Diplomacy & Negotiation
• How has diplomacy and international negotiation changed over the last century?
• What are some of the tools and approaches that states can use in bargaining and diplomacy?
• What is the Prisoner’s Dilemma? How does it illustrate the difficulty of achieving cooperation?
• What are some potential solutions to the Prisoner’s Dilemma? How can those be applied to IR?
• What is the chicken game? How does it relate to the way actors interact in the international system?
• Describe the territorial dispute involving the Kurdish people. Why is it difficult to resolve?
• Describe the issues that make resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict difficult.

Proliferation and Arms Control & Disarmament Efforts
• What are the various categories of weapons (small arms, conventional weapons, weapons of mass destruction)? How easy or difficult are each category to control by the international system?
• What is proliferation? What is the difference between horizontal and vertical proliferation?
• What is an arms race? Why do they begin? How might they be a result of the security dilemma?
• How has the international system tried to control weapons proliferation?
• What is the difference between arms control and disarmament? Why does that difference matter?
• What are some reasons that states pursue weapon of mass destruction? What issues does this present for both individual countries and the international system?
• Why has Iran attempted to acquire weapons of mass destruction? North Korea? How has the international community responded? How are these situations similar… and different?

War and Militarized International Conflict (Between States)
• What international, domestic (internal to states), and individual-level factors impact the likelihood of a war arising?
• How are asymmetrical wars different than symmetrical wars?
• In what ways has warfare changed in recent years?
• What is the current trend in the type, frequency, and severity of armed conflicts?

Civil War & Other Types of Armed Conflict Within States
• What are the differences among types of internal conflicts?
• What factors make civil wars more likely? How do they end?
• What are some reasons that states slaughter their own people?
• Why is the Syrian Civil War so difficult to resolve?
• In what ways are the conflicts in Yemen, Chechnya, Syria, and South Sudan similar? Different?

Terrorism
• What is terrorism? How does terrorism work? Is it effective?
• How does terrorism differ from state terrorism and state-sponsored terrorism?
• Why do states have difficulty responding to terrorism?

NOTE: Your textbooks have useful study questions and key terms at the end of each chapter.