

2017 Academic WorldQuest Competition Study Guide



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

Academic WorldQuest is an exciting team quiz game designed to enhance international education. During the competition, you will be asked 10 multiple choice questions per category. There are 6 categories. You can consult your team members (4 people per team) to decide your final answer. Teams are not allowed to consult with the audience, wireless devices, cell phones, other teams, books or written material at any point during the competition.

Teams have 1 minute to answer each question. You will receive 1 point for each correct answer. There are no penalties for wrong answers. If a team wishes to challenge an answer, one team member may bring the challenge calmly and politely to the judges within the time period allotted after answers are announced. Teams are not allowed to discuss challenges with audience members. The decision of the head judge is final. If the challenge is unsuccessful, the team that made the challenge will forfeit one point. The team with the most points will represent the State of Hawaii at the National WorldQuest Competition in Washington, D.C. If there is a tie, tie-breaker rounds will be played.

Category 1: Current Events

This round will consist of questions on world news and events. The emphasis will be on the second half of 2017. For the National Competition, the emphasis will be on the first months of 2018 and late 2017. In general, we recommend reading a variety of reputable national and international news sources. Most news sources (Wall Street Journal, BBC, CNN, Washington Post, etc.) can be obtained for free online.

Category 2: NAFTA

The North American Free Trade Agreement was negotiated and finalized as a means of strengthening the economic and political ties between the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Its economic and political repercussions are still highly debated today as the Agreement goes through rounds of renegotiations. This topic will discuss the positive and negative aspects of NAFTA, its origins, and whether or not it was a fair agreement to begin with.

Council on Foreign Relations

- <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/naftas-economic-impact>

Foreign Affairs magazine – (this article is included at the end of this study guide)

- <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/canada/2013-12-06/naftas-economic-upside>

Peterson Institute for International Economics

- <https://piie.com/sites/default/files/publications/pb/pb14-13.pdf>
 - NAFTA at 20: Misleading Charges and Positive Achievements (pg. 1-11)

Wilson Center

- https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/growing_together_economic_ties_between_the_united_states_and_mexico.pdf
 - Introduction (pg. 1-5)
 - “How Trade with Mexico Impacts Employment in the United States” (pg. 35-45)
 - Areas of NAFTA that are worth updating: (pg. 52-54)

Category 3: Combatting Climate Change

State of the Planet

<http://blogs.ei.columbia.edu/2016/03/04/what-five-tech-companies-are-doing-about-climate-change/>

Yale Environment 360

http://e360.yale.edu/features/how_far_can_technology_go_to_stave_off_climate_change

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_documents/fbce5a8dac5f41a48d883c7338ba2281/cdfc733ee9334f09a74c54f9bac257a6.pdf

- Understand other nations and their capabilities in energy power
- Understand developing countries and their role in climate technology

The White House

- Report to the President: Technology and the Future of Cities (pg. 1, 7-20)
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/images/Blog/PCAST%20Cities%20Report%20%20FINAL.pdf>

Environmental Performance Index

http://epi.yale.edu/sites/default/files/2016EPI_Full_Report_opt.pdf

- Pages 10-19 – Executive Summary and Rankings
- Pages 72-77 on Forests
- Pages 90-98 on Biodiversity and Habitat
- Pages 98-109 on Climate & Energy
- Pages 110-117 on regional trends and results

The Huffington Post

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/france-ban-gas-diesel-cars_us_595e4a69e4b02e9bdb0ad1e4?utm_hp_ref=climate-change

Category 4: The Peacebuilding Toolkit

Conflict is often viewed as something negative, associated with violence, war and destructive acts. However, conflict is a natural part of life, and it can be managed in ways that promote positive outcomes even in the most difficult circumstances if the right tools are put into practice. The Peacebuilding Toolkit covers core skills and concepts in the field of conflict resolution, as well as real-life stories of how individuals, communities and countries have used these skills to manage differences without violence and make peace possible.

