



Weekly Discussion Questions 4/7/2025

[Smith, Orion Donovan. "‘Liberation Day’ Not So Liberating.” *The Spokesman-Review*, 07 Apr. 2025, p. A1.](#)

Classroom Discussion Questions College Level

In what ways do tariffs influence international economic relationships and domestic markets? Analyze the intended and unintended effects of tariffs on both international trade partnerships and local economies. How do these effects differ between short-term political goals and long-term economic strategies?

To what extent should tariffs be used as a tool for protecting national industries and labor markets? Consider the ethical, economic, and political implications of using tariffs to shield domestic jobs and industries. Are there more effective or equitable alternatives?

Are traditional tariff policies still effective in today’s globalized economy? With the rise of global supply chains, multinational corporations, and digital commerce, evaluate whether tariffs remain a relevant and useful policy tool—or if they hinder modern trade and innovation.

Classroom Discussion Questions Grades 9-12

How do tariffs affect the relationship between countries and their economies? Discuss the reasons a country might place tariffs on imports. What are the possible economic benefits or consequences, both for the country imposing the tariffs and for its trading partners?

Should tariffs be used to protect American jobs and industries? Some people argue that tariffs help keep jobs in the U.S., while others say they can hurt consumers and businesses. What do you think? Use evidence from the article to support your answer.

What role do tariffs play in modern global trade? Tariffs have been part of trade policy for centuries. In today’s world of global supply chains and international markets, are tariffs still effective or outdated? Why?

Classroom Discussion Questions Grades 6-8

How do tariffs affect trade between countries? Why might one country charge extra money (a tariff) on goods from another country? What could happen when they do that?

Do you think tariffs help protect jobs in the U.S.? Some people think tariffs can save American jobs. Others say they make things more expensive. What do you think? Why?

Are tariffs a good idea in today's world? People and businesses around the world trade a lot. Do you think tariffs still work well today, or are there better ways to trade fairly?

Classroom Discussion Questions Grades 1-5

What happens when countries charge extra money (tariffs) on things they buy from each other? Why would a country make people pay more money for items from another country? What could happen because of that?

Do you think tariffs help keep jobs in the United States? Some people say tariffs help workers in America. Others say they make things cost more. What do you think? Why?

Are tariffs a good or bad idea today? People around the world trade things every day. Do you think adding extra money (tariffs) is a good idea or a bad one? Explain your answer.