

Reading response paper # 4 - What's so good about agriculture?

Read the following two articles along with pages 443-46 and 460-465 of Chapter 17 of Campbell et al. 2006 (9th ed.) (Pages 578-89 and 606-613 of Chapter 18 of Campbell and Loy, 8th ed.)

Diamond, J.

1987 The worst mistake in the history of the human race. *Discover* 8(5):64-66.  
(May)

Molleson, T.

1994 The eloquent bones of Abu Hureyra. *Scientific American* 271(2):70-75.

What are some of the apparently obvious disadvantages of becoming an agriculturalist? In view of such negative prospects, what advantages to becoming an agriculturalist can you think of? Why, nearly world wide, might most people have become involved with agriculture within the past 8,000 years?

Limit your discussion to 3 pages.

**Due: May 10**