EAC 150XA: July 1st Make-Up Activity

Listen to the *This American Life* episode “Mr Daisey and the Apple Factory” followed by the episode “Retraction” via Blackboard. When you have listened to both podcasts, respond to the following questions.

**Episode One: “Mr. Daisey and the Apple Factory”; original air date, January 6th, 2012**

1. What is Mr. Daisey trying to accomplish in his visit to China?
2. What was the most compelling thing you learned about sweatshop work from Mr. Daisey?
3. Does Mr. Daisey present a compelling argument? How does he attempt to make his argument convincing?
4. What evidence does Mr. Daisey use to show the perils of sweatshop labour?
5. *This American Life* producers also tried to show the counter arguments to Mr. Daisey’s report. What were two of the reasons they said that sweatshops have been a good thing?
6. Does presenting the counter argument to Mr. Daisey’s story make his argument more or less convincing? Why?

**Episode Two: “Retraction”; original air date, April 16th, 2012**

1. The producers at *This American Life* initially verified much of what Mr. Daisey reported; however, in the episode “Retraction” they find serious faults with Mr. Daisey’s allegations. What are some of the problems they found with his story?
2. How did Mr. Daisey respond to the allegations from *This American Life* that he falsified his story?
3. How did you feel when you heard that Mr. Daisey falsified part of his story? Did you feel sorry for Mr. Daisey in this episode? Or were you angry with him? Why?
4. What do these podcasts teach you about careful research?
5. Despite Mr. Daisey’s falsifications, did the arguments about sweatshop labour in these podcasts make you think differently about sweatshop work? If so, why were the arguments convincing? If not, what did the argument lack?