1. *Shark Tank* is an American television show on which aspiring entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas to a panel potential investors. The show has consistently been praised as an incredibly localist movement: it hosts only American businesses, is more likely to invest in a company whose production is based in the United States, and subliminally encourages viewers to purchase the products featured, thus bolstering the American economy. The “sharks” – the individuals who invest in the companies – were even invited to the White House to speak on a panel promoting entrepreneurship and to receive recognition for how many all-American companies they have helped flourish. The implications behind this show and its unprecedented success could play an interesting role in the conversation regarding whether our country is leaning more towards a localist economy while rejecting globalism as a consequence. If the argument were to be that the United States favors localism, this resistance against economic globalism might be interpreted as a critically regionalist movement; if not, the movement might be perceived as rejecting critical regionalism.

2. Food localism has become a popular trend in the United States, thought to improve one’s health, local economies, and the environment. Farmers markets are on the rise, chains try to connect individual locations to their communities, and restaurants even hang pictures of their local farmers so people know exactly who is growing their food. However, this movement seems closely tied with socio-economic status, so I might want to investigate whether food localism is a revolution available to only the wealthy.

3. Colleges and universities in the United States trend towards and against localism in several respects. While state schools often subsidize tuition for local students, colleges also pride themselves on their internationally-diverse student bodies. While many schools seem to have distinct identities, the institution of Greek life is very much alive, and national sororities and fraternities can be affiliated with specific stereotypes that often apply to each chapter around the country. There is a growing conversation as to whether education should be “place-based” in our country to foster community, so I might want to look into this debate and argue whether the idea of localist education should apply to higher education. If not to higher education, perhaps the concept should be enforced in elementary, middle, or high school. If this argument seems too obvious, perhaps I could instead look into whether our country as a whole is trending more towards a localist or globalist education system.