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Round one: Cybersecurity
What U.S. Government agency is responsible for ensuring security of the .gov domain and for operating the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center?

a. Department of Defense
b. Department of Homeland Security
c. Department of State
d. Department of Justice
A review of cyberattacks in March 2013 revealed that these attacks were most frequently launched from what country?

a. North Korea
b. Russia
c. India
d. United States
The current multi-stakeholder model of open, global internet is being challenged by what trend?

a. National networks with each government controlling its domestic sphere
b. The United States adopting restrictive new International Telecommunication Regulations
c. Cyberattacks directly targeting the International Telecommunication Union
d. The increased commercialization of internet regulatory body
The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development 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 with current strategies failing to accommodate the quickly changing environment of cyberspace.
d. Adequate and effective, meeting the current needs of an integrated internet community.
Which of the following tips is **NOT** one of the Department of Homeland Security’s simple tips to avoid Cybercrime?

a. Trust your feelings; if something doesn’t feel right, stop what you are doing.

b. Open any attachments if you have anti-virus software.

c. Keep your personal information private; if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

d. Don’t open e-mails or download attachments from strangers.
Which of the following is **NOT** one of the near-term action plan steps recommended in the President’s “Cyberspace Policy Review”?

a. Designate cybersecurity as one of the President’s key management priorities and establish performance metrics.

b. Formulate coherent unified policy guidance that clarifies roles, responsibilities, and the application of agency authorities for cybersecurity-related activities across the Federal government.

c. Initiate a global public awareness and education campaign to promote cybersecurity.

d. Designate a privacy and civil liberties official to the National Security Council cybersecurity directorate.
In the new cyberspace cold war, what 3 countries does President Obama worry about the most?

a. Russia, Iran, and Israel
b. Russia, China, and Syria
c. China, Iran, and Russia
d. Iran, China, and North Korea
Question 8

What are phishers?

a. Individuals or organizations who distribute unsolicited e-mail.
b. Individuals who seek to destroy, incapacitate, or exploit critical infrastructures in order to threaten national security.
c. Individuals who break into secure networks.
d. Individuals, or small groups, who distribute unsolicited e-mail in an attempt to steal identities or information for monetary gain.
The computer worm, **STUXNET** was developed by the United States and Israel in order to undermine which of the following country’s nuclear program?

a. Iran  
b. China  
c. North Korea  
d. Pakistan
According to Symantec, **Malware** is a single term that refers to__________.

a. A virus  
b. A worm  
c. Spy ware  
d. All of the above
Round One:

CYBERSECURITY
1. What U.S. Government agency is responsible for ensuring security of the .gov domain and for operating the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center?

   Answer: b. Department of Homeland Security

2. A review of cyberattacks in March 2013 revealed that these attacks were most frequently launched from what country?

   Answer: b. Russia
3. The current multi-stakeholder model of open, global internet is being challenged by what trend?
   
   Answer: a. National networks with each government controlling its domestic sphere

4. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development report “Cybersecurity Policy Making at a Turning Point” defined the new generation of national cybersecurity strategies as ________________.
   
   Answer: a. Integrated and comprehensive, approaching cybersecurity in a holistic manner.
5. Which of the following tips is NOT one of the Department of Homeland Security’s simple tips to avoid Cybercrime:

   Answer: b. Open any attachments if you have anti-virus software.

6. Which of the following is NOT one of the near-term action plan steps recommended in the President’s “Cyberspace Policy Review?”

   Answer: c. Initiate a global public awareness and education campaign to promote cybersecurity
7. In the new cyberspace cold war, what 3 countries does President Obama worry about the most?

   Answer: c. China, Iran, and Russia

8. What are phishers?

   Answer: d. Individuals, or small groups, who distribute unsolicited e-mail in an attempt to steal identities or information for monetary gain.
9. The computer worm, **STUXNET** was developed by the United States and Israel in order to undermine which of the following country’s nuclear program?

   Answer: a. Iran

10. According to Symantec, **Malware** is a single term that refers to:

   Answer: d. All of the Above
WORLDQUEST 2014

Round Two: US Energy
Energy independence has been a pledged goal of every U.S. President since ________.

a. Theodore Roosevelt
b. Ronald Reagan
c. Richard M. Nixon
d. Jimmy Carter
According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2012, the United States produced what percent of its energy needs?

a. 50%
b. 99%
c. 83%
d. 55%
Following the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan, residents of what major U.S. city began demanding the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plant, located just 35 miles outside of the city?

a. Los Angeles, CA  
b. New York, NY  
c. Washington, DC  
d. Chicago, IL
What organization is 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
In recent years, domestic production of oil has___________.

a. Decreased due to environmental restrictions
b. Increased due to production growth on State and private lands but not on 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
Which of the following is a renewable energy source?

a. Biomass  
b. Coal  
c. Natural gas  
d. Petroleum
As of April 2013, domestic oil production had reached __________.

a. 750 thousand barrels per day
b. 1.1 million barrels per day
c. 7.4 million barrels per day
d. 30.1 million barrels per day
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
Ethanol is considered what type of energy?

a. Liquefied Natural Gas  
b. Photovoltaic energy  
c. Geothermal energy  
d. Biofuel
According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2010, how much of the world’s total energy was consumed by the United States?

a. 50%
b. 30%
c. 15.6%
d. 19%
Round Two: US Energy
Round Two: US Energy
Answers
1. Energy independence has been a pledged goal of every U.S. President since ________.
   Answer: c. Richard M. Nixon

2. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2012, the United States produced what percent of its energy needs?
   Answer: c. 83%
3. Following the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan, residents of what major U.S. city began demanding the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plant, located just 35 miles outside of the city?

