

## **Issues in the US Election**

1. Have the Republicans lost the battle on environmental issues?
2. Is media bias influencing the 2008 election?
3. Will Iraq be a winning issue for Democrats in the 2008 election?
4. Will President Bush's veto of the children's health bill affect Senate elections?
5. How will changing circumstances in Iraq affect the race for the Democratic nomination?
6. How will the threat of recession impact the race for the GOP nomination?
7. Will immigration impact the GOP nomination process?
8. Which Democrat's health care plan is most likely to help them win the nomination?
9. Does Giuliani's decline show that terrorism is no longer a salient issue?
10. Will a stimulus package affect the 2008 election?
11. Will government reform resonate as a central issue in the general election?

## **The Developing World**

1. Should the West cut aid to Kenya in light of recent turmoil?
2. Will the recent peace agreement in the Democratic Republic of Congo effectively squash the violence?
3. Will the World Economic Forum in Davos effectively increase Western investment in the developing world?
4. Will the recent discovery of oil in the Campos Basin change Brazil's role in world affairs?
5. Can Iraq use the reduction in violence to achieve a lasting peace?
6. Can China curb its environmental problems before the Beijing Olympics?
7. Is development based on the technology sector sustainable in India?
8. Has Ban Ki-moon been an ally to the developing world?
9. Is biofuel investment helping or hurting the developing world?
10. Is Thailand on the road back to Democracy?
11. Why has Western aid to Africa been ineffective?

## **US Economy**

1. Is the US in a recession?
2. Will a tax rebate be an effective way to stimulate the economy?
3. Should the government intervene to prevent foreclosures?
4. Is unemployment likely to rise in the near future?
5. Will the weakening dollar close the trade deficit?
6. Is the federal budget deficit a drag on the economy?
7. Is increased domestic spending a viable path to reinvigorating the economy?
8. Should the federal government try to intervene and lower the income gap?
9. Are rising health care costs driving American jobs overseas?
10. Can consumer confidence rebound if gas prices continue to rise?
11. Would an extension of the Bush tax cuts help to produce long-term growth?

## The Developed World

1. Will the fall of Prime Minister Prodi's government lead to lasting stability in Italy?
2. Will President Sarkozy's falling approval ratings mean a loss of power within France?
3. Should France be concerned about its growing deficit?
4. Is nationalism a problem in Western Europe?
5. Is Canada headed towards a recession?
6. Can Gordon Browne survive the turmoil within in his Cabinet?
7. Is the Euro the world's most stable currency?
8. Is Japan's inflation an isolated problem or part of a larger global problem?
9. Did world markets around the world this past week over-react to turmoil in the US?
10. Has Labour's victory in Australia significantly changed the course of the country?
11. Is the World Bank an effective institution in the modern economic climate?

## **US Foreign Policy**

1. Will heavier sanctions by the US significantly alter Iran's pursuit of nuclear power?
2. Have the campaign positions of the major Democratic candidates alter the situation in Iraq?
3. Can the Bush administration credibly be part of a path towards stability in Pakistan?
4. Should the Bush Administration take a more active role in African affairs?
5. Will recent changes at the World Bank help or hurt US interests abroad?
6. Does a weak dollar help or hurt US interests abroad?
7. Does "Pax Americana" still exist?
8. Does Venezuela's oil keep it insulated from the weight of US power?
9. Is the United States stance on climate change undermining other areas of its foreign policy?
10. Has the US benefited from the transition from Donald Rumsfeld to Robert Gates?

## **The Recent Past**

1. Why did the Federal Reserve make such a large rate cut?
2. How did Senator Clinton win the New Hampshire Primary?
3. Why did Israel withdraw from the Gaza strip?
4. Why did Iraq fall from the headlines?
5. Did Bhutto's death help or hurt Musharraf?
6. Why did Sarkozy's popularity fall?
7. Why did Kenyan elections destabilize the country?
8. Why did Governor Huckabee rise to prominence?
9. How did Senator McCain come back from the dead?
10. Why did Governor Richardson run for President?

## Final Round: Student Written Questions

1. What should be done about US healthcare provisions in light of Part D of Bush's 2003 plan, in order to make it both more available and affective? (DiFabnizi, 119)
2. What hops is there for Romano Prodi's Government? (Rozenshtein, 145)
3. Considering the rigor of the 2008 elections, including the difficulty of a nation that may not wholly be willing to elect a black president, can the Obama train keep on chugging? (Gillen, 120)
4. Protectionism among US political leaders: good policy or just good politics? (Goldstein, 100)
5. Should the international community push for the independence of Kosovo? (Dedaj, 190)
6. Will the election of Lee Myung-bak to the presidency of South Korea expedite the process of resolving the North Korean debacle? (Hocking, 187)
7. Has the United Nations lost its relevancy? (Olson, 116)
8. Has Karl Rove's prediction that the '08 election will boil down to economics come true? (Dowling, 153)
9. Does the failure of North Korea's government to meet disarmament deadlines spell the end of multilateral negotiations? (Leh, 114)
10. Does the IMF help or hurt developing nations? (Arons, 113)
11. Does the success of the EU pave the way for the curtain of other similar intergovernmental organizations? (Tolkin, 101)