

# 2019 Academic WorldQuest Competition Hawaii State Competition Study Guide



**All questions for the Hawaii State Academic WorldQuest competition will be drawn from the sources in this Study Guide.**

Academic WorldQuest is an exciting team quiz game designed to enhance international education. During the competition, you will be asked 10 multiple choice questions per category. There are 6 categories. You can consult your team members (4 people per team) to decide your final answer. 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.

Teams have 1 minute to answer each question. You will receive 1 point for each correct answer. There are no penalties for wrong answers. If a team wishes to challenge an answer, one 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 or consult outside materials or devices. The decision of the head judge is final. If the challenge is unsuccessful, the team that made the challenge will forfeit one point. If there is a tie, tie-breaker rounds will be played. The team with the most points after all rounds are completed will represent the State of Hawaii at the National WorldQuest Competition in Washington, D.C.

The Hawaii State WorldQuest Competition will be held on Saturday, November 16 from 1:30pm at the UH Manoa Campus Center Ballroom, with site competitions live telecast from Kealakehe High School, Waiakea High School, Maui High School, and Molokai High School.

## Category 1: Current Events

This round will consist of questions on world news and events. The emphasis will be on the second half of 2019. For the National Competition, the emphasis will be on the first months of 2020 and late 2019. In general, we recommend reading a variety of reputable national and international news sources. We will mainly use sources (New York Times, BBC, the Guardian, Washington Post, etc.) that can be accessed for free online.

## Category 2: U.S.-Russia Relations

The international community has a vested interest in stabilizing the tumultuous relationship between the two great powers United States and Russia. Diplomatic relations have been on a downward trend for the almost two decades with a steep deterioration following Russian aggression towards Ukraine. The threat of Russian expansionism fuels international cooperation to bring Russia in-line with the democratic ideals governing the international system. This topic will cover the history of U.S.-Russia relations; what led to today's rocky ties; American and Russian roles in major sectors affecting security; the nature of U.S.-Russia economic relations and how trade and sanctions affect this partnership; Russia's effect on the global order and international cooperation to maintain stability; and the future of relations.

- **Overview**
  - Watch **"Introduction"** (Video); explore **"Timeline;"** in the section of **"Military & Cyber"** read the summaries and watch **"Nuclear Security: Overview"** and **"Cyber & Information Warfare: Overview;"** and watch the highlights of the **"Seeking Stability"** video – Carnegie Corporation of New York
    - <https://usrussiarelations.org/1/introduction>
- **Historical Context**
  - **"A Guide to the United States' History of Recognition, Diplomatic, and Consular Relations, by Country, Since 1776: Russia"** – Office of the Historian; U.S. Department of State
    - <https://history.state.gov/countries/russia> (If there is a prompt for credentials, please click "Ok" without inputting anything, and it should lead you to the page.)
  - **"U.S. Relations With Russia"** – U.S. Department of State
    - <https://www.state.gov/u-s-relations-with-russia/>
- **Economics and Trade**
  - **"Russia"** – Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
    - <https://ustr.gov/Russia>
  - **"Doing Business in Russia"** – International Trade Administration
    - <https://2016.export.gov/russia/doingbusinessinrussia/index.asp>
  - **"Russia-U.S. Economic Cooperation in Turbulent Times"** – Russian-American Business Council, March 2019. Read **"Section 1 of U.S.-Russia Economic Relations: Current State and Prospects"** pg. 4-8.
    - <http://media.rspp.ru/document/1/2/7/277d6337f2f960383183dce936b1f277.pdf>
  - **"Have Sanctions on Russia Changed Putin's Calculus?"** Andrew Chatzky – Council on Foreign Relations, May 2, 2019
    - <https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/have-sanctions-russia-changed-putins-calculus>

