



Greater New York WorldQuest 2014

Study Guide

This year's categories focus on the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2014, voted on and chosen by the leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country as well as four other pertinent topics. The categories are: Cybersecurity, U.S. Energy Policy, Global Economic Realignment, the Middle East, Global Environmental Issues, U.S. Education, the UN Millennium Goal of Eradicating Extreme Poverty and Hunger, Global Health, Geography, and Great Decisions.

Please note: All questions for the Academic WorldQuest competition will be drawn from the sources in this Study Guide.

This study guide is best viewed in a current version of Adobe Reader. If you are having trouble clicking any of the links listed, cut and paste them into your browser instead of clicking them.



Greater New York WorldQuest 2013-2014 Study Guide

CYBERSECURITY

One of the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2014, as voted on by leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country, this category focuses on the challenges of governing cyberspace.

Technology is constantly advancing at a rapid pace, and society is becoming increasingly dependent on it for socioeconomic, political, and communications needs. However, legislating a network without borders poses great challenges for the international community.

Department of Homeland Security

- Read each of the articles listed under “Cybersecurity”

<http://www.dhs.gov/topic/cybersecurity>

Center for Strategic and International Studies

- Read “The Economic Impact of Cybercrime and Cyber Espionage”

http://csis.org/files/publication/60396rpt_cybercrime-cost_0713_ph4_0.pdf

- Read incidents starting with 2012 in “Significant Cyber Incidents Since 2006”

http://csis.org/files/publication/130514_Significant_Cyber_Incidents_Since_2006_0.pdf

Council on Foreign Relations

- Read the Expert Brief “Cybersecurity and Internet Governance”

<http://www.cfr.org/cybersecurity/cybersecurity-internet-governance/p30621>

- Read the Backgrounder “Confronting the Cyber Threat”

<http://www.cfr.org/technology-and-foreign-policy/confronting-cyber-threat/p15577>

- Read pages 1-25 of the Independent Task Force Report, “Defending an Open, Global, Secure and Resilient Internet”

<http://www.cfr.org/cybersecurity/defending-open-global-secure-resilientinternet/p30836?co=C007301>

OECD

Read pgs. 9-21 of “Cybersecurity Policy Making at a Turning Point”

<http://www.oecd.org/sti/ieconomy/cybersecurity%20policy%20making.pdf>

The New York Times

Read “Obama Order Sped Up Wave of Cyberattacks Against Iran”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/01/world/middleeast/obama-ordered-wave-of-cyberattacks-against-iran.html>

Read “How a Secret Cyberwar Program Worked”

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/06/01/world/middleeast/how-a-secret-cyberwar-program-worked.html?ref=computersecurity>

U.S. Energy Policy

One of the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2013, as voted on by leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country, this category will address the abilities of the United States to achieve its goal of energy independence, and what that may or may not mean for its future.

US Energy Information Agency

- Read all tabs plus “Energy Explained”

http://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.cfm?page=renewable_home

Foreign Policy

- Read “Energy Independence: A Short History”

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2012/01/03/energy_independence_a_short_history?page=0,0

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

- Read the testimony of the Honorable Adam Sieminski of the Energy Information Administration

<http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=dc9017cc-beaa-4ea6-a7dd-9ec1f3102d27>

United States Senate

- Read pg 1-29 of “Energy 2020”

http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/files/serve?File_id=099962a5-b523-4551-b979-c5bac6d45698

PBS Frontline

- Watch “Nuclear Aftershocks”

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/nuclear-aftershocks/>

Global Environmental Issues

One of the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2013, as voted on by leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country, this section will address the issues facing our environment and how we can address them now in order to protect our habitat for future generations.

