**Questions for January 11, 2014**

**DOMESTIC**

1.  Can the recent "polar vortex" be attributed to human-induced climate change?

2. Will Common Core education standards improve learning for America's school children?

3. Will other states follow Washington's and Colorado's lead in legalizing the recreational use of marijuana?

4. Will American companies be prepared for large scale cyber attacks like the one that affected Target in December?

5. What can cities and states do to reduce gun violence?

6. Is a recent outbreak of Swine Flu in some states cause for alarm?

7. Will congress act on comprehensive immigration reform in 2014?

8. Can the Republican party overcome internal differences to win back the Senate in 2014 midterm elections?

9. Will the Affordable Care Act improve access to quality health care for most Americans?

10. How will the so called "nuclear option" that eliminates the filibuster on some presidential nominations affect the Senate?

11. Is the government doing enough to support veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan?

12. Should the NFL and other professional sports leagues be held responsible for players who suffer traumatic brain injury from concussions?

**Questions for January 11, 2014**

**INTERNATIONAL**

1.   If Manmohan Singh steps down as Prime Minister of India, who should replace him?

2.   What measures can India put in place to stop the violence toward women?

3.   Can anything be done to protect the Coptic Christians in Egypt?

4.   Can Hollande revive France’s economy?

5.   Has Venezuela thrived since the death of Hugh Chavez?

6.   Can Putin really guarantee the Sochi Olympics will be safe?

7.   Does Cuba’s lifting of the ban on car buying signal an improvement in US/Cuba relations?

8.   Can Lebanon maintain neutrality with Israel and Syria as its neighbors?

9.   Will Kim Jong Un be a key leader to shape the world in 2014?

10.  Did President Aquino do everything he could for his typhoon ravaged country?

11.  Can Hugo Barra bring China into the international world of inexpensive smartphones

12. Have relations between Haiti & the Dominican Republic been irreparably damaged by the recent Dominican Republic citizenship ruling?

**Questions for January 11, 2014**

**ECONOMIC**

1.  Should the U.S. Congress reinstate the long-term unemployment benefits that expired at the end of 2013?

2. Will 2014 be the year that the long-term unemployed finally get back to work?

3. How will the implementation of Obamacare affect health care spending in 2014?

4. Was Ben Bernanke an effective FED chairman?

5. Should Janet Yellen continue the same monetary policy at the FED as her predecessor?

6. What will the effect be of Japan’s planned consumption tax increase of 3% in April?

7. With the Venezuelan economy on the verge of collapse, who bears more responsibility: the Venezuelan government or private industry?

8. Will the Trans Pacific Partnership trade agreement, if ratified, be beneficial to the U.S. economy?

9. With NAFTA turning 20 this year, has this treaty lived up to original expectations?

10. How can the U.S. government address the growing income inequality in the nation?

11. Will China face a housing bubble burst in the near future?

12. As Colorado begins to allow legal sales of marijuana for recreational use, will the expected economic benefits outweigh the possible negative social ramifications?

**Questions for January 11, 2014**

**THE WORLD AT WAR**

1.  As Syrian President Assad’s forces intensify assaults on the rebels prior to scheduled negotiations, should Western countries intercede?

2.  Can the people of South Sudan achieve a lasting peace that will allow their new country to survive?

3.  How should the U.S. handle its relationship with Afghanistan’s President Karzai?

4.  Should American troops remain in Afghanistan after 2014?

5.  Can U.S. Secretary of State Kerry mastermind a peace deal between Israel and the Palestinians?

6.  What role should the African Union take in trouble spots like the Central African Republic?

7.  Should the UN or the African Union take the lead in peacekeeping in the Central African Republic?

8.  Do Islamist militias pose a threat in Libya?

9.  Can the Colombian government reach a peace settlement with FARC guerrillas?

10.  Is Iraq facing a civil war?

11.  Can the Iraqi government achieve a lasting peace?

12.  Has al-Qaeda been defeated?

13.  Has France been able to stabilize the conflict in Mali?