

Discussion Questions

Second Half

Economics: Understanding the Basics

1. How did trade and finance help to globalize the economic system?
2. What are the criticisms of trade and finance globalization?
3. How is Madagascar's call center operation an example of economic globalization?

Economics: A Globalized Economy

1. How do remittances work?
2. What are the pros and cons of remittance work? i.e., How would market and justice globalists differently describe remittance work?
3. How would market and justice globalists differently describe palm oil production?
4. What issues have the fair trade palm oil movement addressed?

Environment

1. What are the two main issues Steger identifies as most problematic for the environment? What are the environmental repercussions of these?
2. What are the political, economic, and social contributors to environmental degradation and resource depletion?

Environment: Recycling, Reuse, Repair, & Waste

1. Why is waste a global issue?
2. How would market and justice globalists differently view global waste?
3. How do MNCs both contribute to global waste but are also a necessary key to addressing the issue?

Transnational Crime

1. What are the key actors and factors that facilitate transnational crime?
2. Which commodities are in demand and why?
3. How has increased globalization facilitated transnational criminal activity?
4. How is global consumerism directly tied to globalized crime?
5. What countermeasures are taken, and by whom, to address transnational crime?
6. Why is transnational crime difficult to address?

The Film

1. Where do you see evidence of economic, cultural, political, and environmental globalization issues in the film?

First Half

What is Globalization?

1. In what ways do populist nationalism movements challenge globalization trends?
2. Why is there a dispute about when the phenomenon of globalization began?
3. How does the author support his argument that globalization is necessarily a recent phenomenon?
4. How are the trends in marketing and consumption in emerging markets a reflection of globalization?

Culture

1. What are the skeptics' concerns about the impact of globalization on culture?
2. What do the optimists' argument are the benefits of globalization on culture?
3. What factors/actors have the biggest impact on the decrease in the number of languages?
4. How is Ikea a good example of glocalization?

Culture: The Invasion

1. How do the readings support the skeptics' concerns about the cultural effects of globalization?
2. How do the readings support the optimists' argument that globalization is culturally beneficial?

Politics & The Arctic

1. How do the views of the globalizers and skeptics differ regarding the power of the state?
2. How did the Arctic Council go from a model for global governance to what some are calling a new Cold War?
3. What evidence demonstrates that globalization is at work in the Arctic Ocean situation?

Theories & What You Wear

1. How is the Rana Plaza situation tied to market globalism?
2. What are the most prominent transnational issues that a justice globalism advocate would address?
3. How do your clothing purchases connect you to the flexible global supply chains?