1. An article in the Kentucky Kernel, July 10, 2008, had the title “Solar car to journey 2,400 miles without stopping for gas”, and then began, “With gas at $4 a gallon, it would cost about $9600 to travel from Dallas, Texas to Calgary, Alberta, Canada.” Comment on this. The online version of the article can be found at


2. One way to grasp numbers relating to the the world’s population is to imagine that the population is rescaled down to a “village” of 1000 individuals, with corresponding subgroups of people scaled accordingly. Use the website

http://www.thearda.com/QuickLists/QuickList_125.asp

to determine how many of these 1000 people would be adherents of each of the various religions listed.

3. Brainstorm to create a list of potentially very large or very small quantities. Some examples: the size of a hydrogen atom; the number of neural connections in the human brain. Now take a look at Order of Magnitude,


Is this a credible website? If you want a more credible source, where would you go?

4. Watch the videos “Powers of Ten”,

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2cmihfdxuY

and “Secret Worlds: The Universe Within”,

http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/primer/java/scienceopticsu/powersof10

In what ways did these assist you personally to grasp certain orders of size?