U.S. Institute of Peace

- Global Campus Course, Introduction to Peacebuilding Chapter 2
 - Introduction (video)
<https://www.usipglobalcampus.org/training/introduction-to-peacebuilding/2-0/>
 - Tools, Interventions, and Priorities (videos and infographics)
<https://www.usipglobalcampus.org/training/introduction-to-peacebuilding/2-1/>
- Peace in Iraq's 'Triangle of Death' (Video)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pbzu-saPft8&feature=youtu.be>
- Looking Beyond Prison When ISIS Fighters Go Home Olive Branch blog
<https://www.usip.org/blog/2017/03/looking-beyond-prison-when-isis-fighters-go-home>
- The Accord: Colombia's Commitment to Peace, Olive Branch blog
<https://www.usip.org/blog/2016/10/accord-colombias-commitment-peace>
- Afghanistan and its Murals
<https://www.usip.org/publications/2016/08/deploying-art-against-war>
- UN Summary of the High-level Dialogue on Building Sustainable Peace (pg. 1-4)
<http://www.un.org/pga/71/wp-content/uploads/sites/40/2015/08/Summary-of-the-High-level-Dialogue-on-Building-Sustainable-Peace-for-All.pdf>
- U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services, Submitted Statement of Madeleine K. Albright and Stephen Hadley
<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/AS/AS00/20170321/105707/HHRG-115-AS00-Wstate-AlbrightM-20170321.pdf>
- USA Today, A real national security budget will keep the peace, by Karl Eikenberry
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2017/05/31/national-security-budget-must-keep-peace-column/102151166/>
- Vision of Humanity, Global Peace Index 2017 - Highlights
visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2017/06/GPI-2017-Highlights-1.pdf
- Beyond Intractability, Levels of Action, Michelle Maiese (summary of John Paul Lederach)
<http://www.beyondintractability.org/essay/hierarchical-intervention-levels>

Category 5: America's Diplomats

There has been fear of a decline in U.S. diplomacy, due to reductions in the Foreign and Civil Services, and talk about the so-called deep state (unchecked bureaucratic influence on policy). U.S. leadership has been vital for security alliances, global economic development, and human rights protection - at times requiring intervention in times of crisis or war. But the diplomacy underscoring this is being called into question today, in part due to the spread of isolationist attitudes among Americans. Yet, diplomacy is crucial right now to:

- *Aid the U.S. military so that use of force is not the first policy option*
- *Expand exports overseas and create opportunities for American companies*
- *Support increased opportunities for women in the global economy*
- *Increase global health by working on food and water security*

This topic's questions will highlight the structure and bureaucracy of the departments within the U.S. government which strive to promote American interests abroad. American diplomatic history as well as the related organizations in D.C. which share the State Department's goals, will also be of interest.

U.S. Department of State

- Read through all 18 sub-pages under People, Places and Issues in Diplomacy 101
<https://diplomacy.state.gov/discoverdiplomacy/diplomacy101/>
- Know the history of the State Department
<https://history.state.gov/about/faq/why-called-state>
- Bureau of Diplomatic Security's Mission
<https://www.state.gov/m/ds/protection/index.htm>
- Be aware of past listening techniques used by the State Department
<https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/107507.pdf>
- President Bush's important legislation regarding the State Department
<https://www.state.gov/s/ocr/c11528.htm>
- "Choose a Career Track" – p. 3 – 10
<http://careerbrochures.state.gov/fsofssbrochures/fscareers?pg=8#pg8>

American Foreign Service Association

- AFSA's history and Objectives
<http://www.afsa.org/policy>

U.S. Global Leadership Coalition

- "Reduce Duplication and Inefficiencies at the State Department and USAID" (pg. 7-8)
- "Enhance Efforts to Promote Economic Growth" (pg. 9-10)
- "Fold Smaller Programs into Regional Platforms" (pg. 15-17)
<http://www.usglc.org/media/2017/09/USGLC-Report-on-Reports-September-2017.pdf>

Category 6: India's Bid for Global Leadership

India is one of the largest democracies in the world. Its strategic location on the border with China, Pakistan, and Nepal makes the country a hot spot for border disputes. Despite this, India's economic power and role as an international partner has increased dramatically for the past 30 years. This topic addresses mostly domestic economic issues as well as its geography and relationships with neighboring states.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

- <http://carnegieendowment.org/2016/04/04/india-as-leading-power-pub-63185>

The East-West Center

- <https://www.eastwestcenter.org/system/tdf/private/api129.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=36061>

The Institute of South Asian Studies

- <https://www.isas.nus.edu.sg/ISAS%20Reports/ISAS%20Insights%20No.%20412%20-%20Actualising%20East%20-%20India%20in%20a%20Multipolar%20Asia.pdf>

The New York Times

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/22/opinion/paris-agreement-climate-china-india.html?mcubz=3>

McKinsey Global Institute

- <http://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/employment-and-growth/indias-ascent-five-opportunities-for-growth-and-transformation>

UK.Gov

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-india-uk-defence-partnership>
- https://www.ted.com/talks/shashi_tharoor#t-187093

World Economic Forum

- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/06/these-are-the-world-s-fastest-growing-economies-in-2017-2/>

NAFTA's Economic Upsides

The View From the United States

By [Carla A. Hills](#)

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/canada/2013-12-06/naftas-economic-upsidess>

January/February 2014 Issue – Foreign Affairs Magazine

In the 20 years since it entered into force, the North American Free Trade Agreement has been both lauded and attacked in the United States. But to properly assess NAFTA's record, it is important to first be clear about what the agreement has actually done. Economically speaking, the answer is a lot. By uniting the economies of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, NAFTA created what is today a \$19 trillion regional market with some 470 million consumers. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce figures that some six million U.S. jobs depend on trade with Mexico and another eight million on trade with Canada. NAFTA was the first comprehensive free-trade agreement to join developed and developing nations, and it achieved broader and deeper market openings than any trade agreement had before.

