Exercise No. 5: Trade Policy in Practice

Your work on previous assignments was so good that Ambassador Ron Kirk, the U.S. Trade Representative and our chief negotiator at world trade talks, has asked for one more task from you before the end of the semester. If you’re curious about him, details are here: www.ustr.gov.

To assist Ambassador Kirk in his negotiations, he has asked you to search through news articles to find two articles describing two different examples of tariffs or other restrictions on international trade in the news, being practiced by any country, anywhere in the world, at any time.

Your task is to provide brief explanations of the two trade policies described in the two articles. Each explanation should note:

1. What country is imposing the trade restriction?
2. What product’s trade is being restricted?
3. Who, within the restricting country, is likely to gain from the restriction?
4. Who, within the restricting country, is likely to lose from it?

Your completed assignment should be less than two pages, and could fit on a single page. The assignment should be written in paragraphs with clear, grammatically-correct sentences, and should be followed by a bibliographic citation of the article, using a standard format such as:


To find an article, I suggest you use google news (http://www.google.com/news). You will find plenty of news stories using a general search term such as “import tariff”, can scroll through the options or modify the search to find a country or commodity of particular interest to you. You are welcome to look historically as well to find the most interesting news stories.

Grading will be done as follows:

**10 points: Appropriateness of the articles**
Does the two articles actually describe one or more specific trade restriction(s)?
(If the article describes more than one, choose only one for your summary.)

**10 points: Correctness of your summary**
Have you answered the four questions correctly? (2.5 points each)

**5 points: Grammar and presentation**
Have you written clear, confidence-building paragraphs?