Read the opinion column by *New Yorker* columnist James Surowiecki, “Tanking,” published in February 8 and 15, 2016 issue. The author examines the causal relationship between oil prices and stock prices overall. **Be sure to identify the causal argument that Surowiecki is making about the relationship of oil prices to stock market value.**

To prepare for the test on this article on **February 15**, do the following:

1. Read the article carefully. **Look up any terms that you don’t know**, and do what you can to make yourself better informed on the recent decline in oil prices and recent trends in the Wall Street stock market.

2. Identify the **main idea or thesis** of the article. Be able to either point out the thesis statement (the author’s claim) or summarize the main idea if you can’t find a specific thesis statement.

3. What kind of **evidence** does Surowiecki use? Is the evidence convincing? Can you find any fallacies in his reasoning or use of evidence?

4. Be prepared to evaluate how well Surowiecki uses **logos, ethos, and pathos**.

The URL for this article is below:

[http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/02/08/tanking](http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/02/08/tanking)