



2016 Joint WorldQuest / Academic WorldQuest STUDY GUIDE

The WACC does not endorse any of the links or information provided on any of the websites recommended below. The study guide serves as “informational material” to help you begin your prep strategy. You are certainly not required to use any of the sources/links provided below in order to prepare to play.

Your WQ or AWQ team is encouraged to do additional research/studying/reading separate from this study guide.



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The sources and sample questions provided are only meant to be a basic guide to help you begin preparing for **WorldQuest** or **Academic WorldQuest**.

PowerPoint slides for previous year’s WorldQuest/Academic WorldQuest are available online:
<http://www.slideshare.net/charlotteworld>

If you are new to WQ/AWQ, it’s a great preview to see the types of questions we ask.

Never played WorldQuest / Academic WorldQuest before? Check out highlights from past competitions:

1. 2016 WQ & AWQ Teaser: <https://vimeo.com/170812894>
2. 2013 WQ and AWQ Video Highlights: <https://vimeo.com/82294418>
3. 2011 WQ and AWQ Video Highlights: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESvEiNLIzq>

Who Can Play?

WorldQuest: Each team consisting of eight players is formed by businesses, government institutions, schools/colleges, non-profits or other self-determined groups. Individuals without a group will be assigned to a team by the Council.

Academic WorldQuest: Each high school in Mecklenburg, Iredell, Cabarrus, Gaston and Union County can send a delegation of students as a team to represent their school. Only one official team from each high school can compete in AWQ.

How are WorldQuest and Academic WorldQuest Played?

- WorldQuest participants compete in 7 categories
- Academic WorldQuest participants compete in 8 categories (which includes 2016 Great Decisions)
- Each category will have 10 questions
- Each question is typically allotted 30 seconds though there will be at least 5-7 questions (total) requiring extra time (45 seconds to 2 minutes)
- Each team collaborates to answer each question before submitting their answer sheet at the end of each round

What Do You Win?

- AWQ and WQ teams will be judged separately
- Medals and trophies are awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winning teams for both WQ and AWQ
- Winning teams will receive special recognition and have their photos taken with Larry Sprinkle, WCNC weather anchor and our emcee for the evening

How Should My Team Prepare?

The best way to prepare is to review international news coverage and our category descriptions on our website at www.worldaffairscharlotte.org

WorldQuest 2016 and Academic WorldQuest 2016 categories

1. Great Decisions 2016 (for AWQ competitors - high schools)
Categories we're covering for GD 2016: The Rise of ISIS and the Future of Kurdistan
2. Flags of the World
3. Geography: Antarctica
4. History: The Rwandan Genocide
5. Global Food Security
6. Brexit
7. International Relations Theory
8. Cultural Norms, Practices, and Superstitions

NOTE: WorldQuest 2016 participants will compete in 7 rounds while Academic WorldQuest 2016 participants will compete in 8 rounds (includes Great Decisions 2016)

CATEGORY 1: Great Decisions 2016 (*only for Academic WorldQuest competitors) – Categories we're covering this year: The Rise of ISIS and the Future of Kurdistan

Published annually by the Foreign Policy Association, the **Great Decisions** briefing book features impartial, thought-provoking analyses on eight issues of concern to U.S. policymakers today. Questions asked will be in **multiple choice** format.

Sources:

[Great Decision Quizzes – Foreign Policy Association](#)

Teachers Pack for Great Decisions 2016 may be purchased online:
http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/index.cfm?act=show_material&product_id=16834

Copies of the Great Decisions 2016 Briefing Book will be mailed to each high school that registers an AWQ team.

Classroom Packet for Great Decisions 2016 may be purchased online:
http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/index.cfm?act=show_material&product_id=16840

2016 Topic Descriptions for Great Decisions (*Copied directly from the 2016 Great Decisions summary online via Foreign Policy Association website)

The Rise of ISIS

Born out of an umbrella organization of al-Qaeda in Iraq, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) burst onto the international stage after it conquered Fallujah in December 2013. Since then, the group has seized control of a number of critical strongholds in both countries and declared itself a caliphate. Still, the question remains: what is ISIS, and what danger does it pose to U.S. interests?

The Future of Kurdistan

Kurdistan, a mountainous region made up of parts of Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria, is home to one of the largest ethnic groups in West Asia: the Kurds. Now, most in the West know them for the small, oil-rich autonomous region in northern Iraq called Iraqi Kurdistan—one of the U.S.' closest allies in the Middle East, and a bulwark against the expansion of the so-called Islamic State. What does the success of Iraqi Kurdistan mean for Kurds in the surrounding region?

