

**Academic WorldQuest 2013**  
**OFFICIAL QUESTIONS**

**ROUND 1 CYBERSECURITY**

1. A review of cyberattacks in March 2013 revealed that such attacks were most frequently launched from which nation?
  - a. Democratic People's Republic of Korea(North Korea)
  - b. Russian Federation**
  - c. India
  - d. United States
  
2. In the list of cyber threats for 2012-2013 which United States infrastructure component was the target of the most threats?
  - a. Port facilities
  - b. Nuclear plants
  - c. Gas pipelines**
  - d. Oil refineries
  
3. What was an important reason that the United States worked with Israel to launch cyberattacks on Iranian centrifuges?
  - a. Because Israeli experts had already begun development of the Stuxnet worm
  - b. To discourage Israel from launching a physical attack against the centrifuges**
  - c. So that operational costs for the program would not show on United States budgets
  - d. To spy on Israel's cyberwarfare program
  
4. The multi-stakeholder model of open, global internet is being challenged by what trend?
  - a. The increased commercialization of internet regulatory bodies
  - b. The United States adopting restrictive new international telecommunication regulations
  - c. Cyberattacks directly targeting the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
  - d. National networks with each government controlling its domestic sphere**
  
5. What impact has cybercrime had on internet usage?
  - a. It has resulted in consistently declining internet usage over the last two years.
  - b. It has caused people to rely only on the internet for international business.
  - c. It has caused people to use the internet for lower value activities.**
  - d. Despite occasional panics, cybercrime does not have any consistent impact on internet usage.
  
6. The OECD report *Cybersecurity Policy Making at a Turning Point* defined the new generation of national cybersecurity strategies as
  - a. integrated and comprehensive, approaching cybersecurity in a holistic manner.**
  - b. reactionary and impulsive, focusing on the development of cyber warfare.
  - c. lagging and inadequate, failing to accommodate the quickly changing environment of cyberspace.

d. adequate and effective, meeting the current needs of an integrated internet community.

7. Cyberattacks have unique characteristics, such as asymmetry. The asymmetric nature of cyberattacks means that

- a. the risk of a cyberattack outweighs the benefits of conducting business in cyberspace.
- b. large corporations have an unmatched advantage in cyber espionage because of their large resources.
- c. **actors with limited financial or technical resources have the capability to compromise high-value targets.**
- d. modern cyberdefenses are easily maintained and can protect computer systems from all but the most sophisticated attacks, putting offensive cyberattacks at a distinct disadvantage.

8. What approach to internet governance is supported by the United States?

- a. **Continuing the multi-stakeholder model of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)**
- b. Expanding the regulatory powers of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
- c. Strengthening government control over the internet at a national level
- d. Restricting internet usage to critical industries like national defense and international business

9. The original pool of Internet Protocol version 4(IPv4) IP addresses has nearly been exhausted. The new technological standard, Internet Protocol version 6(IPv6) will provide how many IP addresses?

- a. 500 million
- b. 4 billion
- c. 40 quadrillion
- d. **340 undecillion**

10. Why have nation states begun to use cyber espionage as a normal part of business?

- a. **To provide cheap financial assistance to national companies without the cost of traditional subsidies**
- b. To reduce the use of expensive military strikes against foreign businesses
- c. To retaliate against other governments which are not enforcing anti-espionage treaties
- d. To encourage local innovation in software development

## ROUND 2 UNITED STATES ENERGY POLICY

11. Following the Fukushima disaster, Germany decided to shut down all 17 of its nuclear reactors within a decade. This decision is controversial because

- a. Germans consider nuclear energy their safest option.
- b. other European nations currently depend on Germany for the electricity produced by their nuclear reactors.
- c. **Germany is using environmentally harmful coal-generated electricity to replace nuclear energy.**
- d. the nuclear energy industry has become an indispensable component of the German economy.

12. Energy independence has been a pledged goal of every United States President beginning with

- a. Theodore Roosevelt.
- b. Ronald Reagan.
- c. **Richard M. Nixon.**
- d. Jimmy Carter.