   Answer: b. New York, NY

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

   Answer: a. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
5. In recent years, domestic production of oil has__________.
   Answer: b. Increased due to production growth on State and private lands, but not on federal lands.

6. Which of the following is a renewable energy source?
   Answer: a. Biomass
7. As of April 2013, domestic oil production had reached _____.
   Answer: c. 7.4 million barrels per day

8. 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?
   Answer: c. 80 days
9. Ethanol is considered what type of energy?
   
   Answer: d. Biofuel

10. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2010, how much of the world’s total energy was consumed by the United States?
   
   Answer: d. 19%
Round Three: Global Environmental Issues
What was the name of the UN resolution adopted in 1997 that set targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

a. GGE Resolution
b. Kyoto Protocol
c. Oslo Accords
d. Moscow Pact
According to “Putting Green Growth at the Heart of Development,” what is the purpose of Green growth economic strategies?

a. Promoting environmental preservation as a benefit more important than economic development
b. Helping countries protect their natural resources before they are spoiled by climate change
c. Securing the natural resources needed to make development sustainable in the long run
d. Replacing traditional sustainable development
Established by the United Nations 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
According to the Environmental Protection Agency, human activities currently release how much CO$_2$ into the atmosphere each year?

a. 30 million tons  
b. 300 million tons  
c. 3 billion tons  
d. 30 billion tons
Which of the following is **NOT** a principle of the United Nations related to the protection of the environment?

a. The capacity of the earth to produce vital renewable resources must be maintained and, wherever practicable, restored or improved.

b. Economic and social development is not essential for ensuring a favorable living and working environment.

c. For the developing countries, stability of prices and adequate earnings for primary commodities and raw materials are essential to environmental management.

d. States should adopt an integrated and coordinated approach to their development planning so as to ensure that development is compatible with the need to protect and improve environment.
Earth temperature is said to be a balancing act because ________.

a. When incoming energy from the sun is absorbed by the Earth system, the Earth warms.
   b. When the sun’s energy is reflected back into space, the Earth avoids warming.
   c. When energy is released back into space, the Earth cools
   d. All of the above
According to the U.S. Environment Protection Agency, the greenhouse effect

a. Causes the atmosphere to cool
b. Causes the atmosphere to retain heat
c. Causes the atmosphere’s temperature to alternate between cold and hot
d. All of the above
Which U.S. President said, “The ocean, our Coast and the Great Lakes, provide jobs, food, energy resources, ecological services, recreation and tourism opportunities, and play critical roles in our nation’s transportation, economy and trade, as well as the global mobility of our armed Forces and the maintenance of international peace and security.”

a. George W. Bush  
b. Barack Obama  
c. Jimmy Carter  
d. Bill Clinton
2012 was the second-costliest year on record in terms of weather related damages in the United States. That year, weather and climate disasters resulted in estimated damages of __________.

a. $100 million  
b. $ 1 billion  
c. $11 billion  
d. $110 billion
Which of the following is **NOT** one of President Obama’s key pillars presented in “The President’s Climate Action Plan”?

a. Cut Carbon Pollution in America  
b. Prepare the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change  
c. Cut Methane Pollution  
d. Lead International Efforts to Combat Global Climate Change and Prepare for its Impacts
Round Three: Global Environmental Issues
Round Three: Global Environmental Issues

Answers
1. What was the name of the UN resolution adopted in 1997 that set targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

   Answer: b. Kyoto Protocol

2. According to “Putting Green Growth at the Heart of Development,” what is the purpose of Green growth economic strategies?

   Answer: c. Securing the natural resources needed to make development sustainable in the long run

   Answer: c. A program designed to help developing countries fund projects that protect the global environment

4. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, human activities currently release how much CO₂ into the atmosphere each year?

   Answer: d. 30 billion tons
5. Which of the following is NOT a principle of the United Nations related to the protection of the environment?

   Answer: b. Economic and social development is not essential for ensuring a favorable living and working environment.

6. Earth temperature is said to be a balancing act because _____.

   Answer: d. All of the above
7. According to the U.S. Environment Protection Agency, the greenhouse effect __________.
   Answer: b. Causes the atmosphere to retain heat

8. Which U.S. President said, “The ocean, our Coast and the Great Lakes, provide jobs, food, energy resources, ecological services, recreation and tourism opportunities, and play critical roles in our nation’s transportation, economy and trade, as well as the global mobility of our armed Forces and the maintenance of international peace and security.”
   Answer: b. Barack Obama
9. 2012 was the second-costliest year on record in terms of weather related damages in the United States. That year, weather and climate disasters resulted in estimated damages of __________.

