***The Economist’s* 2014 Special Report on Iran**

**Questions for “The Revolution is Over” (the introduction to the Special Report)**

1. What does the author mean when (s)he argues that, “the revolution has sunk into the disillusion and distractions of middle age”?
2. Discuss the notion that globalization trumps puritanism in Iran. Given your studies of Iran thus far, to what extent does this assertion strike you as valid?
3. List and describe the three phases of a Revolution
4. How might the Arab Spring have affected the revolutionary spirit in Iran?
5. What is “Westoxification” and why might Iranians be averse to it?
6. On what grounds does Ahmadinejad, widely criticized in the West (including in the Economist), get praised by the authors?
7. Discuss the impact—thus far and in the long term—of education in Iran.
8. How have social changes impacted politics in Iran?
9. How would you describe the author’s attitude towards Rohani?

**The following questions apply to the rest of the articles. You must print the one article assigned to you and bring your copy of the article and your responses to the questions below to class. You do not have to print “The Revolution is Over”.**

1. What is the author’s thesis (what is (s)he aiming to prove?
2. List evidence author uses to prove his/her thesis.
3. What, if anything, does this piece suggest about the legitimacy (or lack thereof) of the Iranian government?
4. What, if anything, does this piece suggest about political culture in Iran?
5. What evidence might there be of author bias?
6. What does the author not discuss which you deem essential to a discussion of this article?
7. Offer an antithesis (counterargument) in response to the author’s thesis and argumentation.
8. Pose a question to the author about his/her argument and/or use of evidence.