13. What is the name of the organization responsible for the safety of nuclear power plants in the United States?

- a. **Nuclear Regulatory Commission**
- b. Power Plant Protection Agency
- c. Commission on Nuclear Energy
- d. Nuclear Energy Board

14. Which of the following is one of the five renewable energy sources used most often?

- a. Nuclear fusion
- b. Petroleum
- c. Electricity
- d. **Biomass**

15. Domestic production of oil over the past few years has

- a. decreased due to environmental restrictions.
- b. **increased due to production growth on state and private lands, but not from federal lands.**
- c. increased, primarily due to the expansion of off-shore oil production in federal waters.
- d. remained stagnant because of government reluctance to approve any new energy-related legislation.

16. Forty-seven American nuclear plants fail to meet safety regulations for what category of disaster? This category of disaster caused an emergency at the Browns Ferry nuclear plant in 1975.

- a. Hurricanes
- b. Earthquakes
- c. Tornadoes
- d. **Fire**

17. The United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve maintains a stockpile of crude oil to provide the country with how many days of “import protection” in case of serious supply disruptions and emergencies?

- a. 7 days
- b. 30 days
- c. 80 days**
- d. 365 days

18. Which renewable energy source in the United States is the largest generator of electricity?

- a. Solar
- b. Hydropower**
- c. Geothermal
- d. Wind

19. Possible methane leaks from hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) for natural gas production and expanded gas pipeline networks have raised concerns because methane

- a. raises precipitation levels.
- b. is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.**
- c. causes forest fires.
- d. reduces corn and wheat yields.

20. In the future, the United States economy carbon dioxide emissions will continue to grow, but at a slower pace than Gross Domestic Product(GDP) because

- a. the market share of natural gas in electric power generation will rise relative to the share of coal.**
- b. Congress has passed laws limiting carbon dioxide emissions.
- c. the United States is running out of high carbon coal.
- d. nuclear energy will replace carbon fuels for electricity generation.

### ROUND 3 GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

21. What was the name of the UN resolution adopted in 1997 to set targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

- a. Copenhagen Agreement
- b. Kyoto Protocol**
- c. Oslo Accords
- d. Moscow Pact

22. What is the purpose of green growth economic strategies?

- a. Promoting environmental preservation as more important than economic development
- b. Helping developing nations use all their natural resources before new climate change treaties impose limits on them
- c. Creating a no-regrets approach to securing the natural resources needed for long-run sustainable development**
- d. Preventing developing nations from expending their natural capital until they can to use their natural resources wisely

23. Which former Republican Secretary of State has solar panels on his house, drives an electric car and takes the global threat of climate change seriously?

- a. Henry Kissinger
- b. George Shultz**
- c. Colin Powell
- d. James Baker

24. Over 40 per cent of all people without improved drinking water live in which world region?

- a. Middle East
- b. South Asia
- c. East Asia
- d. Sub-Saharan Africa**

25. What is the name for substances in the atmosphere which prevent energy from escaping the earth's surface?

- a. Radiative Emissions
- b. Greenhouse Gases**
- c. Solar Shields
- d. Thermal Insulators

26. Established by the UN in 1991, what is the Global Environment Facility?

- a. A research center located at the UN's New York headquarters for studying environmental issues
- b. A UN attempt to recreate weather patterns and predict future climate changes
- c. A program designed to help developing countries fund projects that protect the global environment**

- d. A think-tank comprised of international experts which issues environmental advice to the UN General Assembly

27. Which view is most widely held throughout the world?

- a. **Climate change is either a serious or very serious problem.**
- b. Individuals should pay higher prices specifically to address climate change.
- c. Protecting jobs and economic growth should be given priority over environmental concerns.
- d. Climate change is a minor problem.

