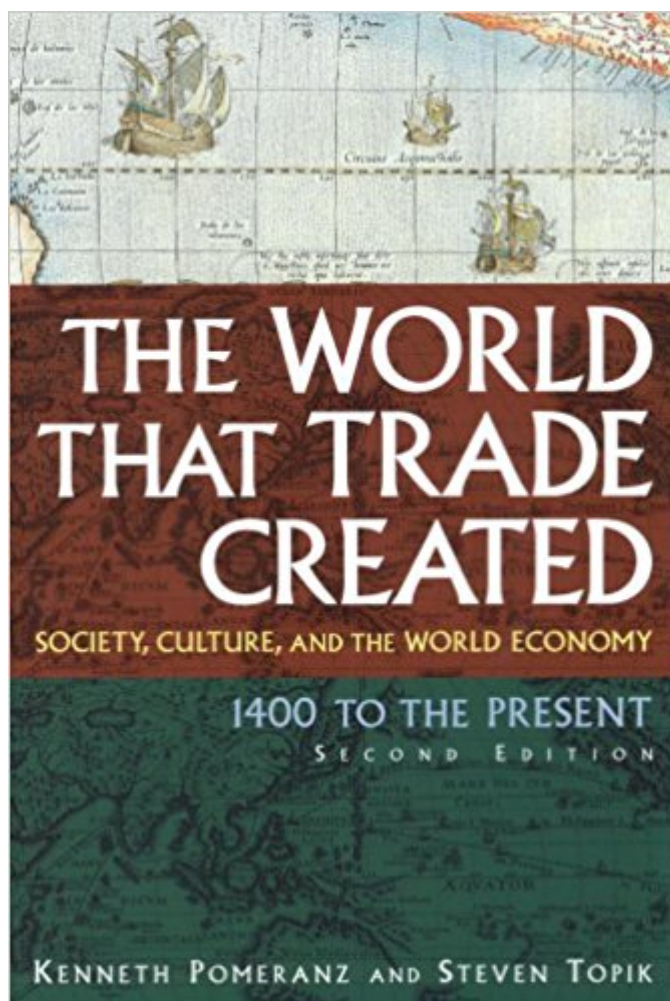


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The World That Trade Created: Society, Culture, And The World Economy, 2nd Edition



Synopsis

Why are railroad tracks separated by the same four feet, eight inches as ancient Roman roads? How did 19th-century Europeans turn mountains of bird excrement from Peru into mountains of gold? Where has most of the world's oil come from in the 20th century? This new edition of "The World That Trade Created" reveals the answers to dozens of tantalizing questions like these. In a series of brief, highly readable vignettes the authors bring to life international trade and its actors - including migrants and merchants, pirates and privateers, sailors and slaves, traders and tree-tappers. In the process they make clear that the seemingly modern concept of economic globalization has deep historical roots. The authors also demonstrate that economic activity cannot be divorced from social and cultural contexts. This second edition provides enhanced coverage of Africa, the Middle East, and the 20th century, and features eighteen new vignettes, including two new pieces on oil.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a very entertaining overview of the development of world trade and world economy. The short essays (3 to 4 pages each) each cover a different topic and are far too short to become boring. If anything some of the chapters are too short. The authors take an approach which is refereshingly not euro-centric, with many chapters covering the Far East and South America. In fact the authors' cynicism and disapproval of the hypocrisy of European colonial expansion is a recurring theme throughout the book. My favorite essay in the book discusses the rise and fall of Potosi, now a small dusty town in Bolivia but formerly one of the largest and richest cities in the

world. Potosi's wealth came from the numerous silver mines dug into Cerro Rico, a mountain overlooking the city. Once the silver was gone, so were the good times. Having visited Potosi in 1993, I was delighted to read about the former glory and world renown of what is now, essentially little more than a village. The book covers such varied topics as the connection between tea and the drug trade; the adoption of international timezones; piracy; the origin of coffee; and the impact of slave trade on the industrial revolution. Overall the book is a great read interspersed with many amusing anecdotes that make history come alive. If you are interested in history, I definitely recommend this book.

Great price...my son needed it for school so I search out the best price available.

Good book for my purpose. However, it reads like a series of articles or columns rather than a book that deals with one subject from beginning to end. It's not an easy read nor a challenging read; it's mostly an annoying read; it goes back and forth on multiple topics throughout the book.

Very good book. Enlightening. It shows how wrong many economic models and theories are - or how limited the abstract and mathematical approaches are.

Had to read this for AP Econ, and surprisingly enjoyed it!

This is a great account of the outstretched arm of industry. Trade is the reason links get established... and broken. Trade, along with religion, is the cause of many conflicts and yet, it seems inevitable. World cultures grow and share and argue over profits and rights. Our history is defined by such interactions.

THIS IS PRACTICALLY THE BIBLE WHEN IT COMES TO APWH. I LOVE LOVE LOVE IT! IT'S AMAZING AND GIVES ALLOT OF AMAZING INSIGHT AND NEW POV'S WHEN IT COMES TO APWH. ALSO A MAJOR HELP WITH THE ESSAYS. IF YOU'RE IN APWH, I CANNOT STRESS THIS ENOUGH BY SAYING BUY IT! BUT, ALSO STUDY AND DO NOT SLACK OFF AND PLEASE FOR THE LOVE OF GOD READ THE DAMN TEXTBOOK AND TAKE THE CLASS SERIOUSLY EVEN IF IT FEELS LIKE HELL.

A "go to" book. Why is the world the way it is... Commerce. I would like to see a rejoined to this.

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