TUNI 250 – HONORS ADVANCED TOPICS (SIMULATION IN EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION)

SPRING 2018 – My Family's Always Been in Whiskey Study Guide, Unit 2: Hard Cars, Fast Liquor

Material from the reading by DePippo

1. Know whether or not it is true that, because of its unique history, the taxation of alcohol is arguably the most notorious of all sin taxes. Know whether or not the sin tax on alcohol is directly related to the American Civil War. Know whether or not, each year, the millions of gallons of illegal whisky, manufactured in the southeastern United States, represents millions of dollars in taxes lost to the American people. Know whether or not, like Alexander Hamilton before him, Franklin Delano Roosevelt realized the revenue generating power of liquor. Know whether or not collected sin taxes are, in theory, directly allocated to the public service, a process known as "earmarking." Know whether or not user fees provide a sound rationale for the alcohol sin tax. Know whether or not a recent study estimates the excess burden of the entire federal tax system to be nearly twenty percent of the U.S. gross national product. Know whether or not nearly all states and the Federal Government maximize their potential profits from the sale of alcohol. (Reading by DePippo, entire article)

Material from the reading by the Foxfire Staff

- 1. Know whether or not the manufacture of moonshine illicit whiskey in the mountains is pretty much dead. Know whether or not moonshining as a fine art effectively disappeared some time ago. Know whether or not it is true that, to get people to tell them more information, the interviewers would use (as leverage) a phrase like, "Here's what we know so far--what can you add?" Know whether or not, in the early days of moonshining, to kill a "gauger" (government official) was considered a serious crime, to be severely punished. Know whether or not some gaugers had cogent reasons for avoiding discoveries of stills they could have found easily. Know whether or not some moonshiners who had had their stills destroyed informed on other moonshiners, out of jealousy and to prevent them from "running." (p. 001-013)
- 2. Know whether or not, because the sheriffs were paid on the "fee system" (quota), they went out to look for stills. Know whether or not the easiest task of all was catching the men actually making a run. Know whether or not the rivalry between lawmen and moonshiners always resulted in enmity that never died. Know whether or not lawmen would sometimes use speech code to warn a moonshiner that he was under suspicion. Know whether or not one way to avoid detection is by moving constantly. Know whether or not loggers often run stills in conjunction with their logging job. Know whether or not smoke is a problem at the beginning or the end of a run. Know whether or not some moonshiners set up a site that revenuers have just cut down, believing they wouldn't be back for at least two months unless they get another report of activity there. (p. 007-010)
- 3. Know whether or not steam is forced into the bottom condenser and flows out the top. Know whether or not "boiler," "evaporator," and "boiler" are all names for the thump barrel. Know whether or not the worm runs around the outside of the barrel. Know whether or not the "cap" is the top third of a moonshine still. Know whether or not high shots are at times as strong as 200 proof. Know whether or not some people use slop for hog feed. Know whether or not backings have a good percentage of alcohol, and they hold a good bead. Know whether or not blockaders are people who made moonshine. (p. 013-016)
- 4. Know whether or not all **heating took place** around the **sides of the still** in an area that was **completely enclosed**, including the flue. Know whether or not, often, the **copper cooker** ("pot") was removed and hidden in a laurel thicket **after each run** to prevent its **being stolen** before the operator was ready to make another run. Know whether or not the **construction** of an actual still is a **fairly simple and uncomplicated**

process. Know whether or not the simplest still produced some of the worst moonshine ever made. Know whether or not those who use them say that the groundhog stills are much cooler than the other varieties, and thus make better stills. Know whether or not there are operations running today which yield as much as three hundred gallons per run. Know whether or not, if the operator had had to haul the whiskey to the bootlegger, he would have added ten dollars more to the final price of each case. Know whether or not, from each 190 gallons in the Hodges Barrel, the yield will be approximately seven cases. Know whether or not the "hog" still was unique in that it was the only still that did not sit directly on the ground. Know whether or not the fuel used was almost always a hard wood such as oak or hickory. Know whether or not, in some designs, the surrounding earth provided extremely effective insulation. Know whether or not one design uses a huge gas burner, rather than wood. (p. 017-031)

- 5. Know whether or not, without sugar, the result should be about six gallons to the bushel. Know whether or not it is recommended that you put at least three bushels of corn aside to sprout. Know whether or not, in the summer, you can put the corn to be sprouted out in the sun. Know whether or not, when you take the corn to the miller to be ground up, you should make sure he crushes it. Know whether or not the moonshiner is advised to make a mudhole that contains plenty of good, thick red clay. Know whether or not one should use hybrid or yellow corn. Know whether or not it is okay if rain falls into the barrels, and whether this, in fact, improves the taste. Know whether or not, on cold days, thumping can be heard for several hundred yards through the woods. (p. 031-035)
- 6. Know whether or not the best 'shiners advise using radiators as condensers. Know whether or not many cut the final product to 60-70 proof and add beading oil to fake quality and high proof. Know whether or not some whiskey makers came to another maker for whiskey they planned to drink because they were afraid to drink their own. Know whether or not a dirty vessel is more likely to produce "popskull" liquor. (p. 035-037)
- 7. Know whether or not using a "hot" lead car involves placing the car carrying the moonshine in front of another decoy car. Know whether or not some moonshine runners have three license tags for each car—for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. Know whether or not the term "shocked up" refers to a moonshine runner who has been startled by an unexpected roadblock. Know whether or not one man tricked agents by hauling only on Sundays. (p. 037-039)

