Abbott Response

Answer the following questions using Elizabeth Abbott, *Sugar: A Bittersweet History* (New York: The Overlook Press, 2008), 42-72.

All responses must be typed and submitted on Blackboard on the date listed in the course calendar.

Respond in a thorough, detailed manner. Provide page numbers for all responses in the form of a parenthetical citation (11, 13-15).

1. What roles did coffee, tea, and chocolate play in increasing sugar consumption?

The sugar consumption of England was already big: English used sugar for every dessert (48). When tea, chocolate, and coffee came to England, the products were also consumed with sugar. One notable thing is that those products caused the sugar consumption of lower class. The products were cheaper than the old luxuries, so the lower class had more chance to consume sugar (52, 60).

1. What were the effects of increased sugar consumption on British population and British society?

Sugar became the major luxury product of Britain. Every class of Britain used sugar, so supply of sugar became a significant issue.

In addition, sugar changed the life of workers. Thanks to sugar and tea, the workers felt less disgust to eat bad quality foods, so their diet became more economical (64). Also, the habit of drinking boiled water prevented diseases (65). Thus, sugar and the new products eventually caused the population growth of Britain.

1. What is Abbott's argument about sugar and social class in the United Kingdom?

Abbott explains how sugar became a product for the middle-class and lower-class(42-53). As a luxury product come into wide use, new culture and lifestyle appear, and those things affect society. Therefore, Abbott suggests the power of sugar, a luxury product, by explaining how sugar became the major luxury product of Britain and how it affected the society.