



**2017-2018**

## **Study Guide**

Adapted for the  
Coachella Valley Competition  
December 6, 2017  
World Affairs Council of the Desert

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## **Academic WorldQuest 2017-2018 Categories**

The categories for this year's AWQ National Competition have been updated by the World Affairs Councils of America, with input from member World Affairs Councils across the country, to reflect several of the most critical global and U.S. foreign policy issues:

Topics for the local competition in the Coachella Valley include:

**NAFTA**

**ASEAN at 50**

**India's Bid for Global Leadership**

**Saudi Arabia**

**Great Decisions**

Topics that will be part of the National Academic WorldQuest Competition, but not the local competition:

**Combatting Climate Change**

**Cybersecurity**

**The Peacebuilding Toolkit**

**America's Diplomats**

**Current Events**

## **AWQ Study Guide**

The Academic WorldQuest™ Study Guide has been prepared by the World Affairs Councils of America. Questions for all the above categories are drawn from the resources included in the AWQ Study Guide.

## **Qualifying for AWQ Competition: Rules and Regulations**

A team consists of four (4) Primary Teammates who are currently high school students (freshman – senior year). No more than four players per team will be able to compete in the National Competition.

Teams may designate Alternate Teammates to replace one or more of the four Primary Teammates in the case of sickness or other circumstances which would prevent a Primary Teammate from competing in the National Competition. Please note that local Councils may be unable to send Alternate Teammates to the National Competition.

Teams of fewer than four students are allowed to compete, but this is strongly discouraged.

If the winning team from a local competition is unable to compete in the National Competition and has no Alternate Teammates, the second place team may compete in its place.

### **How to Play**

There are 10 rounds in the competition, each round having 10 questions. Teams will have 45 seconds to answer each question. **NOTE:** For the AWQ National Competition, all of the questions are multiple-choice except for the Current Events category, which will feature fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and open-ended questions.

### **Scoring**

One (1) point is awarded for each correct answer. No penalty for incorrect answers or no answer.

The team with the most correct answers out of all 50 questions is declared AWQ Champion.

If, at the conclusion of the competition, there is a tie for 1st through 3rd place, tie-breaker rounds will be played.

## **Regulations**

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. Any team found by World Affairs Councils of America judges, staff, or volunteers to be violating this rule will forfeit that round and a penalty of 20 points will automatically be deducted from that team's score.

If a team believes another team is cheating, a player may alert a World Affairs Councils of America representative. However, if the other team is not found to be in violation of any rules, the accusing team will forfeit two (2) points. A team consists of four (4) players. Player substitutions are not allowed.

During the competition, a player can only use the bathroom during the break. If a player leaves at any other point during the rounds, he or she cannot return until after the break. Parents, alternates, and other guests must remain "off the floor" in the reserved seating area, at all times.

If a team wishes to challenge an answer, one (1) 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 which brought it will forfeit one (1) point.

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## **Academic WorldQuest 2017-2018 Study Guide**

All questions for this year's Academic WorldQuest program will be drawn from the sources in this Study Guide

The AWQ Study Guide is best viewed in a current version of Adobe Reader. If you are having trouble clicking any of the below links, cut and paste them into your browser instead of clicking them or try a different browser.

## **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**

- Read “NAFTA’s Economic Impact” \_  
<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/naftas-economic-impact>
- How has NAFTA affected the U.S., Mexican, and Canadian economies?
- What’s next for NAFTA?

### **Foreign Affairs magazine**

- Read “Nafta’s Economic Upsides” \_  
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/canada/2013-12-06/naftas-economic-upsides>

### **Peterson Institute for International Economics**

- Read “NAFTA at 20: Misleading Charges and Positive Achievements” and “Trade with Mexico & U.S. Unemployment” Sections
- “U.S. Trade Deficit with Mexico”
- “U.S. Manufacturing Wages”
- <https://piie.com/sites/default/files/publications/pb/pb14-13.pdf>

### **Wilson Center**

- Read about how the U.S. and Mexico’s trade relationship has developed
- “A Regional Manufacturing Platform” (pg. 7)
- “How Trade with Mexico Impacts Employment in the United States”
- Areas of NAFTA that are worth updating: (pg. 52)
- [https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/growing\\_together\\_economic\\_ties\\_between\\_the\\_united\\_states\\_and\\_mexico.pdf](https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/growing_together_economic_ties_between_the_united_states_and_mexico.pdf)

