for sugar was no longer at a high. Economically the changes would be of a very negative nature.

Global issues cause changes on a local scale because when you ~~think~~ 'act locally your thinking globally.' Local problems are the root to global problems occurring.

Environmental and technological changes are the greatest of changes. Changes will occur and the future of the industry depends on them.