“Global Economic Growth Falters...Again,” by Galina Alexeenko, director of the Regional Economic Information Network at the Atlanta Fed’s Nashville Branch

Discussion questions
1. What is the forecasted economic outlook for global growth in 2014? How does that compare with 2012 and 2013?
2. What are the key features of Japan’s economic plan, dubbed “Abenomics?” What type of monetary policy is Japan’s central bank pursuing?
3. How have investors reacted to higher interest rates in the United States? Why is this an important new risk to the global economy?
4. In looking at the fiscal reforms followed by Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, and Italy, what macroeconomic effect was seen across all of these countries as the result of fiscal tightening?
5. What is the fiscal multiplier? Under what conditions might this multiplier be larger? How do recessions affect multipliers?

Related links
International Monetary Fund
Use the site for research, data, and information on the organization. The site also provides activities for students and numerous lesson plans for educators.

Bank of Japan
The site includes information about the Japanese central bank and its research and statistical data. Under the Announcements tab, take a virtual tour and watch a video on the bank’s functions.

European Central Bank (ECB)
Use the site to learn about the euro and the countries that use the single currency. Under the Monetary Policy tab, access a number of online games, activities, and apps teaching about the ECB and economics.

Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC)
Use the FOMC site to learn about monetary policy and to access the FOMC’s latest policy decisions.

European Union
Access this comprehensive website for information on all aspects of the European Union. For games and quizzes, use the Kids’ Corner; for educational materials, books, and maps, see the Teachers’ Corner.

Global Economic Indicators (Federal Reserve Bank of New York)
Visit the site for economic data and charts for the United States, Japan, Canada, Mexico, and the euro area; global exchange and interest rates; and information on global stock markets.