Inspiring Geographic Inquiry Using Team-Based Learning™(TBL)
Application Exercise – Example

Scenario:

You are a 26 year old Turkish male and a practicing Muslim. You live in Ankara, the capital of Turkey located in the west-central portion of Turkey. You own your own business manufacturing traditional Muslim clothing for women. You are politically involved and are often asked to represent the community of manufacturers in your area.

The European Union (EU) has finally, and suddenly, agreed to allow full membership to Turkey into the EU. However, Turkey is not certain it wants to be an EU state any longer and the option is causing considerable civil unrest in Turkey. Turkey has decided to allow the citizens to decide the issue through a vote.

You have been selected by your peers to weigh the choices and make a decision for your local community that would most benefit you and your peers.

Below is a *list of choices* you are considering. Select the item that is the BEST CHOICE for the most likely reason. Use the criteria from the rubric to JUSTIFY your selection in 500 words or less.

A. Your community should elect full membership into the EU because it will increase the market size and your financial opportunities.
B. Your community should elect full membership into the EU because it will allow Turkey to be recognized internationally as westernized and developed, and it will increase Turkey's political influence in two regions (Europe and Southwest Asia).
C. Your community should vote no to EU membership entirely. Most of your growing market is to the east.
D. Your community should vote no to EU membership entirely. The EU is a cultural stranger and redefining Turkey's regional identity as European would weaken Turkish identity and dilute Turkey's Islam faith.
E. It is not important to you or your community if Turkey is part of the EU or not. It will not change anything important to you in Turkey.

In 500 words or less, justify your BEST CHOICE incorporating the following components:

Criteria	2	1	0
Identity: Include a description of Turkey's <u>political boundaries</u>. Where is Turkey in reference to Europe and Asia? What region is Turkey part of from the person's perspective in this scenario?	Accurate and full description of Turkey's political boundaries and identity as a region.	Boundaries and identity are described but one or the other is incomplete or partly inaccurate.	Not included or the description is inaccurate.
Influence of Interaction: Include description of two or more of Turkey's <u>significant geopolitical neighbors</u>. Include relative location in reference to Turkey and <u>why </u>these neighbors are important to consider in this decision.	Included with obvious understanding of the relations between Turkey and its geopolitical neighbors.	Attempted but only one neighboring state is described, there is an incomplete description, or the description of one is partly inaccurate.	Not included or the description is inaccurate.
Nationalism: Include reference to growing <u>nationalism</u> in Turkey and its effect on Turkey's interest in joining the EU. This should include at least one cause for the growing nationalism (there are many to choose from).	Included with at least one cause accurately identified.	It is mentioned, but it is not well described, partly inaccurate, or poorly/not referenced	Not included or the description is inaccurate.
Synthesis: All of the above criteria are used to justify the BEST CHOICE selected. The team connects the descriptions of identity, interaction, and nationalism with the choice selected. Note: Examples used in the justification will vary considerably based on the choice selected.	Overall justification connects each criterion with the best choice selected. The justification makes a compelling and well-supported argument for the choice selected. The justification is persuasive.	Good connections between the criterion and the choice are made for two out of the three criteria or an effort is made for all three but the justification is weak or unconvincing.	One or none of the criteria is well connected to the team's choice, no attempt is made, or the connections are inaccurate.

Note: Make sure your choice is clearly and explicitly stated in your justification.   **Maximum points = 8**