CATEGORY 2: Flags of the World

Questions in this category will include identifying an image of a country's flag or identifying a flag based on a description.

Answers are typically written on the answer sheet provided to each team.

No multiple choice options. Questions will be in fill-in-the-blank format.

Study Link

- [Flags of the World – CIA Fact Book](#)
- [Flags of the World - Quiz](#)
- [Flags of the World - Trivia](#)

Sample Questions

1. Identify this flag: _____ **(write the answer on your answer sheet)**



ANSWER: Canada

2. This flag has two equal horizontal bands of azure (light blue) and golden yellow. These colors represent grain fields under a blue sky. Identify the country: _____ **(write the answer on your answer sheet)**

ANSWER: Ukraine

CATEGORY 3: Geography – Antarctica

Geography of the Antarctica covers a series of questions about maps, area topology, climate and atmosphere, ecology, mineral deposits and plant/animal distribution.

Most questions will be in multiple choice format, but there will be a few fill in the blank and/or matching questions to add variety.

Helpful Links:

- [Antarctica – National Geographic Society](#)
- [British Antarctica Survey](#)
- [Antarctica's Location and Geography](#)
- [BBC – Antarctica](#)
- [NY Times – Antarctica](#)

- [NASA – Geography of the Antarctica](#)
- [Trivia – Antarctica \(NGO\)](#)
- [All About Sea Ice](#)
- [50 Amazing Things About the Antarctica](#)
- [Who Lives in the Antarctica?](#)
- [Population of Antarctica](#)
- [Map of the Antarctica](#)
- [Antarctic Wildlife](#)

1. Which is Antarctica's and the world's southernmost active volcano?
 - A. Mount Parry
 - B. Mount Minto
 - C. Mount Erebus**
 - D. Mount Pinatubo
2. Is Antarctica at the North Pole or South Pole? _____ **(Answer: South Pole)**
3. What is the closest large land mass to Antarctica?
 - A. New Zealand
 - B. Australia
 - C. Argentina and Chile**
 - D. South Africa

CATEGORY 4: History – Rwandan Genocide

We'll cover major themes related to the Rwandan Genocide including questions of historical context, causation and affect, outcomes and challenges related to the civil war and mass genocide.

Most questions will be in multiple choice format, but there could be a few fill-in-the-blank and/or matching questions to add variety.

Helpful Links

- [The Rwandan Genocide – History Channel](#)
- [Rwanda genocide: 100 days of slaughter - BBC News - BBC.com](#)
- [Rwanda Chronology | FRONTLINE | PBS](#)
- [Rwanda: A Brief History of the Country \(Rwandan Genocide\)](#)
- [Rwanda Genocide: In Rwanda, Reconciliation Is Hard Won](#)
- [100 Days Of Slaughter | The Triumph Of Evil | FRONTLINE | PBS](#)
- [Rwanda timeline: 100 days of genocide | Global development |](#)
- [Rwanda: How the genocide happened - BBC News - BBC.com](#)
- [The Heart of the Hutu-Tutsi Conflict | PBS NewsHour](#)
- [Hutu-Tutsi conflict - CNN.com](#)
- [Rwanda genocide survivors back reconciliation - Al Jazeera English](#)
- [The Rwandan Reconciliation](#)
- [Hutu and Tutsi Reconciled | Pulitzer Center](#)
- [Home | United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda](#)
- [Rwanda genocide: International Criminal Tribunal closes - BBC News](#)
- [Rwanda: Justice After Genocide—20 Years On | Human Rights Watch](#)

Books:

[Goodreads: Rwandan Genocide list](#)

Sample Questions

1. The _____ were the majority ethnic group who wanted to rid Rwanda of another, smaller ethnic group.
 - A. Ugandas
 - B. Hutus**
 - C. Tutsis
 - D. Somalian

2. What was the name of the Hutu paramilitary organization that was responsible for a large percentage of the killing?
 - A. Hutu Army
 - B. Tutsi Army
 - C. Interahamwe**
 - D. UN

A question like this (see below) could also be asked in the form of fill-in-the-blank:

What were the two ethnic groups involved in the Rwandan genocide? _____ **(ANSWER: Tutsis and Hutus)**

CATEGORY 5: Global Food Security

We'll cover major themes related to global food security including:

- Challenges related to supplying enough safe and nutritious food in a sustainable way for a growing global population
- Quantitative and qualitative research and analysis on food security issues around the world
- Improvements food security and food systems that can feed everyone, everywhere, every day

Most questions will be in "multiple choice" format, but there could be a few "fill in the blank" and/or "matching" questions to add variety.