## **ASEAN at 50**

*The Association of Southeast Asian Nations was created in 1967 for the purpose of intergovernmental cooperation among nations in the Pacific. It focuses on diplomacy and state sovereignty, and serves as a counterweight to China, a non-member with major influence in the region. This topic will be about the bloc's goals, its charter, and its geopolitical ramifications.*

### **Association of Southeast Asian Nations**

- Pay attention to the guidelines of its past treaties, particularly the TAC Treaty of 1976
- “Aims and Purposes”: <http://www.asean2017.ph/about-asean/>
- **ASEAN in 2016**
- Focus on the impact of ASEAN's influence and size/components of domestic governments/ and the countries involved
- <http://asean.org/storage/2017/01/ASEAN-in-2016-Final.pdf>

### **Council on Foreign Relations**

- Understand the Chiang Mai Initiative and the economic circumstances surrounding it
- “ASEAN Then and Now”
- What did the ASEAN Charter contribute to ASEAN's structure?
- <https://www.cfr.org/background/asean-association-southeast-asian-nations>
- ❖ Understand the ASEAN Economic Community
- “Asean Economic Community Blueprint” (Introduction, pg. 5)
- <http://www.asean.org/wp-content/uploads/images/archive/5187-10.pdf>
- ❖ Be sure to know China's effects on ASEAN
- China's Pro-Globalization Agenda
- “The Paradoxes of Chinese Policy” (pg. 19)
- China's historical references to American foreign policy/international maritime obligations
- Read section: “The Return to Geopolitics” (pg. 16)
- ASEAN's trade relationship with outside partners
- “China in Context” (pg. 13)
- <https://journals.sub.uni-hamburg.de/giga/jsaa/article/view/931/938>

## **India's Bid for Global Power**

*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>
- How has the Prime Minister handled foreign policy?
- Read the Introduction
- Be wary of India's participation in organizations
- "Patchy Success Thus Far"
- Also look at how other countries compare with India's regarding its future leadership

### **The East-West Center**

- <https://www.eastwestcenter.org/system/tdf/private/api129.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=36061>
- Read introduction on India's bilateral ties with the United States (pg. 2)
- America's views on India's potential leadership (pg. 3)
- Understand Pakistan's shortcomings in its feud with India (pg. 7)

### **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>
- Understand India's geographic advantages (pg. 4)

### **The New York Times**

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/22/opinion/paris-agreement-climate-china-india.html>
- Look closely how India's behavior is towards international agreements

(Continued on the next page)

## **McKinsey Global Institute**

- <http://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/employment-and-growth/indias-ascent-five-opportunities-for-growth-and-transformation>
- Notice the pros and cons of India's growth; take notice of its population's contribution to the economy
- Introduction
- Figure 1

## **UK.Gov**

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-india-uk-defence-partnership>
- Read about India's military agreements with its allies
- [https://www.ted.com/talks/shashi\\_tharoor#t-187093](https://www.ted.com/talks/shashi_tharoor#t-187093)
- Understand Modi's multiple foreign visits

## **World Economic Forum**

- Be aware of other countries with high GDP growth
- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/06/these-are-the-world-s-fastest-growing-economies-in-2017-2/>

## **World Bank**

- <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/26800/9781464810244.pdf?sequence=14&isAllowed=y>
  - Understand the specific aspects of India's GDP over time
  - "Statistical Appendix" (pg. 117)
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## **Saudi Arabia**

*Saudi Arabia has become one of America's strongest allies in the Middle East. Its large share of oil reserves contribute to its economic influence in the Gulf region while at the same time making the country highly dependent on the industry at large. Saudi Arabia has had a very active military relationship with the United States as well, in order to act as a counterweight to its rival, Iran. Despite facing criticism for its human rights record, it continues to exert the most influence and power in the Middle East with regard to any political, economic, or military conflict. The questions will center on these very factors explaining the reasoning behind Saudi Arabia's rise as a competitive player in world politics and the direction to which it is heading.*

### **The CIA World Factbook**

- Read introduction on Saudi Arabia's basic facts
- Pay attention to the government type and its leaders in power
- "Background"
- Read the third paragraph in the intro about Saudi Arabia's military actions
- Also about its alliance with the U.S. and relationship with international organizations
- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sa.html>

### **Forbes**

- Study how oil affects Saudi Arabia's decision making
- Notice the influential Saudi oil companies
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/timdaiss/2016/11/01/what-can-saudi-arabia-do-as-oil-prices-collapse/#598e4ecf73ec>

### **GREAT DECISIONS 2017 Briefing Book: Saudi Arabia in Transition**

**Foreign Policy Association** [http://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/?act=gd\\_topics](http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_topics)

(for 2017 topics, please choose "Past topics" at the bottom of the page and select "2017")

- Under the Saudi Arabia topic's page, read the Glossary and all available updates.

