Please answer in no longer than a half page.

Since the early 1980's we in the United States have been hearing about, and most have adopted, Just-In-Time or Lean Manufacturing as practiced by the Japanese. Is it really "just-in-time" if you the consumer can buy any color Toyota right from the dealer’s car lot? Or buy any Apple iPod in any model or color right off the shelf at Best Buy? Doesn't the customer's order start the JIT process? Make sure you check out the Week 5 Web Links before you attempt to answer this question.

Why Europe lags behind the United States in productivity?

https://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/Why\_Europe\_lags\_behind\_the\_United\_States\_in\_productivity\_2684

How Russia could be more productive.

https://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/How\_Russia\_could\_be\_more\_productive\_2435

Five misconceptions about productivity

https://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/Five\_misconceptions\_about\_productivity\_2760

Capital productivity: Why the US leads and why it matters?

https://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/Capital\_productivity\_Why\_the\_US\_leads\_and\_why\_it\_matters\_167

What's right with the US economy?

https://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/Whats\_right\_with\_the\_US\_economy\_1151