   Answer: d. $110 billion

10. Which of the following is NOT one of President Obama’s key pillars presented in “The President’s Climate Action Plan”?

    Answer: c. Cut Methane Pollution
ROUND FOUR: GLOBAL ECONOMIC REALIGNMENT
According to the 2012-2013 Global Competitiveness Index, what are the top 3 most competitive countries?

a. Germany, Switzerland, Myanmar
b. Netherlands, Finland, Canada
c. Germany, China, Finland
d. Switzerland, Singapore, Finland
According to “Trading myths: Addressing misconceptions about trade, jobs, and competitiveness,” what has been the largest contributor to the negative trade balance of mature economies?

a. Increased costs of primary resource imports
b. Increased consumption of imported manufactured goods
c. Increase of knowledge-intensive manufacturing imports as developing nations progress in this market
d. The low export value of service-industry jobs
What has caused the United States, India, and the European Union to separately pursue unilateral trade agreements in the Asia-Pacific region?

a. The failure of the Doha round of the World Trade Organization talks to produce multilateral trade agreements
b. Competition with China for market share after China broke previous trade agreements
c. An outgrowth of previous trade wars between the European Union, the United States, and India for West African markets
d. The reluctance of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) to commit to broad market liberalization
What has been the source of recent disagreement between Germany’s central bank, known as the Bundesbank, and the European Central Bank (ECB)?

a. The Bundesbank’s insistence on maintaining a gold standard monetary system
b. The ECB’s decision to buy the government bonds of struggling Eurozone sovereigns on the secondary market
c. A German movement to sever the link between the Bundesbank and the ECB
d. The tendency of struggling Eurozone members to bypass the inefficient ECB and apply directly to the Bundesbank for loans
According to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2012-2013*, which of the following were among the “escalating and unaddressed weaknesses” leading the Global Competitiveness ranking of the United States to drop to 7th place?

- a. Lack of business sophistication and a highly distortionary tax system
- b. Business distrust of government and a lack of macroeconomic stability
- c. Rigid labor markets and an insufficient university system
- d. Downward assessment of labor market efficiency and low levels of business innovation
According to “Africa's Amazing Rise and What It Can Teach the World,” what has contributed to Africa’s unexpected economic growth?

a. The development of an effective and robust telecommunications industry
b. Strong foreign investment programs that were created to develop Africa’s wealth and promote growth
c. Increasing wealth equality per government reforms, which is reflected by increased levels of entrepreneurship
d. The development of effective governments committed to human rights issues, resulting in heightened public confidence
Which of the following lists the so called BRIC countries?

a. Brazil-Russia-Iran-Chile  
b. Bosnia-Russia-Israel-China  
c. Brazil-Russia-India-China  
d. Brazil-Romania-Ireland-China
Only three of the ten top-ranked countries on the 2012-2013 Global Competitiveness Index are outside of the United States and Europe. Which one of these three countries ranks second on the Index?

a. Bangladesh
b. Brazil
c. Singapore
d. Indonesia
The 1990s and early 2000s saw considerable progress in poverty reduction. The World Bank estimates that the developing world as a whole achieved the Millennium Development Goal of cutting the 1990 rate of extreme poverty in half well ahead of the 2015 deadline.

Is this statement true or false?

a. True
b. False
What was the original goal behind the invention of 3D printing technology?

a. Creating specialized weapons
b. Producing customized medical instruments and models
c. Giving people a more efficient way to create prototypes
d. Creating high-tech counterfeit products
Round Four: Global Economic Realignment
Round Four: Global Economic Realignment Answers
1. According to the 2012-2013 Global Competitiveness Index, what are the top 3 most competitive countries?

   Answer: d. Switzerland, Singapore, Finland

2. According to “Trading myths: Addressing misconceptions about trade, jobs, and competitiveness,” what has been the largest contributor to the negative trade balance of mature economies?

   Answer: a. Increased costs of primary resource imports
3. What has caused the United States, India, and the European Union to separately pursue unilateral trade agreements in the Asia-Pacific region?

   Answer: a. The failure of the Doha round of the World Trade Organization talks to produce multilateral trade agreements

4. What has been the source of recent disagreement between Germany’s central bank, known as the Bundesbank, and the European Central Bank (ECB)?

   Answer: b. The ECB’s decision to buy the government bonds of struggling Eurozone sovereigns on the secondary market
5. According to the *Global Competitiveness Report 2012-2013*, which of the following were among the “escalating and unaddressed weaknesses” leading the Global Competitiveness ranking of the United States to drop to 7th place?

*Answer: b. Business distrust of government and a lack of macroeconomic stability*

6. According to “Africa's Amazing Rise and What It Can Teach the World,” what has contributed to Africa’s unexpected economic growth?

*Answer: a. The development of an effective and robust telecommunications industry*
7. Which of the following lists the so called BRIC countries?

   Answer: c. Brazil-Russia-India-China

8. Only three of the ten top-ranked countries on the 2012-2013 Global Competitiveness Index are outside of the United States and Europe. Which one of these three countries ranks second on the Index?