Helpful Links:

[USDA Economic Research Service-Global Food Security](#)
[Food Security Overview - World Bank](#)
[Office of Global Food Security - US Department of State](#)
[United Nations Global Issues - Food](#)
[Global Food Security Update | WFP | United Nations World Food](#)
[Global Food Security Project | Center for Strategic and International Studies](#)
[Agriculture and Food Security | U.S. Agency for International Development](#)
[Congress Passed the Global Food Security Act. Here's Why That's Historic,](#)
[U.S. Congress Passes Global Food Security Act; Bill Codifies Feed The Future Initiative](#)
[2016 Global Food Security Index Released](#)
[Global hunger will drop to its lowest levels ever this decade](#)
[UN: Global fish consumption per capita hits record high](#)
[The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015 | FAO |](#)
[Hunger Statistics - WFP](#)
[Bishops say 6.5 million Malawians need food aid](#)
[Climate Impacts on Food Security | WFP |](#)
[Why food security is not just a problem for the Third World - Telegraph](#)
[How much do you know about the world's food security challenges? Take the quiz](#)
[World Hunger Stats](#)
[Where are the World's Hungriest People? Take a Look](#)
[India Is Home To Quarter Of The World's Hungry, According To UN Report](#)
[Global Food Prices Set to Stagnate as Population Growth Slowing](#)

Sample Questions:

1. How much does the UN predict global food demand will increase by 2050?

- A. 30%
- B. 40%
- C. 50%**
- D. 60%

2. Which country is home to a quarter of world's 794.6 million hungry people, and it has more undernourished people than China, according to the State of Food Insecurity in the World [published](#) by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), in May 2015?
_____ (**FILL IN THE BLANK - Answer: India**)

CATEGORY 6: Brexit

The Brexit, an abbreviation of "British exit" that mirrors the term Grexit, refers to Britain's withdrawal from the European Union.

We'll cover major themes related to the category:

- Britain's membership with the EU
- Reasons behind the referendum to leave the EU
- Challenges related to Brexit
- Immediate impact of Brexit vote on the global economy
- Potential effects of Brexit over the long-term

Most questions will be in multiple choice format, but there could be a few fill-in-the-blank and/or matching questions to add variety.

Helpful Links:

The UK's EU referendum: All you need to know - BBC News - BBC.com
Brexit: | The Economist
'Brexit': Explaining Britain's Vote on European Union Membership
Immigration and Brexit: How a rising tide of European immigrants pushed Britain to exit
Meet the European leaders hoping to *cause* the next *Brexit*
3 Reasons Brits Voted For Brexit - Forbes
[The real reason the U.K. voted for Brexit? Jobs lost to Chinese competition.](#)
Brexit - FT.com
Brexit fallout – the economic impact in six key charts
Fed minutes suggest rate hikes on hold until Brexit impact clearer
Obama, EU leaders downplay impact of Brexit at NATO Summit
Four out of 10 people want a second EU referendum before Brexit, poll finds
The Brexit delusion | The Economist
UK and the EU: Better off out or in? - BBC News - BBC.com
Britain's 40 year relationship with the EU - The Telegraph
Britain in Europe | European Council on Foreign Relations
Britain and the EU: A long and rocky relationship - BBC News - BBC.com
Timeline: Britain's relationship with Europe - RTÉ News
Can Britain's 'special relationship' with the US survive outside the EU
Consequences of Brexit: Beyond the fringe - The Economist
[Germany's Merkel takes tough line on Brexit: 'The decision has been made'](#)
The EU and Nato will both want to make *Brexit* work
What Russia thinks of *Brexit* – and how it could gain from a fractured Europe
After *Brexit*, what next for the three million EU citizens living in the UK?
Frankfurt, Berlin Up Efforts to Attract British Firms Post-*Brexit*
How Turkey misreads *Brexit*
Will *Brexit* cause a new merger mania or kill deals?
Brexit could push EU toward better integration: Lagarde
How *Brexit* caused a Wall Street sell-off
5 reasons why Americans should care about Brexit - CNNPolitics.com

Cameron warns EU immigration rules could threaten UK trade deal
The economic factors behind the vote for Brexit | FT Data
When the world is jittery over Brexit, India has reasons to smile

