Globalization
Trumbull, “Great Global Shift to Service Jobs”
1. According to a recent ILO report, what happened 2006--for the first time in history--and what is opening the door to a new phase of economic competition?

2. Why do some economists worry about the globalization of service sector jobs and what do unabashed proponents of globalization’s virtues talk about?

McLaughlin, “Where America's White-Collar Jobs Go: It's Not Just India”
1. According to Ian McLukie, why will it be difficult for the US to fight against the trend towards outsourcing?

2. What data (estimate by the research firm, Gartner) indicate that U.S. firms are rapidly making outsourcing deals?

3. While India has 70-80% of outsourced IT jobs, many other countries are beginning to compete for these jobs. What are 3 counties in the top echelon of India's IT competitors and what are 3 countries are in the second tier?

Barnes, “Why Indian IT Companies are Outsourcing—to the US”
1. What is “reverse outsourcing” and who is doing it?

2. Why (2 reasons) are companies reverse outsourcing and why is Atlanta welcoming Wipro?

Lampman, “The Limits of the Global Economy”
1. Why (4 reasons) are many (religious leaders) from both East and West critical of globalization?

2. What is the most basic concern of faiths coming out of the Abrahamic tradition and the great value in Eastern religions?

3. What is a faith-based group’s "great success story" for bringing religion to bear on globalization?
McLaughlin, “Brazil Touts Global Vision”
1. Why was Brazil’s President Lula de Silva barnstorming across Africa?

2. What nations have long set the course of globalization and according to observers, what are recent trade talk successes for emerging market economies a sign of?

Turnbull, “From Abroad, Challenges to US Role as Top Innovator”
1. What is the emerging risk facing the US and what are 2 reasons why today’s science gap is quite different from the one the US faced in the 1970s or 1980s?

2. While few experts see easy solutions (to the emerging science gap), some emphasize a “do no harm” approach, while others call for “targeted policies”. What is proposed under each of these approaches?

Trumbull, “Is China Posed to Close the Technology Gap?”
1. According to some experts, what is the unusual risk (threat) that China’s trade relations with the US and other nations holds?

2. What's different about how China has developed, compared to South Korea/Japan; and how is China using its profits?

Blake, “Europe Ratchets up its Pressure on Immigrants”
1. What are 2 provisions of the new immigrations rules/laws—criticized by human rights advocates--that the European Parliament recently approved?

2. According to Prof. Geddes, what do many of these measures (new immigration rules/laws) say about how Europe views itself and the newcomers?

Growing Interdependence
Grier, “Recession and Flu Show Borderless World”
1. What do world leaders understand, regarding what is required to respond to the global recession and to prevent/control a possible H1N1 pandemic?

2. Despite the threat of the H1N1 epidemic, why do experts say (2 reasons) that countries should not close/keep open their borders?
Editorial, “A Start for a New Economic Order”
1. What is at the root of the current (financial) crisis, and what is driving action steps for greater transparency & better cooperation between national regulators?

Atwood & Barnet, “Reduce Poverty–Get a Safer World”
1. What is the difference between the way rich vs. poor nations view the threat to their security?

2. What are 2 reasons why the authors say that the US must direct urgent attention to the issue of global poverty?

3. What are 3 ways that the authors suggest that the US can demonstrate that it is ready to provide leadership in the campaign against (global) poverty?

Francis, “Economic Slump Provides Tinder for Global Conflicts”
1. Who did Robert Zoellick predict would be hit hardest by the global financial crisis and what would drive them into poverty?

2. According to Michael Klare, what could 1) cause food shortages around the world, 2) add to economic pressure in Africa & East Asia, and 3) threaten fragile democracies in Eastern Europe?

Scherer, “G20 Summit: Three big Issue Items for World Leaders”
1. What are the 3 major issues that leaders of the G20 are expected to discuss at the G20 summit?

2. Why will President Obama face difficulty in insisting that major greenhouse gasses emitters like China and India to make specific cuts?

da Silva, “Brazil’s President Lula: the G20’s Role After the Economic Crisis”
1. President Lula argues that the time has come to for a show of political will and for undertaking fundamental structural reforms. However, Lula is dismayed/critical of developed countries, regarding their attitudes which he argues threaten the accomplishments of the London summit. What are 3 of President Lula’s criticisms of developed countries?

2) According to President Lula, the crisis of international governance will not be overcome by multiplying new ad hoc groupings (i.e., G8, G14, G20). What kind of governance does President Lula want?
Meaning of Development
Bryner, “The US May be the Richest Nation, but It’s not the Happiest”
1. What are the 2 major categories of happiness and on what does each depend?

2. Diener argues that some of the nations (happiness) ranking are surprising, at least if we assumed that money was the only type of wealth. Some mid-income nations in terms of income do well (e.g., Costa Rica), while some relatively rich counties (e.g., South Korea) do less well than expected? Why?

Trumbull, “A Chasm Grows in a Flat World”
1. Many economists say that the way to help the most people is to focus on growth, but a growing number are saying that equality too, is important. What are 3 reasons economist say a more equal income distribution in a country is important?

