**Exercise 1: Critical Thinking and Reading (50 Points)**

**Step 1:** Read the selected editorial/article carefully and annotate it thoroughly. (10 points)

**Step 2:** Comprehensively and precisely answer the following questions. (20 points)

1. Describe the general issue and the specific focus of the article. Why do you think this issue is relevant?

2. Introduce the author and provide publication information.

3. Who do you think is the intended audience? Explain why.

4. What, according to you, is the purpose of this article?

5. What is the author’s main claim on the issue? Restate the thesis. If the thesis is not explicitly stated, present the main claim in your own words.

6. How is the article organized? What are the key points and supporting details? What rhetorical appeals (*logos, pathos, ethos*) are used by the author? Elaborate.

7. What is your overall opinion on this issue? How would you respond to author’s viewpoint? With which views do you agree and with which do you disagree?

**Step 3:** In-class discussion (20 points)

Discuss your editorial, its inherent issue, its key features and your individual opinion in class.