

Name: _____ Date: _____ **Assignment #35**

All Your Food Are Belongs To Corn (and Soybeans)

Based on the video clip from “Food, Inc.” and the selection from Omnivore’s Dilemma by Michael Pollan, answer the following questions to the best of your ability in complete sentences.

Comprehension Questions

1. Why do we grow so much corn in the United States?
2. Why are corn and soybeans found in so many foods?
3. Identify and describe health issues associated with consumption of corn-sweetened, processed foods.

Thinking/Reflection Questions

- 4a. Look at the foods in your home and complete the table on the back by identifying which of the foods/products in your home contain which corn-based ingredients.
- 4b. What is your reaction to your findings?
5. Who is to blame/thank for creating and perpetuating such an oversupply of cheap, processed foods?
6. Pollan claims that if we continue our current agricultural policies, “the cheapest calories in the supermarket will continue to be the unhealthiest.” How could this be changed? If you had to create a farm bill (legislation that controls agriculture/food policy), how would you encourage farmers to change what they grow?
7. In economics, externalities are costs (or benefits) associated with a product/transaction that the consumer does not know about or does not choose to incur. In other words, **externalities** are hidden costs. Based on what you have viewed and/or read recently, write at least a paragraph answering the following: *What is the true cost of our food? Are there externalities associated with American food supply?*