### **Al Jazeera**

- Saudi Arabia's executions in 2016\_

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/01/saudi-announces-execution-47-terrorists-160102072458873.html>

(Continued on the next page)

### **Saudi Aramco**

- Understand the economic and global prevalence of Aramco, including key figures on the company website
- “Facts and Figures, 2016” (pg. 7, 26) Crude oil and natural gas liquids
- <http://www.saudiaramco.com/content/dam/Publications/facts-and-figures/2016-Facts-and-Figures-EN.pdf>

### **The New Arab**

- The basic background of Aramco and how it was formed
- <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/blog/2016/1/8/9-facts-about-oil-giant-saudi-aramco>

### **U.T. Department of State**

- Vision 2030 Program: “U.S. Assistance to Saudi Arabia”
  - <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3584.htm>
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**Great Decisions - Great Decisions is an annual program that focuses on critical international issues issued by the Foreign Policy Association, a member of the World Affairs Councils of America. This year's Great Decisions categories are:** *The Future of Europe; Trade and Politics; Conflict in the South China Sea; Saudi Arabia in Transition; U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum; Latin America's Political Pendulum; Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan; and Nuclear Security.*

**The Great Decisions 2017 Briefing Book is required study material for the National Competition. However, the Briefing Book will NOT be required reading for local competitions.** *In order to prepare for local competitions, students should study the online resources outlined below. The Briefing Book will be made available through the World Affairs Councils of America and member Councils. Please study the following online information for both the local and national competitions:*

**Foreign Policy Association** [http://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/?act=gd\\_topics](http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_topics)  
(for 2017 topics, please choose "Past topics" at the bottom of the page and select "2017")

- Under each topic's page, read the Glossary and all available updates

### **The Future of Europe**

- Be familiar with all the factors a state needs to consider when dealing with refugees
- Know the statistics behind the refugee crisis in Europe since 2015

### **Conflict in the South China Sea**

- Understand the countries involved in claiming jurisdiction in the territory
- Know the steps the UN has taken in order to properly deal with maritime law

### **U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum**

- Read this section on page 2

### **Latin America's Political Pendulum**

- Be aware of China's growing relationship with Latin American countries (pg. 3-4)

### **Trade, Jobs, and Politics**

- 2016 Campaign: Bernie Sanders vs. Donald Trump on trade
- U.S. trade deficit with Mexico
- Tariffs and their effect on domestic industries

### **Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan**

### **Nuclear Security**

- Know about the Stockpile Stewardship Program and its effects on nuclear testing
- The Obama administration's policy towards Iran

# **The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2018 Academic WorldQuest National Competition in Washington, D.C.**

## **Event Details**

The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2018 Academic WorldQuest National Competition honors the tremendous dedication and philanthropic support of WACA Advisory Board member Carlos Alvarez and his wife to our flagship program and the Academic WorldQuest Endowment Fund. (For information on making a gift to the AWQ Fund, please visit WACA's website: [worldaffairsCouncils.org](http://worldaffairsCouncils.org)). The AWQ National Competition is attended by more than 225 of the nation's most promising high school students, along with their parents, teachers, and chaperones. The 4-hour AWQ Competition is a unique opportunity for many students to visit the nation's capital for the first time.

## **Schedule:**

### **Friday, April 27**

11:00 am - 3:00 pm [tentative]

#### **Check-In and Registration at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park**

2660 Woodley Road NW Washington, DC 20008

#### **4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

#### **Welcome Reception at the United States Institute of Peace**

2301 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

### **Saturday, April 28**

#### **9:00am - 1:00pm**

#### **The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2018 Academic WorldQuest Competition**

Venue TBA

## **Hotel Block**

WACA has arranged a special group hotel block for accommodations at:

#### **Washington Marriott Wardman Park**

(2660 Woodley Road NW Washington, DC 20008)

Reservation link here: <https://aws.passkey.com/go/748cafb8>

You can also call the hotel to make reservations: (202) 328-2000.

Be sure to identify that you are booking under the World Affairs Councils of America (WACA)'s Academic WorldQuest group room block.

**Good Luck!**