Material from the reading by Hall

- Know whether or not NASCAR's identity has long revolved around the South, and other historians have also singled out stock-car racing as a unique regional pursuit. Know whether or not it is true that, now, but not in its nascent period, stock-car racing involved central management, business investments, civic boosterism, and commercial and promotional manipulation. Know whether or not support of racing became a mark of distinction for southern cities. Know whether or not car racing premiered in America in the North in the mid-1890s. (Entire article)
- 2. Know whether or not the growth of modern sport in America first depended on the urbanization and industrialization of the late 19th century. Know whether or not, because a conservative, rural, and agricultural society dominated the region before World War II, urban, progressive elements failed to play a large role in the early years of southern automobile racing. Know whether or not the durability of the myth of stock-car racing's origin among rural outlaws simply underscores the need for students of southern history to strive constantly to separate fact from myth. Know whether or not automobile racing follows the pattern of other important cultural phenomena—a simultaneous process of creating and reflecting broader trends. Know whether or not the author believes the sto ry that racing in the South comes from southern "good old boys" hauling moonshine. Know whether or not Daniel believes that drivers and fans found car racing in the late 1940s and the 1950s to be a release for pent-up frustrations created as southerners made the transition from a rural, agricultural society to urban settings and regimented industrial jobs. (Entire article)

Material from reading in Hot Rod magazine

1. Know whether or not, like any **good businessmen**, the moonshiners **diversified**. Know whether or not, in the 1960s, the **cars coming out of Detroit** kept getting more **powerful and faster**, as if they were being **custom made** for the moonshiners. Know whether or not Call claimed that his **Chrysler New Yorker** was a

luxury car, hardly fit for the speeds needed in running moonshine. Know whether or not Junior Johnson had a reputation for being someone who had a hot rod with a **one-brake wheel**. Know whether or not Junior Johnson's greatest source of pride was said to be his trophies in NASCAR racing. Know whether or not fellow moonshiner Thurmond Brown enjoyed his rides with Junior Johnson on the highways of North Carolina. Know whether or not, despite his fame as a stock-car racer, Junior Johnson never considered himself better than the other moonshine drivers. Know whether or not the most frequent modification the moonshiners made was to replace the Cadillac engine with the flathead V-8.

2. Know whether or not Junior Johnson claims that running moonshine is a comedown compared to stock-car racing. Know whether or not, in Wilkes county, moonshiners usually pled "not guilty" to the charges against them. Know whether or not Willie Call never lost a car to the Federal agents. Know whether or not moonshining was so open in Wilkes County that the federal government built a small courthouse in North Wilkesboro to handle all the criminal cases. Know whether or not the cars driven by treasury agents and other law enforcement officers were more than a match for the moonshiners' cars. Know whether or not Junior Johnson considered himself better than other drivers at stock-car racing, but not at moonshine running. Know whether or not, as younger men in the '40s and '50s, the moonshine runners tapped into the burgeoning hot rod scene in Southern California. Know whether or not there was ever a time when racers could do anything they wanted to the race cars.

Material from reading by Pedersen

- 1. Know whether or not Maurer thinks that the moonshiner exists as a split personality, part naïve mountaineer and part well-organized racketeer. Know whether or not findings of the Dialect Survey of Rural Georgia showed very little overlap in the application of the words. Know whether or not "gluckem," "splo," and "shake-a-leg" are all terms used to describe alcohol intended as a beverage. Know whether or not the "hollowing tree" was a trap laid by revenuers to catch unwary moonshiners. Know whether or not "blind tiger" refers to someone who's drunk too much moonshine ("blind" drunk). Know whether or not the clash of folklore and reality is a basic problem for a naive investigator. Know whether or not one student-fieldworker was chased out of an interview by a man holding a gun on him. Know whether or not the author considers the Foxfire article on moonshining (from your reading list) to be one of the more realistic, "romance-free" accounts. Know whether or not cultural pressures on the interviewees interfered psychologically with their ability to answer freely. Know whether or not the much higher incidence of interesting terms in Georgia is probably the result of the larger sample there. (Entire article)
- 2. Know whether or not one Federal agent called the cars the government gave them "mechanical miscarriages." Know whether or not Call hated his prison time at the Donaldson Air Force Base. Know whether or not, nine months after his acquittal, Junior Johnson lost the most important race of his career. Know whether or not Call denied continuing to make and haul illegal liquor well into the 1980s. (Entire article)