   Answer: c. Singapore
9. The 1990s and early 2000s saw considerable progress in poverty reduction. The World Bank estimates that the developing world as a whole achieved the Millennium Development Goal of cutting the 1990 rate of extreme poverty in half well ahead of the 2015 deadline.

   Answer: a. True

10. What was the original goal behind the invention of 3D printing technology?

    Answer: c. Giving people a more efficient way to create prototypes
WORLDQUEST 2014

Round Five: The Middle East

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World Affairs Council of Atlanta
Which country fought a costly war with Iran from 1980-1988?

a. United States  
b. Iraq  
c. Syria  
d. Afghanistan
When the Arab League passes a resolution, which member states must follow the resolution?

a. All member states are bound to follow resolutions passed by the League’s executive council.
b. Resolutions approved a majority become binding to all league members.
c. Decisions reached by a majority bind only those states that accept them.
d. The league discusses policy recommendations, but does not issue any resolutions.
According to the Council on Foreign Relations, where does Hamas maintain its primary base of popular support?

a. West Bank
b. Golan Heights
c. Lebanese border areas
d. Gaza Strip
According to “Changing U.S. Strategy: The Search for Stability and the Non-War Against Non-Terrorism,” what is currently the most common form of conflict in the Middle East?

a. Small border skirmishes between national military forces fighting over oil rights
b. Terrorist violence aimed at harming the interests of the United States and allied western powers
c. Insurgency violence responding to local instability
d. Colonial conquest as one country seeks to dominate and influence weaker neighbors
What country was suspended from the Arab League for holding diplomatic negotiation with Israel in 1979 but was subsequently readmitted in 1989?

a. Egypt  
b. Jordan  
c. Lebanon  
d. Saudi Arabia
According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies’ article, “The Age of Proxy Wars,” Middle Eastern countries hope to draw China into the region in order to ______________.

a. gain financial support from China  
b. gain political support from China  
c. balance against the presence of the United States  
d. gain military support from China
Which of the following is not considered a U.S. ally?

a. Saudi Arabia
b. Egypt
c. Palestine
d. Jordan
Which of the following Palestinian organizations is not included on the U.S. Department of State’s list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations?

a. Hamas  
b. Fatah  
c. Abu Nidal Organization  
d. Palestinian Liberation Front
According to the “Story of Mathematics,” long before Pythagoras stated that a triangle with sides 3, 4 and 5 units yields a perfect right angle, builders from what ancient civilization used ropes knotted at intervals of 3, 4 and 5 units in order to ensure exact right angles for their stonework?

a. Greece  
b. Persia  
c. Egypt  
d. Mesopotamia
What status did the UN General Assembly grant to Palestine on November 29, 2012?

a. Member status
b. Non-member observer state status
c. Admission to the UN
d. Permanent observer “entity” status
1. Which country fought a costly war with Iran from 1980-1988?
   Answer: b. Iraq

2. When the Arab League passes a resolution, which member states must follow the resolution?
   Answer: c. Decisions reached by a majority bind only those states that accept them
3. According to the Council on Foreign Relations, where does Hamas maintain its primary base of popular support?

   Answer: d. Gaza Strip

4. According to “Changing U.S. Strategy: The Search for Stability and the Non-War Against Non Terrorism,” what is currently the most common form of conflict in the Middle East?

   Answer: c. Insurgency violence responding to local instability
5. What country was suspended from the Arab League for holding diplomatic negotiation with Israel in 1979 but was subsequently readmitted in 1989?

   Answer: a. Egypt

6. According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies’ article, “The Age of Proxy Wars,” Middle Eastern countries hope to draw China into the region in order to ______________.

   Answer: c. balance against the presence of the United States
7. Which of the following is not considered a U.S. ally?
   Answer: c. Palestine

8. Which of the following Palestinian organizations is not included on the U.S. Department of State’s list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations?
   Answer: b. Fatah
9. According to the “Story of Mathematics,” long before Pythagoras stated that a triangle with sides 3, 4 and 5 units yields a perfect right angle, builders from what ancient civilization used ropes knotted at intervals of 3, 4 and 5 units in order to ensure exact right angles for their stonework?

   Answer: c. Egypt

10. What status did the UN General Assembly grant to Palestine on November 29, 2012?

   Answers: b. Non-member observer state status
Stand up, stretch. Take a break!
**The top 5 teams are...**

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Round Six: US Education
In December 2012, the Trends in International Math and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Progress in International Reading Literacy (PIRLS) results were released. How many countries scored higher than the United States on the reading test?

a. 2
b. 8
c. 10
d. 4
How did the U.S. TIMSS and PIRLS test results released in 2012 compare to past U.S. scores?

a. The U.S. scores decreased overall
b. The U.S. scores increased overall
c. U.S. scores remained stagnant overall
d. Results were mixed with significant increases in some areas and significant decreases elsewhere
In the Brookings Institute article, “The Latest TIMSS and PIRLS Scores,” the author makes all of the following statements EXCEPT:

a. The latest international scores are mostly positive for the United States.

