Blowing Smoke
(By Kendall Hamilton)

1. What events led up to the cigar boom? How did a lawsuit play a part?

2. What do cigars "symbolize?"

3. Why have cigars become popular? In other words, why do people smoke them?

4. How did "Cigar Aficionado" contribute to the emergence and growth to the cigar trend?

5. Have cigars run their course as a trend? How might this trend mutate?

6. Identify and explain the four life stages of a trend. Use something you are familiar with that was not written about in the article and place it in one of the four stages. Why would you place it where you placed it?

7. What is "conspicuous consumption?" How has this played a part in the popularity of cigars? Does it play a part in other trends as well?