Essay and Discussion Questions: Europe

Understand
1. How did the end of the Cold War change the purpose of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)?
2. What are the goals of the European Union (EU)? How have they changed over time?
3. In what areas do EU members cooperate and coordinate?
4. Why is freedom of movement important to Europeans? What challenges does it bring?

Analyze
5. In what ways is Europe still shaped by the legacy of the Cold War?
6. Why does Europe generally enjoy a high standard of living?
7. Why is populism rising and social democracy declining in Europe?
8. How does the eurozone improve European economies?

Evaluate
9. Do you think the European Union has had a positive or negative effect on its members?
10. What seem to be Russia’s geopolitical goals? Has it been successful in pursuing them?
11. Has U.S. engagement in Europe since World War I been positive for the United States? For Europe?
12. Do recent tensions between the U.S. and Europe represent the beginning of a new trend or a brief aberration? Why do you think so?