1. What is the question of the paper?

Opening ports really contributed importantly to Taiwan’s economy? Despite it really improve the economy, but was it benefit for both consumer and businessman?

2. Why should we care about it?

Some report provide excellent description of 19th century Taiwan, but they only tell half of the story, and we can see Taiwan's export was worse that worse.

3. What is your (or author’s) answer?

Java and Philippines exported thousands piculs of sugar to China in the end of 19th, and we can see Taiwan exported less sugar than before.

4. How did you (or author) get there?

The author collect many other scholars insight and paper, and some data about the export, the author use those data to analyze the consequence.