NAFTA did that by eliminating tariffs on all industrial goods, guaranteeing unrestricted agricultural trade between the United States and Mexico, opening up a broad range of service sectors, and instituting national treatment for cross-border service providers. It also set high standards of protection for patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. To preserve the rights of investors, it prohibited barriers such as local-content and import-substitution rules, which require producers to ensure that specified inputs are produced domestically.

For the United States, the economic consequences of these reforms -- which have also had social, political, and cultural impacts -- have been dramatic. If North America is to remain a uniquely competitive region, however, it will need to build on NAFTA's success by opening markets beyond its borders.

TRADE AND GROWTH

NAFTA ignited an explosion in cross-border economic activity. Today, Canada ranks as the United States' largest single export market, and it sends 98 percent of its total energy exports to the United States, making Canada the United States' largest supplier of energy products and services. Mexico is the United States' second-largest single export market. Over the past two decades, a highly efficient and integrated supply chain has developed among the three North American economies. Intraregional trade flows have increased by roughly 400 percent, from around \$290 billion in 1993 to over \$1.1 trillion in 2012. Every day, nearly \$2 billion in goods and services cross the United States' northern border and roughly \$1 billion worth cross its southern border.

Today, thanks to NAFTA, North Americans not only sell more things to one another; they also make more things together. About half of U.S. trade with Canada and Mexico takes place between related companies, and the resulting specialization has boosted productivity in all three economies. For every

dollar of goods that Canada and Mexico export to the United States, there are 25 cents' worth of U.S. inputs in the Canadian goods and 40 cents' worth in the Mexican goods. By way of comparison, there are four cents' worth of U.S. inputs in Chinese goods going to the American market and two cents' worth for Japanese goods.

NAFTA has also caused cross-border investment to soar. Since the treaty was signed, the United States, Canada's largest source of foreign capital, has invested more than \$310 billion in Canada, and Canada, the United States' fifth-largest source of foreign capital, has invested over \$200 billion in the United States. Mexico has also made major investments north of its border since NAFTA was signed, especially in the cement, bread, dairy, and retail sectors, thereby contributing to U.S. jobs and tax revenues. Similarly, U.S. investment in Mexico has grown substantially, with about half of it going to the manufacturing sector and much of that share flowing to the automotive industry. The United States derives a unique benefit from its investments in Canada and Mexico because a large percentage of that output returns home as imports of intermediate goods, which allows U.S. firms to focus on the higher-end task of assembling finished products.

The United States' expanded economic collaboration has created another economic benefit: a boom in intraregional travel by businesspeople, tourists, and students. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, in 2011, Americans made nearly 12 million trips to Canada and spent almost \$8 billion there, and they made 20 million trips to Mexico (the top destination for U.S. tourists) and spent over \$9 billion there. The United States' neighbors returned the favor, with Canadians making 21 million trips to the United States and spending \$24 billion there and Mexicans making more than 13 million trips and spending almost \$8 billion.

In spite of this impressive economic record, NAFTA has its critics. Most of those who attack it on economic grounds focus on Mexico, not Canada, and claim that the partnership is one-sided: that NAFTA is Mexico's gain and America's pain. But the economic data prove otherwise. Last year, roughly 14 percent of U.S. exports went to Mexico -- more than went to Brazil, Russia, India, and China combined. Indeed, Mexico buys more U.S. goods than the rest of Latin America combined, and more than France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom combined. Although economists still debate whether NAFTA has caused a net gain or a net loss in U.S. jobs, they agree that the market openings it created have generated more export-related jobs in the United States, which pay an average of 15 to 20 percent more than those focused purely on domestic production.

With 116 million consumers who have a combined purchasing power of more than \$1 trillion, Mexico represents a major market opportunity for U.S. entrepreneurs large and small. But small U.S. enterprises, lacking the global reach of major corporations, benefit in particular from Mexico's proximity and openness. Mexicans purchase about 11 percent of the exports of small and medium-size U.S. companies, which account for more than half of all job creation in the United States. Even Mexican exports worldwide benefit the U.S. economy, because of their high percentage of U.S. content. And making the picture even brighter, for every dollar that Mexico earns from its exports, it spends 50 cents on U.S. goods.

