Issue 1: Where are states located?

1) Provide a definition for the word “state.”

2) Why do the states listed below pose a problem of definition?
   - Korea
   - Taiwan
   - Western Sahara/Sahrawi Republic

3) What are the common characteristics of most microstates?

4) Discuss the most significant differences between the following ancient states (remember the impact of physical geography)
   - Mesopotamian City States
   - Egypt
   - Roman Empire

5) Describe the process of consolidation of European states after 1100. Which European areas did not follow the general trend of consolidation? Why?

6) What were the causes of European imperialism after 1400?

7) Describe the geographic dimensions of the following Empires:
   - British
   - French
   - German

8) Discuss the basic differences between the British and French systems of colonial rule. How did each system impact the native population?