



World Affairs Councils of America

2008 Academic WorldQuest Rounds

In general, we recommend reading a reputable national news source. Many of these (New York Times, Washington Post, BBC, CNN) can be obtained free through their websites. In addition, a good, up to date almanac is a good resource.

The WACA has provided the links below as a starting place for studying for Academic WorldQuest.

International Law

Sponsored by the American Society of International Law

The national competition will be based on the 31 *ASIL Insights* from 2007 that can be found at - <http://www.asil.org/insights.htm>

UN Peacekeeping Operations

Sponsored by the The People Speak

Throughout its history, the UN has organized numerous peacekeeping missions around the world, this category will ask about the operations, history, and legal precedence for UN Peacekeeping missions.

Better World Campaign – UN Peacekeeping -

<http://www.betterworldcampaign.org/issues/peacekeeping.asp>

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/> will take students to the Peacekeeping portion of the UN website. The “Past Operations” and “Current Operations” links categorizes current and previous missions by region, and further by country.

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/list/list.pdf> provides a list of all operations 1948-2007.

UN Charter - <http://uncharter.org/>

Nobel Prize - <http://nobelprize.org/index.html>

Foreign Policy Association: Great Decisions 2007

Questions for this round will be drawn from these Great Decisions 2007 articles as well as updates posted on greatdecisions.org.

Topics for 2007 are:

Middle East

Climate

Mexico

Migration

South Africa

War Crimes

Central Asia

Children

Questions? Comments? Contact the WACA office at waca@worldaffairsCouncils.org
You can also contact your local World Affairs Council.

East Asia

The focus of this round will be China, Japan, North and South Korea's politics, geography, history, and leaders.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/eap/>

Produced by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs, this site contains countless links to news articles about East Asia and the Pacific. In addition, students will find country profiles and material on current issues in the region, such as Bird Flu.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/EASTASIAPACIFICEXT/0,,menuPK:208943~pagePK:158889~piPK:146815~theSitePK:226301,00.html>

At the World Bank's East Asia & Pacific page, students can search information by country or by topic. With a primary focus on development issues, the Bank provides links to development topics, statistics, websites of the region's governments, and maps.

<http://www.harpercollege.edu/mhealy/mapquiz/easia/eamenu.htm>

At this website students can test their knowledge of East Asian geography by taking an online quiz.

Organization of American States

This category will focus on the functioning of the OAS including leaders, member countries, treaties, and history.

<http://www.oas.org/main/english/>

The OAS website offers a wealth of information about OAS structure, bodies, and documents. The "Countries" link provides a very brief overview or profile of each member country.

<http://www.state.gov/p/wha/rt/oas/>

Produced by the US Department of State, this site provides a comprehensive history of the OAS, as well as a pages dedicated to hemispheric security and regional issues, where students can view fact sheets organized by region.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/4441597.stm provides a profile of the OAS.

Elections

As the US prepares to elect a new president, this category will ask questions on how the rest of the world elects their leaders and transitions power between heads of state and government.

<http://www.aph.gov.au/library/intguide/POL/elections2006.htm>

This website is provided by the Parliament of Australia. Although quite lengthy, it is a good starting point for students who seek an overview of the type of elections held in different countries. The sidebar is helpful for dividing the master list of countries into regions.

<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govinfo/resource/internat/elections.html> provides an extensive list on links to information on elections around the world.

<http://www.cfr.org/issue/84/elections.html> offers students a look at recent election-related issues in a number of countries, such as Turkey, Russia, and Japan.

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Econ 101

This category focused on a basic understanding of how the economy as a whole works, in order to provide students with a framework for viewing and interpreting the economic world around them. Competitors should focus on the economic concepts, not economic formulas to be successful in this category.

http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/utw_chap1_e.pdf - This pamphlet discusses the WTO, but focus on Chapter 1, the Basics.

<http://www.fairtradeconcepts.com/fairtrade.html> - This site talks about the concept of Fair Trade.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/82979.pdf> - A Congressional Research Service report that is a "Trade Primer".

<http://www.economicswisconsin.org/guide/glossary.htm> - A glossary of Economic Terms from the University of Wisconsin.

Especially for the below listed categories, we recommended a quality, respected national or international news site and an up-to-date almanac.

Countries

This round will be on general knowledge questions about countries - type of government, geography, leaders, history, and current events.

Current Events

This round will consist of questions on world news and world events happening in early 2008.

People in the News

This round will focus on world leaders and newsmakers involved in events around the time of the competition.