



Academic WorldQuest 2009 Study Guide

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.

Population Issues in Developing Countries

Nine countries are expected to account for the world's rapid population growth out to 2050, with eight of these countries in the developing world. This category will consist of questions about the demographic challenges that developing countries face.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the first revolution "*Population*"
- UN Population Fund - <http://www.unfpa.org/>
 - Students should study all subjects under the "*Population Issues*" and "*State of the World Population*" tabs. Students should also look at the *Annual Report*.
- Population Reference Bureau
<http://prb.org/Publications/Datasheets/2008/2008wpds.aspx>
 - Students should look at the "*2008 World Population Data Sheet*" and the "*Population Bulletin: World Population Highlights: Key Findings from the 2008 World Population Data Sheet*". Both of these documents are listed at the top of the page.

Water

By 2025, half of the world's population will live in water-stressed or water-scarce regions. This category will consist of questions about the impact of water scarcity throughout the world.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the second revolution "*Resource Management*"
- World Water Council - <http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/>
 - Students should study "*Water at a Glance*" and its subtopics ("*Water & Education*" through "*Water on the International Agenda*").
 - Students should also skim through the "*Synthesis of the 4th Water Forum*": <http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/index.php?id=32&L=0#8440>.
- Circle of Blue - <http://www.circleofblue.org/stories/>
 - Students should study the stories of Mongolia and Tehuacan. Access the stories by clicking on either place on the map.

If you have any questions or comments, contact the national office at waca@worldaffairsCouncils.org. You can also contact your local World Affairs Council.

Alternative Fuels

Out to 2025, world energy demand is expected to increase by 55 percent, a rise driven largely by industrialization trends in Asia. This category will consist of questions about energy dependence and alternate sources.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the second revolution “*Resource Management*”
- U.S. Department of Energy - http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/renewable_energy/
 - Students should study all subtopics under “*Renewable Energy*”
- International Energy Agency - <http://www.iea.org/Textbase/npsum/WEO2007SUM.pdf>

Biotechnology and Genetics

The completion of the Human Genome Project several years ago marked a historic achievement in the field of genetics and has opened up numerous paths for further exploration in biotechnology. This category will consist of questions about the development of genetics research and biotechnology.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the third revolution “*Technology*”
- Human Genome Project http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/project/about.shtml
 - Students should study every category in red under “*About the HGP*”
- National Nanotechnology Initiative - http://www.nano.gov/html/facts/home_facts.html

Connectivity

With the growth of technological innovation has come vastly greater connectivity, which is being utilized for collaboration in business and education, as well as in international criminal activities. This category will consist of questions about technological innovation and increased connectivity.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the fourth revolution “*Knowledge*”
- World Internet Usage Statistics - <http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats.htm>
 - Students should look at trends of internet usage by continent.
- National Science Foundation’s *The Internet* <http://www.nsf.gov/about/history/nsf0050/pdf/internet.pdf>

Globalization

This category will consist of questions about the achievements, developments, and challenges presented by globalization.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the fifth revolution “*Economic Integration*”
- PBS’s *Commanding Heights* <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/commandingheights/hi/story/index.html>
 - Students should watch the video or read the transcripts. Focus on Part III, which discusses the current wave of globalization in more detail. Parts I & II are useful to watch since they will help explain some of the terms and ideas in Part III.
- Globalization 101 <http://www.globalization101.org/issue/english/?PHPSESSID=60d7f4219cb6c6eae11d476f17dda380>
 - Students should focus on these issue briefs: Trade, Investment, Culture, and Environment.
 - It is a good idea to watch *Commanding Heights* before looking at this website.

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Transnational Crime

This category will consist of questions about organized crime, global terrorism, and trafficking in humans, drugs, and arms.

- GSI Seven Revolutions - <http://7revs.csis.org>
 - Students should study the sixth revolution “*Conflict*”
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/index.html>
 - Students should study resources under the Human Trafficking, Illicit Drugs, Money-Laundering, and Organized Crime subjects on the left-hand side of the page.
- EUROPOL Terrorism Situation and Trend Report
http://www.europol.europa.eu/publications/EU_Terrorism_Situation_and_Trend_Report_TE-SAT/TE-SAT2008.pdf
 - Students should study sections 1, 2, 5, and 6.

Great Decisions 2008

Questions for this round will be drawn from these Great Decisions 2008 articles as well as updates posted on –

http://www.fpa.org/info-url_nocat4705/info-url_nocat_show.htm?doc_id=703845.

The topics for 2008 are:

Iraq

The EU at 50

Blacklisting the Enemy

Russia

U.S. Defense Policy

Latin America

U.S.-China Economic Relations

Foreign Aid and Philanthropy

Current Events

This round will consist of questions on world news and world events taking place in early 2009.

Germany

This category will consist of questions about current trends in Germany. All of the questions will come from the website: www.germany.info.

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