28. How is climate change affecting the coral reefs?

- a. Cold water from melting ice is cooling the ocean water around coral reefs.
- b. Atmospheric changes are increasing the pH level of ocean water above comfortable levels for coral.
- c. **Atmospheric changes are decreasing the pH level of ocean water below comfortable levels for coral.**
- d. The change in climate has been good for the coral reefs and caused them to grow faster.

29. Pakistan is one of the most water-stressed countries in the world. Its reserve supply is just 30 days, not 1000 days as is recommended for similar countries. What has put Pakistan in this position?

- a. **Climate change that is reducing the flow of water into the Indus River.**
- b. Diversion of water from the Himalayas by the Indian Government
- c. Contamination of water sources by the Taliban.
- d. Failure of desalination plants

30. Human activities currently release how much carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into the atmosphere each year?

- a. 30 million tons
- b. 300 million tons
- c. 3 billion tons
- d. **30 billion tons**

## ROUND 4 GLOBAL ECONOMIC REALIGNMENT

31. What are the three most competitive countries in the 2012 – 2013 Global Competitiveness Index?
- Germany, Switzerland, Japan
  - Netherlands, Finland, Canada
  - Germany, China, Finland
  - Switzerland, Singapore, Finland**
32. What has been the largest negative contributor to the trade balance of mature economies?
- Increasing costs of primary resource imports**
  - Increased consumption of imported manufactured goods
  - Increases in knowledge-intensive manufacturing imports as developing nations progress in this market
  - Decreasing export value of service-industry work
33. What has caused the United States, India and the European Union separately to pursue unilateral trade agreements in the Asia-Pacific region?
- The failure of the Doha round of WTO talks to produce multilateral trade agreements**
  - Competition with China for market share after China broke previous trade agreements
  - An outgrowth of previous trade wars between the European Union, the United States and India for West African markets
  - The reluctance of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) to commit to broad market liberalization
34. What has been the source of the recent disagreement between Germany's central bank (the Bundesbank) and the ECB (European Central Bank)?
- The Bundesbank's insistence on maintaining a gold standard monetary system
  - The ECB's decision to buy the government bonds of struggling eurozone sovereigns on the secondary market**
  - A German movement to sever the link between the Bundesbank and the ECB and place the Bundesbank directly under the control of elected officials within Germany itself
  - The tendency of struggling Eurozone members to bypass the inefficient ECB and apply directly to the Bundesbank for loans
35. What were the "escalating and unaddressed weaknesses" causing the Global Competitiveness ranking of the United States to drop to 7<sup>th</sup> place?
- Lack of business sophistication and a highly inefficient tax system
  - Lack of confidence in government among businesses and lack of macroeconomic stability**
  - Inflexible labor markets and an outdated university system
  - Downward assessment of labor market efficiency and low levels of business innovation
36. What is one of the areas of development that led to Africa's unexpected economic growth?
- The development of effective governments committed to human rights issues, resulting in heightened public confidence
  - Strong foreign investment programs that were created to develop Africa's wealth and promote growth

- c. Increasing wealth equality through government reforms, supporting increased levels of entrepreneurship
- d. The development of an effective and robust mobile telecommunications industry**

37. A significant difference exists between the rise of the BRIC nations today and shifts in power over the last 200 years among western nations. What is this difference?

- a. The western powers' shared European heritage helped them cooperate with each other to gain global prominence.
- b. The western powers all benefited from the early advantages of the Industrial Revolution and related economic upheavals.**
- c. The ascension of the western powers was not energy-dependent, while the rise of the BRIC nations is directly connected to their ability to secure the benefits of energy access and production.
- d. All of the above

38. From 2000 to 2010, six of the ten fastest growing countries were in

- a. the Middle East
- b. North Africa.
- c. Sub-Saharan Africa.**
- d. Asia.

39. Which of the following was listed by the World Bank Group as a source of increased risk to the sustainability of development results?

