Debate/discussion question suggestions:

Was it right for the technician to be censured? Does it matter that he was a technician and not a full research scientist?

Who is the most responsible for communicating and understanding risk? How should scientists most effectively communicate risk?

Were the Italian courts wrong for convicting the scientists and town official? If yes, what scenario would need to occur for a conviction to be appropriate?

Are the townspeople to blame for living where they do? Are they at fault for not understanding the risks that exist for their homes?

Do you know what hazards exist for your home? (Think about more than earthquakes… volcanic hazards, mass movement/landslides, past sites of groundwater contamination…)

Where is the closest superfund site to your home?