Essay and Discussion Questions: Sub-Saharan Africa

Understand
1. Why have countries outside Africa, such as the United States, China, and France, taken a military interest in Africa?
2. What are the major causes of migration in Africa?
3. Why are cell phones so important to many sub-Saharan Africans?
4. What are the main goals of U.S. foreign policy in sub-Saharan Africa? How and why have they changed over time?

Analyze
5. Nigeria and South Africa are the two largest economies on the continent. In what ways are these two relatively wealthy countries similar? In what ways are they different?
6. How does European colonialism continue to shape sub-Saharan African countries today?
7. In what ways are sub-Saharan African societies unequal? What are the effects of this inequality?
8. Despite its being relatively less developed than any other region, in what ways does sub-Saharan Africa wield influence in the world?

Evaluate
9. Sub-Saharan Africa has the youngest population of any region in the world. On balance, is this a threat or an opportunity for development?
10. Do you think that Chinese investment in sub-Saharan Africa is a net positive for Africans? Why or why not?