b. American students scored above the international average on all five assessments of grade-subject pairings.

c. For four out of the five tests, the gains since 1995 are statistically significant.

d. Because of encouraging results, there is not much room for improvement.
The U.S. Education Reform and National Security Task Force’s chair, Joel I. Klein warns that “Educational failure puts the United States’ future economic prosperity, global position, and physical safety at risk.” Which of the following is NOT true about the national statistics on educational outcomes?

a. More than 25 percent of students fail to graduate from high school in four years.
b. Roughly 8 in 10 Americans speak only English.
c. Only 50 percent of U.S. high school students met “college ready” standards in all of their core subjects.
d. In civics, only a quarter of U.S. students are proficient or better on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.
Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) are thought to be a powerful foundation for individual and societal economic success. According to the Program for International Studies Assessment how many countries are ahead of U.S. students in Math and Science scores?

a. 25 in math and 12 in science  
b. 12 in math and 25 in science  
c. 21 in math and 30 in science  
d. The United States is not behind
STEM degrees represent only one third of bachelor’s degrees awarded in the United States, while they represent more than half of first degrees awarded in Japan, China, and Singapore. Which of the following are reasons that the United States falls behind its competitors in producing STEM graduates?

a. Lack of rigorous K-12 math and science standards
b. Lack of qualified instructors
c. Failure to motivate student interest in math and science
d. All of the above
American governors and education policy leaders have been working to increase STEM education. Why?

a. The United States currently seeks to maintain its international advantage in STEM education
b. STEM occupations are among the highest paying, fastest growing, and most influential in driving economic growth and innovation
c. The percentage of U.S. post-secondary students studying STEM topics is on the rise and policy leaders are responding to this trend
d. Educational policy makers hope to use improved STEM education to promote an increasingly globalized society
President Obama set a new goal to increase the U.S. college attainment rate by 2020. Which of the following strategies did the President propose to reach his U.S. 2020 higher education goal?

a. Help middle class families afford college  

b. Keep education costs down  

c. Strengthen community colleges  

d. All of the above
No Child Left Behind (NCLB) is the current version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. However, in its attempts to strengthen public education systems, has created some bad practices. According to the White house NCLB has created incentives for states to do which of the following?

a. Lower their standard  
b. Emphasize rewarding success over punishing failure  
c. Focus on absolute scores rather than growth and progress.  
d. All of the above
What has been the Obama Administration’s response to Congress’ failure to pass legislation reforming No Child Left Behind?

a. To repeal No Child Left Behind by executive order
b. To continue operating under the current No Child Left Behind system until further progress can be made
c. To endorse leaving No Child Left Behind as-is
d. To offer No Child Left Behind waivers to states independently implementing strong state-level educational assessment systems
Round Six: US Education
Round Six: US Education Answers
1. In December 2012, the Trends in International Math and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Progress in International Reading Literacy (PIRLS) results were released. How many countries scored higher than the United States on the reading test?

   Answer: d. 4

2. How did the U.S. TIMSS and PIRLS test results released in 2012 compare to past U.S. scores?

   Answer: b. The U.S. scores increased overall
3. In the Brookings Institute article, “The Latest TIMSS and PIRLS Scores,” the author makes all of the following statements EXCEPT:

   Answer: d. Because of encouraging results, there is not much room for improvement

4. The U.S. Education Reform and National Security Task Force’s chair, Joel I. Klein warns that “Educational failure puts the United States’ future economic prosperity, global position, and physical safety at risk.” Which of the following is not true about the national statistics on educational outcomes?

   Answer: c. Only 50 percent of US high school students met “college ready” standards in all of their core subjects.
5. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) are thought to be a powerful foundation for individual and societal economic success. According to the Program for International Studies Assessment how many countries are ahead of U.S. students in Math and Science scores?

   Answer: a. 25 in math and 12 in science

6. STEM degrees represent only one third of bachelor’s degrees awarded in the United States, while they represent more than half of first degrees awarded in Japan, China, and Singapore. Which of the following are reasons that the United States falls behind its competitors in producing STEM graduates?

   Answer: d. All of the above
7. American governors and education policy leaders have been working to increase STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education. Why?

   Answer: b. STEM occupations are among the highest paying, fastest growing, and most influential in driving economic growth and innovation

8. President Obama set a new goal to increase the U.S. college attainment rate by 2020. Which of the following strategies did the President propose to reach his U.S. 2020 higher education goal?

   Answer: d. All of the above
9. No Child Left Behind (NCLB) is the current version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. However, in its attempts to strengthen public education systems, has created some bad practices. According to the White house NCLB has created incentives for states to do which of the following?

   Answer: c. Focus on absolute scores rather than growth and progress.

10. What has been the Obama Administration’s response to Congress’ failure to pass legislation reforming No Child Left Behind?

