Assignment 3: 5s & Visual Management

**Question 1:**

What arguments would you make in support of the statement that “5s is foundational to LEAN enterprise”?

*The 5s system is foundational because it allows for a standard for change to be established. The outline itself can be used for all companies with just a few changes. Implementing this strategy could reduce waste quickly and allow for larger changes to start in the future.*

**Question 2:**

Use the 5s+ template provided to assess an operation of your choice (simple operation might include restaurant, copy center, reception area, auto mechanic shop, etc.). Submit the 5s assessment.

Based on the assessment, comment on the weakest rated "S". What are the primary concerns and recommendations to improve that S.

*The weakest rated S was sustain, but a majority of what was included in the Sustain list was unavailable the restaurant. I don’t think I have ever seen a 5s zone map that was posted in a restaurant or any location for that matter. I guess if there was an area to improve upon that could be done relatively quickly without a lot of change that would have to be made.*

What wastes (TRIMWOOD) can be eliminated if 5s were conducted.

*If TRIMWOOD was done at this business I would say the main waste would be motion and inventory. If there is a way to organize the flow and structure of the chefs and kitchen staff this would increase efficiency and possibly reduce waste in both areas.*

**Question 3:**

Describe the relationship between 5s and Visual Management.

*Visual Management can be used as a step in the 5s process to further organize a business.*

*An example of visual management is a visual process of workflow and a structure that shows employees how a task is to be done. In the process of utilizing a 5s template this allows for an increase in organization and less waste.*

Describe how Kanban relates to Visual Management.

*Kanban is a scheduling system for LEAN manufacturing and just-in-time manufacturing. This is a great example for how visual management can further expedite the organizational process in a n organization. A Kanban allows for a visual representation of workflow which helps employees visualize their work schedule and maximize efficiency.*

Describe how Kanban facilitates flow?

*A Kanban helps a flow by creating a visual that both processes the workflow and the actual work passing through that process. The overall goal of Kanban is to identify potential bottlenecks in the flow so they can be fixed.*