BEER
How is the discovery of beer linked to the growth of the first civilizations?
According to author Standage beer “civilized” mankind. What does he mean by this?
Discuss and explain the relationship in the ancient world between beer and writing, commerce, and health.

WINE
How was wine consumed by the Greeks? What does this tell us about Greek culture?
How did the use of wine differ in the Roman world from that of the Greeks? What does this tell us about Roman culture?
In the ancient world there was a relationship between wine and the following: religion, medicine, and the growth of empire. Explain this relationship.

SPIRITS
What is the relationship between spirits and European colonization and slavery?
Discuss the role that distilled spirits played in opening up transoceanic travel and to British naval superiority in the 18th century.
Discuss how and why distilled spirits played an important role in colonial America and in the American Revolution?

COFFEE
From what source did coffee originate, and where and how did it spread to other world regions?
Explain how the widespread use of coffee in Europe affected each of the following: finance and world commerce, the European Enlightenment, the Scientific Revolution, and the French Revolution.

TEA
How did the consumption of tea in Europe differ from the consumption of tea in East Asia (China and Japan)? Who were the main consumers and what rituals emerged?
Discuss how tea was connected to the British rule in India and the British-Chinese Opium War of 1839-1842.

COCA COLA
What were the origins of this beverage? How did the recipe for Coke and the uses of Coke change over time?
What was the relationship between Coca Cola and World War II?
Discuss the meaning of the following statement: “Coca Cola is globalization in a bottle.”

EPILOGUE: WATER
Discuss how access to clean and safe water varies from region to region throughout the world today. How does the access to water continue to affect international relations in the modern world?