   Answer: d. To offer No Child Left Behind waivers to states independently implementing strong state-level educational assessment systems
Round Seven: UN Millennium Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty & Hunger
The Millennium Development Goals were adopted by the United Nations in 2000. What is the target date for implementation of the Millennium Development Goals?

a. 2020  
b. 2015  
c. 2030  
d. 2025
According to the World Bank, how many people are still living in extreme poverty around the world?

a. 3.1 billion  
b. 2.3 billion  
c. 1.2 billion  
d. 2.1 billion
According to the Millennium Development Goals, extreme poverty is measured as earning less _______ than per day.

a. $2.00  
b. $5.00  
c. $3.50  
d. $1.25
Which of the following regions has reached its Millennium Development Goal hunger reduction target?

a. Sub-Saharan Africa  
b. Latin America and the Caribbean  
c. South-eastern Asia  
d. Oceania
What country leads the way in reduction of extreme poverty rates, dropping from 60 per cent in 1990 to 12 per cent in 2010?

a. South Africa
b. Brunei
c. India
d. China
According to the World Food Program, what region of the world has the greatest number of hungry people?

a. Africa
b. Asia and the Pacific
c. Latin America and the Caribbean
d. Middle East
According to the World Food Program, the population of malnourished people in the world is equal to ______________.

a. The population of the United States  
b. The population of the European Union  
c. The population of Canada  
d. The population of all of the above, combined
According to the World Food Program, there is enough food in the world for everyone.

a. True
b. False
Globally, 26 per cent of children under age five have the following symptom of early chronic exposure to undernutrition?

a. Abdominal distension
b. Stunted growth
c. Diarrhea
d. Juvenile arthritis
How is poverty described by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights?

a. Poverty is a purely moral issue and moral obligations are the sole justification for anti-poverty goal

b. Poverty is an economic issue relating to the health of global markets and should be addressed through fiscal policy

c. Poverty is a human rights concern in itself. It is both a cause and a consequence of human rights violations

d. Poverty is primarily a security concern and should be addressed to combat the risk of militant extremism
Round Seven: UN Millennium Goal I: Eradicate Extreme Poverty & Hunger
1. The Millennium Development Goals were adopted by the United Nations in 2000. What is the target date for implementation of the Millennium Development Goals?
   
   Answer: b. 2015

2. According to the World Bank, how many people are still living in extreme poverty around the world?
   
   Answer: c. 1.2 billion
3. According to the Millennium Development Goals, extreme poverty is measured as earning less ______ than per day.

   Answer: d. $1.25

4. Which of the following regions has reached its Millennium Development Goal hunger reduction target?

   Answer: c. South-eastern Asia
5. What country leads the way in reduction of extreme poverty rates, dropping from 60 per cent in 1990 to 12 per cent in 2010?

   Answer: d. China

6. According to the World Food Program, what region of the world has the greatest number of hungry people?

   Answer: b. Asia and the Pacific
7. According to the World Food Program, the population of malnourished people in the world is equal to _______________.
   Answer: d. The population of all of the above, combined

8. According to the World Food Program, there is enough food in the world for everyone.
   Answer: a. True
9. Globally, 26 per cent of children under age five have the following symptom of early chronic exposure to undernutrition?

   Answer: b. Stunted Growth

10. How is poverty described by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights?

   Answer: c. Poverty is a human rights concern in itself. It is both a cause and a consequence of human rights violations
Round Eight: Global Health
It is estimated that one-third of the world’s population is infected by bacteria for which communicable disease?

a. Cancer  
b. Influenza  
c. Tuberculosis  
d. Malaria
Which of the following is a non-communicable disease?

a. Tuberculosis
b. Malaria
c. Cancer
d. HIV/AIDS
What is the name of the UN organization with primary responsibility for dealing with global health issues?

a. World Health Organization
b. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
c. UN Health Council
d. Doctors Without Borders
What communicable disease is responsible for 80% of liver cancers?

a. Malaria  
b. Cholera  
c. Hepatitis  
d. Tuberculosis
The Great Pandemic of 1918 killed over 675,000 Americans and 50 million people worldwide. What caused the pandemic?

a. Cholera
b. Influenza
c. Bubonic Plague
d. SARS
The UN’s global health efforts have already led to the complete eradication of what major infectious disease?

a. Malaria  
b. Polio  
c. Smallpox  
d. Influenza
Where does the World Health Organization suggest that research studies to resolve global health issues be completed?

a. The western nations with highly developed medical research mechanisms
b. Research should be commissioned by the World Health Organization and medical researchers should compete for research contractors
c. Research contracts should be given to medical facilities in countries trying to develop their medical capabilities
d. All countries need to be producers of research
Which virus destroys or impairs the immune system of the people it infects?

a. Hepatitis C
b. Plasmodium
c. Human immunodeficiency virus
d. Influenza
What percentage of total global deaths are due to non-communicable diseases?

a. 18%

b. 29%

c. 48%

d. 63%
What type of illness is primarily caused by lack of clean water and sanitation access?

a. Diarrheal diseases
b. Cancer
c. Influenza
d. Gout
1. It is estimated that one-third of the world’s population is infected by bacteria for which communicable disease?
   
   Answer: c. Tuberculosis

2. Which of the following is a non-communicable disease?
   
   Answer: c. Cancer
3. What is the name of the UN organization with primary responsibility for dealing with global health issues?