2. What are 3 key factors that drive the divergence in per capita income (which is in the order of 15-20:1) between rich and poor countries?

Lange, “A First Step for the Global Poor - Shatter Six Myths”
1. According to Mark Lang, what are 5 myths that impair popular thinking about global poverty?

2. According to Mark Lang, what are 3 things that are true about extreme poverty?

Lange, “What it Takes to Open a Door for the Poor”
1. According to Mark Lang, what governments deserve direct support (from Western governments)?

2. According to Mark Lang, what are 3 ways to assist the world’s poor?

Schaff, “What it's Like to Live on $1 a Day"
1. How many people in the world live in extreme poverty (less than $1/day) and what percent of the people in Malawi live in extreme poverty?

2. What does Selina and her husband produce & sell to make a living and what are their precious few belongings?

3. What is the career ambition of Selma’s son and daughter?
Llana and Downie, “Why South American Economies Are Rebounding First”
1. Why (3 reasons) has Brazil’s domestic market remained strong and the economy is doing so well (leading the region’s recovery), despite the worldwide recession?

2. Why (2 reasons) are the economies of Mexico/Central America expected to contract?

Sappenfield, “Growth in India's Industrial Hub Leaves Many Behind”
1. What is the criticism of India's capital intensive development, combined with the leadening effect of over regulation and corruption?

2. What is the growing problem that Mr. Bhati's discontent (i.e., no prospect of finding a job) hint at?

Llama, “Brazil Becomes an Antipoverty Showcase”
1. How does Brazil’s conditional transfer program (Bolsa Familia) improve the quality of life of the poor—what does the program do?

2. In addition to the Bolsa Familia program, what has the Brazilian government done (2 examples) to reduce poverty?

Killela, “Africa’s Compelling Progress towards Peace and Prosperity”
1. What compelling data (2 examples) coming out of Africa suggests vast improvements in many aspects of life for ordinary Africans?

2. What massive problems (4 examples) still exist on the African continent?

3. What must governments, NGOs, and/or the multinational private sector do (2 examples) to provide support for Africa to support initiatives to achieve success and peace?

Williamston and Hicks, “World Cup 2010: Closer to the Finals, Closer to World Support for Africa”
1) What are 4 problems/challenges facing South Africa, the African countries which played in the World Cup, and many other African countries?

2. What is the UNDP’s Human Development Index—what indicators of development are combined in it?
3) What does Nelson Mandela’s hope will be remembered when the soccer (World Cup) ends, which will represent a turning point in our global community?

Ford, “Six Lives in New China”
1. According to Russell Moses, what is the profound psychological transformation that Chinese citizens have undergone over the past three decades?

2. What indicates that China’s reforms have stifled the sense of social responsibility that the 1949 revolution meant to instill in China’s citizens?

3. What has the speed of China’s economic development served to highlight?

Addressing Global Challenges
Cobban, “Barak Obama and America’s Place in the World”
1. In recent weeks, a broad political transformation has been accelerating which will shape the agenda and achievements of the Obama presidency. What is the nature of this shift/political transformation?

2. What are 3 ways that these changes (the political transformation) might affect Barak Obama’s presidency?

LaFranchi, “Obama Nobel Peace Prize: an Award for Vision if not Accomplishments”
1) Despite only being in office for only 9 months, why Nobel Committee select President Obama to receive the Nobel Peace Prize?

2) What are 3 items in President Obama’s agenda?

Ballen, “The Myth of Moslem Support of Terror”
1. What is the surprising finding of a survey conducted in 2006 by the University of Maryland’s “Program on International Public Attitudes”, regarding the question: “bombing and other attacks intentionally aimed at civilians is never justified”.

2. According to Ballen, how can most people's (in Moslem countries) professed support for terrorism/bin Laden most accurately be characterized?

Cobban, “Make Room for Asia's New ‘Indispensable' Nations”
1. For the first time since 1945, what has changed in Asia?
2. According to Cobban, what is responsible for the erosion of U.S. influence (in Asia) and is this not all bad?

Jacques, “US vs. China: a Dangerous Phase has Begun”

1. What are 4 issues that have causes spats/disagreement between the US and China?

2. What is a further underlying change in the relationship between the US and China and what might this mean (for which the US is completely unprepared) for how the US deals with China and other countries?

Trumbull, “Amid Economic Slowdown, Signs of New World Order”

1. How has economic financial power shifted in recent years and what are 2 immediate implications of this shift for the US economy?

2. What’s changed (2 things) in the world economy?

Shetty, “Feeding the Hungry and Saving Lives, the UN is a Blessing”

1. Why (2 reasons) does Shetty say that the need for the UN is only growing?

2. According to Shelly, what (3 examples) needs to be fixed in the UN?

Lipscy, “Global Financial Reforms must Heed Asia’s Clout”

1. Lipscy argues that the Bretton Woods institutions (i.e., World Bank & IMF) have become relics of a bygone era. What are 2 of Lipscy’s criticisms of the IMF and World Bank?

2. According to Lipscy, what are 2 reforms that are needed so the IMF and World Bank would better reflect the interests and concerns of rising economic powers?