



TIME (April 7 2014) - Globalisation

Read the articles and answer the questions that follow.

Globalisation in Reverse: Rana Foroohar looks at the causes and implications of the global trade slowdown.

What reasons does the writer offer to account for the global trade slowdown?

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According to the writer, “economists and trade experts are beginning to talk about a new era of deglobalisation.” What is her opinion of this development?

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If an era of deglobalisation does set in, what are the implications for your country? Other than the information in the article, draw on your knowledge of your country’s approach to economic development as well as its competitive advantages and vulnerabilities.

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TIME (Feb 3 2014) - Ethnocentrism

Read the articles and answer the questions that follow.

The Superiority Complex: Suketu Mehta criticises The Triple Package. She explains that ethnocentric thinking is not new.

What “new racism” is apparent in *The Triple Package* and observable in American society?

How does Mehta support her view that *The Triple Package* is just a latest example of ethnocentric thinking? How does she make the point that ethnocentric thinking is misguided?

“These bromides ... come thundering down from the ivory tower.” What is Mehta’s opinion of the “bromides” and the people who wrote them?



S4 EL - Culture (Discussion Worksheets for TIME Articles)

What is “typical” about the podcast conversation between Carolla and Newsom and how does it show “how easily the line can blur between cultural praise and cultural denigration”?

According to Mehta, racialists tend to ignore other factors that can enable success. Summarise these factors.

How does Mehta view the relationship between culture and success?



S4 EL - Culture (Discussion Worksheets for TIME Articles)

What does it mean for the permissiveness of American culture to be a “bogeyman” and how does Mehta challenge this perception?

Based on your knowledge and observations, are there people in your society who subscribe to some notion of superiority and use it to explain success or failure? In your opinion, which of the factors raised in the article will have the most significant impact on the success of citizens born and bred in your country and immigrants who have just taken up citizenship in your country? Explain and illustrate your views.



TIME (March 17 2014) - Ethnocentrism + Application

Read the articles and answer the questions that follow.

A Shocked China Restores Order After A Deadly Rampage: The Kunming massacre and ethnic tensions.

Big Unhappy Family: Hannah Beech looks at ethnic divides in China.

Account for the ethnic tensions in China and explain how the divides can be seen.

How has the authorities responded to the ethnic tensions in general and the Kunming attack in particular?

While there were protests, ethnic clashes and even acts of self-destruction over the years, recent incidents may indicate a stronger determination by separatist elements to break through media blackouts and do what it takes to make their political sentiments and grievances known to the Chinese public and the world. In your opinion, what measures must the authorities implement in the aftermath of the Kunming incident and why? In addition, how should they respond to the ethnic tensions and separatist sentiments? Justify your suggestions.



TIME (March 3 2014) – Ethnocentrism + Application

Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

Losing Faith: Zohar Abdoolcarim examines the decline in religious tolerance in Malaysia.

The writer opines that “under [Prime Minister Najib Razak’s] watch, Malaysia is no progressive society, especially on a critical front for the nation: religion.” Explain why he thinks so.

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Do you share the writer’s concern and reading of the situation in Malaysia? What does the future look like for the country if the recent developments were to continue?

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Concept Building via Paul's Wheel: Culture

POV	Key Question/Issue	Purpose
Essential Concepts	CULTURE	Information/Evidence
Interpretation and Inference (From Evidence)	Assumptions	Implications/Consequences