   Answer: a. World Health Organization

4. What communicable disease is responsible for 80% of liver cancers?

   Answer: c. Hepatitis
5. The Great Pandemic of 1918 killed over 675,000 Americans and 50 million people worldwide. What caused the pandemic?

   Answer: b. Influenza

6. The UN’s global health efforts have already led to the complete eradication of what major infectious disease?

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7. Where does the World Health Organization suggest that research studies to resolve global health issues be completed?

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9. What percentage of total global deaths are due to non-communicable diseases?

Answer: d. 63%

10. What type of illness is primarily caused by lack of clean water and sanitation access?

Answer: a. Diarrheal diseases
Welcome to Geography

ROUND NINE: GEOGRAPHY
Where is the Sahara desert located?

A. Europe  
B. Antarctica  
C. Africa  
D. Asia
The small European country of Andorra is located between what two countries?

a. Portugal and Spain  
b. Italy and France  
c. Switzerland and Austria  
d. Spain and France
Shia Muslim is the dominant religion of what country?

a. Saudi Arabia  
b. Iran  
c. Syria  
d. Pakistan
Which region of China is the most densely populated?

- a. Southeast
- b. Northeast
- c. Southwest
- d. Northwest
What region has the highest concentration of nations with high-level language diversity?

a. Central America
b. Africa
c. Europe
d. South America
What tool do modern cartographers use to display multiple layers of information on a single map?

a. GIS (Geographic Information System)
b. GDS (Geographic Data System)
c. CIS (Cartographer Information System)
d. CDS (Cartographer Data System)
What is the time difference between Atlanta, GA and Sochi, Russia where the 2014 Winter Olympics are being played?

a. 6 hours  
b. 14 hours  
c. 12 hours  
d. 9 hours
What country is highlighted in red on the map below?

a. Egypt  
b. Libya  
c. Somalia  
d. Djibouti
Which of the following countries shares a direct border with Syria?

a. Iraq  
b. Azerbaijan  
c. Iran  
d. Russia
What is meant by ‘distortion’ on a map?

a. The loss of perspective when 3D objects like mountains are shown on a two dimensional map
b. The stretching or squeezing of a country’s size or shape when showing the curved earth on a flat map
c. The ability to display features on a map in bold or faded print to emphasize features
d. The problem with digitally captured images being inaccurately portrayed when projected as border lines on a map
Round Nine: Geography
1. Where is the Sahara desert located?

   Answer: c. Africa

2. The small European country of Andorra is located between what two countries?

   Answer: d. Spain and France
3. Shia Muslim is the dominant religion of what country?

   Answer: b. Iran

4. Which region of China is the most densely populated?

   Answer: b. Northeast
5. What region has the highest concentration of nations with high-level language diversity?

   *Answer: b. Africa*

6. What tool do modern cartographers use to display multiple layers of information on a single map?

   *Answer: a. GIS (Geographic Information System)*
7. What is the time difference between Atlanta, GA and Sochi, Russia where the 2014 Winter Olympics are being played?

   Answer: d. 9 hours ahead

8. Which country is highlighted in red on the map below?

   Answer: c. Somalia
9. Which of the following countries shares a direct border with Syria?

   Answer: a. Iraq

10. What is meant by ‘distortion’ on a map?

    Answer: b. The stretching or squeezing of a country’s size or shape when showing the curved earth on a flat map
On September 21, 2013, 67 people were killed in a terrorist attack at the Westgate mall in Nairobi, Kenya. What is the name of the terrorist group that claimed responsibility for the attack?

a. Al Shabaab  
b. Al-Q’aida  
c. Al-Q’aida in the Islamic Maghreb  
d. Ansar dine
On October 18, 2013, what country turned down its two-year, non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council in protest at the international body’s apparent inability to resolve either the Syrian or Palestinian situations?

a. Iran
b. Israel
c. Turkey
d. Saudi Arabia
QUESTION 3

What country gave Edward Snowden political asylum after he released top secret U.S. documents and fled the country?

a. Iran  
b. North Korea  
c. Russia  
d. Taiwan
reCAPTCHA, Duolingo, and Foldit are all examples of ____________.

a. Designer brands
b. Apps
c. Board Games
d. Crowdsourcing
While it was long thought that the sweepers in Olympic sport curling guided the “rock” by removing the snow and ice in its path, it has been discovered that it is really what physical phenomenon that allows the sweepers to guide the granite rock?

a. Vacuum  
b. Inertia  
c. Friction  
d. Momentum
What concerns have arisen as Brazil prepares to host the 2014 World Cup games?

a. Stadiums and needed infrastructure will not be completed in time
b. Safety of foreign visitors
c. Both a and b
d. Neither a nor b
On February 17, 2014, the United Nations’ Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights released its report on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea stating that its leaders employ murder, torture, slavery, mass starvation, and other abuses. According to the Commission, these widespread human right abuses are meant to prop up the state and

a. Increase productivity
b. Terrorize the population into submission
c. Punish subversive acts
d. All of the Above
Since November 2013, Ukraine has been rattled by anti-government protests, which have recently turned deadly. What was the initial cause of the protests?