Sample Questions:

1. The Brexit was a referendum vote which was held on June 23rd, 2016 to decide whether the United Kingdom should leave or remain in the European Union. "Leave" won by 52% to 48%. In order to officially withdraw from the European Union, what provision does the leadership of the United Kingdom need to invoke?
 - A. Article 24 in The Hague Convention
 - B. The Negotiating clause of the Bretton Woods Conference
 - C. The Preamble of the Treaty of Rome
 - D. Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty**
2. What was the net annual migration of citizens from other European Union countries to Britain in 2015?
 - A. 235,000
 - B. 333,000**
 - C. 422,000
 - D. 578,300
3. How many times did Charles de Gaulle, the former French president, veto Britain's entry into the European Union? _____
(ANSWER: 2 times/twice)

CATEGORY 7: International Relations Theory

Here we will cover general definitions and key concepts in the study of international relations theory.

Most questions will be in "multiple-choice" format, but there could be a few "fill-in-the-blank" to add variety.

Helpful Links:

[Trivia – International Relations](#)
[Quiz – International Relations Theory](#)
[International Relations – Flash Cards](#)
[International Relations, Principal Theories - Princeton University](#)
[SparkNotes: International Politics: Theories of International Relations](#)
[The IR Theory Home Page](#)
[Theories of IR, A-F - International Relations *](#)
[What Edward Snowden tells us about international relations theory](#)
[A Brief Introduction to Theories on International Relations and Foreign Policy](#)

Added Reading (Books – Classics for IR):

[Theory of International Politics \(9781577666707\): Kenneth N. Waltz](#)
[Arms and Influence: \(9780837189802\): Thomas C. Schelling](#)
[Amazon.com: The Tragedy of Great Power Politics \(Updated Edition\)](#)
[Amazon.com: War and Change in World Politics](#)
[Man, the State, and War: A Theoretical Analysis: Kenneth N. Waltz ...](#)
[Political Order and Political Decay: From the Industrial Revolution to the Globalization of Democracy](#)
[Of Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order](#)
[World Order](#)
[Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty.](#)

1. Which approach to international relations argues that states behave in structurally similar ways regardless of their regime type, geographical location, and political ideology?
 - A. Idealism
 - B. Liberalism
 - C. Constructivism
 - D. Realism**
2. You read in a pamphlet that "States are pluralistic actors seeking to maximize absolute gains under anarchy, however, 'complex interdependence' can diminish anarchy, and the state is the primary focus of analysis." Which international relations theory is this pamphlet articulating?
 - A. Neorealism
 - B. Neoliberalism**
 - C. Idealism
 - D. Dependency Theory

CATEGORY 8: Cultural Norms, Practices, and Superstitions around the World

The section will address the diverse range of religious practices and cultural norms found throughout the world. These include ceremonies such as weddings and funerals, traditions like eating large dinners on Thanksgiving in the United States, and taboos such as uncovered women in Saudi Arabia or talking with your hands in your pocket in Switzerland, as well as observances and holidays. Etiquette pertaining to appearance and behavior is also addressed in this category.

Most questions will be in multiple choice format, but there could be a few fill-in-the-blank questions.

Helpful Links

[Cultural Etiquette Around the World](#)
[Customs and Cultures from Around the World](#)
[Superstitious Numbers Around the World](#)
[Wedding Customs and Traditions From Around the Globe](#)
[15 Wedding Traditions for Good Luck - Brides.com](#)
[25 New Year's Good Luck Traditions Around the World](#)
[Holidays: A Sample from Around the World](#)
[World Holiday Traditions](#)
[10 Best Easter Traditions Around the World - WomansDay.com](#)
[10 unique spring traditions from around the world](#)
[A gesture in another culture - trivia](#)
[Cultural no-no's and oddities - trivia](#)
[17 pregnancy customs around the world](#)
[10 Romantic Traditions Around the World \(That Aren't Valentine's Day\)](#)
[Cultural Norms - trivia](#)

Sample Questions:

1. In India, which days of the week are considered auspicious and inauspicious, respectively?
 - A. Tuesday and Friday
 - B. Friday and Wednesday
 - C. Thursday and Saturday**
 - D. Monday and Sunday
2. In China, opening an umbrella inside the house will lead to the following:
 - A. Death of a parent**
 - B. Seven years of bad luck
 - C. Thirty days of rain
 - D. Winning a lottery