United Nations

- Read about the UN’s environment work under the “Environment Overview”

<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/environment/>

OECD

- Read “Green growth: what it is and why we need it”

http://www.oecd.org/development/environment-development/Putting%20Green%20Growth%20at%20the%20Heart%20of%20Development_Summary%20For%20Policymakers.pdf

United Nations Development Programme

- Read the update on Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/environ.shtml>

Environmental Protection Agency

- Read “Causes of Climate Change”

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/science/causes.html>

Pew Research Global Attitudes Project

- Read Chapter 8: Environmental Issues

<http://www.pewglobal.org/2010/06/17/chapter-8-environmental-issues-2/>

Whitehouse

- Read the “Our Environment” Overview

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/energy/our-environment>

Scientific American

- Read “A Republican Secretary of State Urges Action on Climate Change”

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=questions-and-answers-with-george-shultz-on-climate-change-and-energy>

- Read “Global Water Shortages Grow Worse but Nations Have Few Answers”

<http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/2013/08/01/global-water-shortages/>

Smithsonian

- Read “Climate Change Could Increase Armed Conflicts By 50 Percent Worldwide”

<http://blogs.smithsonianmag.com/science/2013/08/climate-change-could-increase-armed-conflicts-by-50-percent-world-wide/>

NBC Learn

- Watch “Coral Reefs” and “Melting Mountain Glaciers”

<http://www.nbclearn.com/portal/site/learn/changing-planet>

Global Economic Realignment

One of the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2013, as voted on by leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country, this category will explore the shifting economic global power structure in which rising economic powers are disrupting the traditional worldwide economic distribution.

World Economic Forum

- Read Pages the narrative about the Top Ten ranked nations in pages 11-22 “Global Competitiveness Report 2012-2013”

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GlobalCompetitivenessReport_2012-13.pdf

World Bank Group

- Read Chapter 1: The Global Development Context

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/13120/763830v10PUB0E0301300PUBDATE0402013.pdf?sequence=4>

McKinsey & Company

- Read the Executive Summary of “Trading myths: Addressing misconceptions about trade, jobs, and competitiveness”

http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/economic_studies/six_myths_about_trade

German Marshall Fund of the U.S.

- Read “Challenges of a Multipolar World: The United States, India, and the European Union in the Asia-Pacific”

http://www.gmfus.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/mf/1373399230Mukherjee_ODonnell_ChallengesMultipolarWorld_Jul13.pdf

Council on Foreign Relations

- Read the Backgrounder “Germany’s Central Bank and the Eurozone”

<http://www.cfr.org/world/germanys-central-bank-eurozone/p29934>

The Atlantic

- Read “Beating History: Why Today’s Rising Powers Can’t Copy the West”

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/02/beating-history-why-todays-rising-powers-cant-copy-the-west/253144/>

- Read “Africa’s Amazing Rise and What it Can Teach the World”

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/02/africas-amazing-rise-and-what-it-can-teach-the-world/253587/>

- The Two Indias: Astounding Poverty in the Backyard of Amazing Growth

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/02/the-two-indias-astounding-poverty-in-the-backyard-of-amazing-growth/253340/>

NBC Learn

- Watch “3-D Printing”

<http://www.nbclearn.com/innovation>

Middle East

One of the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2013, as voted on by leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country, this category will provide an overview of the strategically significant region with special regard to recent and ongoing events.

The Central Intelligence Agency World Factbook

- Read the Introduction for each of the following countries: Egypt, Gaza Strip, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

Council on Foreign Relations

- Middle East Matters' Ten Most Significant Developments of 2012"

<http://blogs.cfr.org/danin/2012/12/20/middle-east-matters-ten-most-significant-developments-of-2012/>

- Read the Backgrounder "The Arab League"

<http://www.cfr.org/middle-east-and-north-africa/arab-league/p25967>

- Read the Backgrounder "Hamas"

<http://www.cfr.org/israel/hamas/p8968>

Center for Strategic & International Studies

http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/economic_studies/six_myths_about_trade

- Read "Middle East Notes: The Age of Proxy Wars"

http://csis.org/files/publication/0513_MENC.pdf

- Read the Executive Summary of "Changing U.S. Strategy: The Search for Stability and the Non-War Against Non Terrorism" by Anthony Cordesman

http://csis.org/files/publication/130917_Cordesman_ChangingUSSecurityStrategy_Web.pdf

The Story of Mathematics

- Read "Egyptian Mathematics"

<http://www.storyofmathematics.com/egyptian.html>

- Read "Islamic Mathematics"

<http://www.storyofmathematics.com/islamic.html>

U.S. Education

One of the Six Top National Security Issues for the President in 2013, as voted on by leaders of World Affairs Councils across the country, this category explores the US's educational standing in the world as well as policies it has taken to improve its rank and their effects (or lack thereof).