a. The president’s refusal to sign a trade deal with the European Union
b. Hyperinflation
c. Widespread jailing of insurgents
d. Increased cost of Petroleum
According to the “Science of the Olympic Winter Games,” what is the most important piece of safety equipment used in the Winter Olympics?

a. Goggles  
b. Gloves  
c. Helmet  
d. All of the above
On February 19, 2014, President Obama took part in a meeting dubbed by the press as the “Three Amigos’ Summit.” Who was the president meeting with?

a. Mexican President Nieto and Canadian Prime Minister Harper
b. Mexican President Nieto and Costa Rican President Chinchilla
c. Brazilian President Rousseff and Chilean President Pinera
d. Argentinian President Kircher and Canadian Prime Minister Harper
Round Ten: Current Events

Metro Atlanta WORLDQUEST 2014

Georgia State University

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WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL of Atlanta
Round Ten
Current Events
Answers
1. On September 21, 2013, 67 people were killed in a terrorist attack in the Westgate mall in Nairobi, Kenya. What is the name of the terrorist group that claimed responsibility for the attack?

   **Answer: a. Al Shabaab**

2. On October 18, what country turned down its two-year, non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council in protest at the international body’s apparent inability to resolve either the Syrian or Palestinian situations?

   **Answer: d. Saudi Arabia**
3. What country gave Edward Snowden political asylum after he released top secret US documents and fled the country?

   Answer: c. Russia

4. reCAPTCHA, Duolingo, and Foldit are all examples of __________________.

   Answer: d. Crowdsourcing
5. While it was long thought that the sweepers in Olympic sport curling guided the “rock” by removing the snow and ice in its path, it has been discovered that it is really what physical phenomenon that allows the sweepers to guide the granite rock?

   Answer: c. Friction

6. What concerns have arisen as Brazil prepares to host the 2014 World Cup games?

   Answer: c. Both a and b
7. On February 17, 2014, the United Nations’ Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights released its report on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea stating that its leaders employ murder, torture, slavery, mass starvation, and other abuses. According to the Commission, these widespread human right abuses are meant to prop up the state and _______________

Answer: b. Terrorize the population into submission

8. Since November 2013, Ukraine has been rattled by anti-government protests, which have recently turned deadly. What was the initial cause of the protests?

Answer: a. The president’s refusal to sign a trade deal with the European Union
9. According to the “Science of the Olympic Winter Games,” what is the most important piece of safety equipment used in the Winter Olympics?

Answer: c. Helmet

10. On February 19, 2014, President Obama took part in a meeting dubbed by the press as the “Three Amigos’ Summit.” Who was the president meeting with?

Answer: a. Mexican President Nieto and Canadian Prime Minister Harper
And the Winners are...
What two Middle Eastern countries were temporarily joined as the United Arab Republic in 1958?

a. Iran and Lebanon  
b. Egypt and Syria  
c. Saudi Arabia and Bahrain  
d. Israel and Jordan
According to a UN report, what kind of chemical weapons were used in the attack by Syrian forces loyal to Bashar al-Assad on the Damascus suburb of Ghouta that killed over 1,400 people?

a. Chlorine
b. Sarin
c. Phosgene Oximine
d. Mustard Gas
According to National Geographic’s *Faith and Conflict in the Middle East Map*, which Middle Eastern country, formally divided between a traditional north and a Marxist south, united in 1990?

a. Yemen  
b. Iraq  
c. Syria  
d. Lebanon
Tie Breaker Question 4

The world’s first oil well was drilled in 1859 in __________.

a. Kuwait
b. Iraq
c. United States
d. Saudi Arabia
Which of the following statements about The Montreal Protocol on Environmental Sustainability is true?

a. The Montreal Protocol has led to a 98 per cent reduction in the consumption ozone-depleting substances since 1986.

b. The Montreal Protocol has led to 50 per cent increase in the number of many birds species and mammals since 1986.

c. The Montreal Protocol has led to a 46 per cent reduction in the global carbon dioxide emission since 1986.

d. None of the above
Which of the following was listed by the World Bank 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 NGO or governmental agencies working on global development issues
d. Increasing rates of poverty in the African economic zone
The United States is in negotiations with which of the following countries concerning their nuclear program?

a. Syria  
b. Iran  
c. Iraq  
d. Israel
Why is it considered necessary for nations to participate in comparative international assessments?

a. Standardized education assessment is mandated by the UN council on childhood education

b. The United States’ educational system lacks an internal assessment system

c. Pressures from an increasingly competitive global economy requires improvement against the most successful education systems worldwide

d. All of the above
Tie Breaker Question 9

The UN Millennium Goal 1 includes a goal to reduce hunger by half. Which of the following regions has shown no progress towards meeting this goal?

a. Eastern Asia
b. Northern Africa
c. Oceania
d. Latin America & the Caribbean
Tie Breaker Question 10

What city will host the 2014 World Cup soccer opening ceremony?

a. Rio de Janeiro
b. Sao Paulo
c. Brasilia
d. Manaus