MOVING NORTH AND SOUTH

Another of NAFTA's positive effects has been the increased sharing of talent. Today, Canadians constitute about three percent of the United States' total foreign-born population, and Mexicans constitute about 30 percent. Americans make up about four percent of Canada's foreign-born population and roughly 70 percent of Mexico's. The Canadians and Mexicans who live in the United States are younger than the overall U.S. population. And according to a study conducted by the Kauffman Foundation, immigrants in the United States are almost twice as likely to start a new business as native-born Americans.

Complaints about U.S. immigration policy focus primarily on concerns about Mexico. What are the facts? According to the Pew Hispanic Center, 34 million Hispanics of Mexican origin live in the United States, roughly two-thirds of whom were born there. Of those born in Mexico, the majority arrived in the United States after 1990, encouraged by the growth of cross-border travel, trade, investment, and business collaboration that NAFTA stimulated. About half of them reside in the United States legally. In recent years, however, as the Mexican economy has expanded and created more jobs, both illegal and legal immigration from Mexico to the United States has plummeted. Compared with 1990, today, as a result of higher-than-average birthrates, the number of U.S.-born people of Mexican origin has more than doubled. Also, compared with their predecessors from that year, today's Mexican immigrants tend to be older, with an average age of 38, versus 29, and better educated, with 41 percent holding at least a high school degree, versus 25 percent. Their numbers have had a cultural impact, too. Holidays such as Cinco de Mayo are widely celebrated across America. As a nation of immigrants, the United States celebrates its cultural diversity.

In addition to contributing youth, talent, and cultural diversity, these immigrants are having an impact on politics. In the 2012 presidential election, Hispanic voters composed ten percent of the electorate, up from eight percent in 2004. They lean Democratic and tend to hold more liberal views on immigration policy. An exit poll conducted during the 2012 election asked voters what should happen to unauthorized immigrants working in the United States, and 77 percent of Hispanic respondents, compared with 65 percent overall, said that these immigrants should be given a chance to apply for legal status.

Hispanics' growing numbers have contributed to a shift in the balance of political power in some battleground states. In 2012, President Barack Obama carried 75 percent of the Hispanic vote in Colorado and 70 percent in Nevada, winning both states. As Hispanics' share of the U.S. population increases, their political voice should only grow stronger. Increasingly, they are joining politically interested civic groups; the United States now has 2.3 million Hispanic business owners and 1.2 million Hispanic military veterans.

BEYOND NAFTA

The economic, political, and social integration that has taken place in North America since NAFTA went into effect has made the region one of the most competitive on the planet. But the rest of the world has not stood still. Supply chains encircle the globe, and bilateral and regional trade agreements to which the United States is not a party are giving other countries preferential access to key markets.

To ensure that the U.S. economy continues to grow and remain competitive, the United States needs to keep North America's supply chains working at maximum efficiency and global markets open to North American products, services, investment, and ideas. There are a number of actions the United States could take, building on the NAFTA platform, to create new commercial opportunities. For example, when the U.S. government evaluates a potential trade arrangement, it should assess the benefits not only on a national basis but also on a regional basis. In that regard, it was encouraging to see Canada and Mexico join the negotiations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a proposed free-trade agreement among 12 countries in Asia and the Americas.

Similarly, as the United States negotiates the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership with the 28 countries that compose the EU, it would benefit immensely by including Canada and Mexico, which would add 150 million consumers and \$3 trillion in GDP, making an even stronger agreement. Doing so would reduce needless complexity, too, since Mexico has had a free-trade agreement with the EU since 2000 and Canada just concluded one in October 2013. For entrepreneurs on both sides of the Atlantic, having to deal with three separate agreements with different rules of origin and different customs measures would add unnecessary costs and regulatory headaches. It would also erode the hugely beneficial economic integration North America has achieved thanks to NAFTA. A single agreement among the three countries of North America and the EU would bring badly needed regulatory coherence to more than half of the world's trading volume.

In addition, having all three North American governments participate in the negotiations would give them an opportunity to upgrade the provisions of NAFTA that were not especially relevant 20 years ago, such as those dealing with digital data flows. Finally, such a deal could facilitate the economic reforms of Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto, who is seeking to open up Mexico's energy sector to foreign investment. Pointing to the benefits that Mexico could obtain from a mega-agreement that involved half of global GDP could help Peña Nieto build political support for his energy reforms, which the United States strongly supports.

In just 20 years, NAFTA has succeeded in spurring an enormous amount of economic activity throughout Canada, the United States, and Mexico. But in order to maximize future growth, North American universities, think tanks, and business organizations will need to better educate the public about the tremendous gains that can come from increased regional economic integration. Given how closely NAFTA has drawn the nations of North America together -- not just economically but also politically, culturally, and socially -- this is a goal they can and should strive to achieve.