Brookings Institution

- Read Part I of 2013 Brown Center Report on American Education "The Latest TIMSS and PIRLS Scores "How Well Are American Students Learning?"

<http://www.brookings.edu/research/reports/2013/03/18-timss-pirls-scores-loveless>

Council on Foreign Relations

- Read the Summary of “U.S. Education Reform and National Security”

<http://www.cfr.org/united-states/us-education-reform-national-security/p27618>

NGA

- “Building a STEM Agenda” Executive Summary and Chapter 3

<http://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/1112STEMGUIDE.PDF>

OECD

Pgs 18-20 and 42-49

<http://www.oecd.org/pisa/46623978.pdf>

The White House

- Reforming No Child Left Behind

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/education/k-12/reforming-no-child-left-behind>

UN Millennium Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Each year until 2015, AWQ will feature one United Nations Development Goal. This year’s topic will address the United Nations Development Goal #7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability. Understanding and promoting environmentally sustainable practices will help preserve the planet and improve human well-being.

United Nations

- Read “Goal 1 and Targets”

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml>

- Read The Millennium Development Goals, 2013 Progress Chart for Goal 1

http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/report-2013/2013_progress_english.pdf

- Read pages 6-13 of “MDG Goals Report 2013”

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/report-2013/mdg-report-2013-english.pdf>

- Read “The Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights”

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Poverty/Pages/DGPIntroduction.aspx>

World Bank

- Read “The World Bank and Goal 1”

http://www.worldbank.org/mdgs/poverty_hunger.html

Brookings Institution

- Read “The Final Countdown: Prospects for Ending Extreme Poverty by 2030”

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Research/Files/Reports/2013/04/ending%20extreme%20poverty%20chandy/The_Final_Countdown.pdf

Global Health

The health of the world's economy depends on the health of its people. This category will address the major sources of health insecurity including: pandemic diseases, preventable diseases, malnutrition, and poor sanitation.

United Nations

- Read about the UN's Global Health work under the "Health Overview"

<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/health/>

- UN Report of the Secretary General: Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/66/83&referer=/english/&Lang=E

World Health Organization

- Read Pages 13-18 of World Health Statistics 2013

<http://www.who.int/whr/en/>

- Read the Executive Summary of the 2013 World Health Report

<http://www.who.int/whr/en/>

United States Department of Health and Human Services

- Click on each of the Communicable Diseases listed

<http://www.globalhealth.gov/global-health-topics/communicable-diseases/index.html>

Kaiser Family Foundation

- Read Pages 1-22 of U.S. Global Health Policy

<http://kaiserfamilyfoundation.files.wordpress.com/2013/02/8408.pdf>

TedEd

- Watch "How Pandemics Spread"

<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-pandemics-spread>

Geography

Knowledge of world political geography as well as trends in human movement and populations is essential to understanding international relations. This topic will therefore test basic global geography as well as human geography.

National Geographic

- Familiarize yourself with the Geopolitical map of each region listed

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/report-2013/mdg-report-2013-english.pdf>

<http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/maps/atlas>

- Familiarize yourself with the Faith and Conflict in the Middle East Map.

<http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/maps/print-collection/middle-east-faith-conflict.html>

- Familiarize yourself with the Africa Human Footprint map:

<http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/maps/atlas/africa-human-footprint.html>

- Using the Interactive Map, familiarize yourself with the world map using each of the map dynamics listed under Human Systems –Population and Culture

http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/mapping/interactive-map?ar_a=1

- Read GIS (geographic information system)

http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/encyclopedia/geographic-information-system-gis/?ar_a=1

Great Decisions 2013

This topic will be drawn from the Great Decisions 2013 articles.

- GREAT DECISIONS 2013

*Please contact FPA for copies of the Great Decisions 2013 briefing book