- a. Sharpness of the fall in world gross domestic product during the 2008-2009 crisis**
- b. Decreasing levels of gross foreign direct investment
- c. Declining numbers of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) working on global development issues
- d. Increasing rate of poverty in the African economic zone

40. What was the original goal of inventing 3D printing technology?

- a. Producing specialized military weapons
- b. Designing customized medical instruments and models
- c. Giving people a more efficient way of creating prototypes**
- d. Discouraging outsourcing by United States companies.



## ROUND 5 CURRENT EVENTS

41. When German Chancellor Angela Merkel discovered that the NSA had eavesdropped on her cell phone, she said "Spying among friends is never acceptable". NSA stands for

- a. National Spying Agency.
- b. National Sentry Administration
- c. Nordic Spying Association
- d. **National Security Agency.**

42. Which part of the United Kingdom will vote in 2014 to decide whether it become an independent country?

- a. **Scotland**
- b. Wales
- c. Northern Ireland
- d. England

43. Who is the Pakistani teenage education activist nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize, **AND** who won the Nobel Peace Prize?

- a. Malala Yousafzai and Malala Yousafzai
- b. **Malala Yousafzai and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**
- c. Dilshad Begum and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- d. Dilshad Begum and President Barack Obama

44. In late November 2013, the UN announced that an international conference seeking a resolution to the Syrian civil war would convene in Geneva in late January 2014. At that time, which of the following were certain to have representatives at the conference?

- a. the Free Syrian Army
- b. the Iranian Government.
- c. **the Syrian Government.**
- d. all of the above.

45. Which Latin American government was ordered by the New York Court of Appeals in late summer 2013 to pay investors \$ 1.3 billion on bonds it had defaulted on more than a decade ago?

- a. Venezuela
- b. Chile
- c. Brazil
- d. **Argentina**

46. On November 24, 2013, Iran and the five Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council plus Germany reached a deal covering the next six months. What were some of the key elements of the deal?

- a. **Iran will suspend uranium enrichment over 5% in return for the lifting of international sanctions in the amount of \$7 billion.**

- b. Iran will stop supporting the Assad regime in Syria in return for \$4 billion in oil purchases by China and Germany.
- c. Iran will halt uranium enrichment over 20% in return for \$3 billion in tuition assistance for its university students in the United States, Russia and the United Kingdom.
- d. Iran will dismantle its one nuclear bomb in return for the lifting of all international sanctions affecting its economy.

47. In late October, 2013, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan met with President Obama to express his strenuous opposition to drone strikes and also discussed plans to engage in peace talks with the Pakistani Taliban. However, on November 1, an American drone strike killed the leader of the Pakistani Taliban. Who was the Taliban leader **AND** why did he have a \$5 million United States bounty on his head?

- a. Faisal Shahzad who trained a Pakistani-American who tried to attack Times Square in May 2010
- b. Mullah Fazlullah who orchestrated a suicide attack on a CIA base in eastern Afghanistan's Hullah province
- c. **Hakimullah Mehsud who trained a Pakistani-American who tried to attack Times Square in May 2010**
- d. Abu Anas al-Libi who was involved in the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania

48. What is the main charge against ousted Egyptian President Morsi in the trial begun in November 2013?

- a. Ordering the jailing of all Coptic Christian leaders
- b. **Having responsibility for deaths of protesters during his time in office**
- c. Dissolving the Muslim Brotherhood as a political party
- d. Failing to abrogate Egypt's treaty with Israel.

49. In October 2013, United States oil production exceeded imported crude oil in that month for the first time since early 1995. This occurred because

- a. crude oil production in the rest of the world was lower as result of conflicts in the Middle East.
- b. **production using horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") unlocked oil previously trapped in layers of shale rock in the United States.**
- c. recent discoveries of oil in Wyoming entered production.
- d. pipelines to transport oil from remote locations became available.

50. A Boston Red Sox player led his team to a World Series victory and was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Series. Earlier in the year he fired up Bostonians at Fenway Park with a memorable speech after the marathon bombing. What is his nickname?

- a. Splendid Splinter
- b. Demolition Dave
- c. A-Rod
- d. **Big Papi**