- **International Cooperation**
  - “**Managing Global Disorder: Prospects for U.S.-Russian Cooperation**” – Council on Foreign Relations, August 23, 2017
    - <https://www.cfr.org/report/managing-global-disorder-prospects-us-russian-cooperation>
  - “**The U.S. and Russia Have Plenty of Areas for Cooperation. Let’s Get to Work.**” Debra Decker – Defense One, July 24, 2019.
    - <https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2018/07/us-and-russia-have-plenty-areas-cooperation-lets-get-work/149996/>
- **Recent Developments**
  - “**The Reset That Wasn’t: The Permanent Crisis of U.S.-Russia Relations**” Robert Hamilton – Foreign Policy Research Institute, December 14, 2018
    - <https://www.fpri.org/article/2018/12/the-reset-that-wasnt-the-permanent-crisis-of-u-s-russia-relations/>
  - “**U.S.-Russia Relations: Reaching the Point of No Return**” – European Parliament. Read only the summary on pg. 1, pg. 5’s “**Democracy and Human Rights**” and “**Security Issues**” on pg. 9-10
    - [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/628230/EPRS\\_BRI\(2018\)628230\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/628230/EPRS_BRI(2018)628230_EN.pdf)
  - “**Thirty Years of U.S. Policy Toward Russia: Can the Vicious Circle Be Broken?**” Eugene Rumer and Richard Sokolsky – Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, June 20, 2019. Read the “**Executive Summary, Introduction, and Why Russia Matters**” pg. 1-5, and “**Conclusion**” pg. 41
    - [https://carnegieendowment.org/files/RumerSokolsky\\_USRussia\\_final\\_web.pdf](https://carnegieendowment.org/files/RumerSokolsky_USRussia_final_web.pdf)

## Category 3: Country in Focus: South Korea

Following an intense period of aggression and animosity on the Korea Peninsula, the Korea War represented a pivotal moment for the development of South Korea, or Republic of Korea. Following the war, the Republic of Korea experienced a steep increase in its economy and moved away from authoritarian rule. Although tension and ideological polarization remains on the peninsula, South Korea is now a major player on the world stage. South Korea is one of the world’s largest economies and most advanced democracies. This topic will focus on the history that shaped today’s South Korea; an overview of U.S.-South Korea relations; the partnerships that categorized Korean diplomacy and foreign policy; the biggest regional conflicts that threaten the country today; and the Hallyu cultural phenomenon.

- **Overview & History**
  - “**South Korea**” – Chan Lee; Hyug-BaegIm; Young Ick Lew; Woo-ik Yu; Bae-ho Hahn, Encyclopedia Britannica, October 3, 2019. Read “**Demographic Trends**,” “**Economy**” and “**Cultural Life**” sections.
    - <https://www.britannica.com/place/South-Korea>
  - Read “**Korean History and Political Geography**” – Asia Society
    - <https://asiasociety.org/education/korean-history-and-political-geography>
  - “**Korea Infographics**” – Korea Economic Institute of America. Study the following infographics: American Opinions on Korea in Numbers (2016), Benefits of the Korea-US Free Trade Agreement, Women in the Workforce in Korea, Total Assets of South Korean Companies, and Tourist Visits to South Korea.
    - <http://www.keia.org/page/korea-infographics>
  - “**About Korea**” – Korea.net. Read “**Korean Economy – the Miracle on the Hangang River**” section of the “**Tourism**” page, and the “**Religion**” section of the “**Korean Life**” page.

- <http://www.korea.net/#>
- Take the “**How Much Do You Know About South Korea**” quiz – Michael Gonchar, New York Times, February 5, 2018
  - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/02/05/learning/05SouthKoreaGeographyQuizLN.html>
- **History of U.S.-South Korea Relations**
  - Read “**U.S. Relations with the Republic of Korea**” – U.S. Department of State
    - <https://www.state.gov/u-s-relations-with-the-republic-of-korea/>
  - Read “**South Korea: Background and U.S. Relations**” – Congressional Research Service, August 1, 2019
    - <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/IF10165.pdf>
  - Read “**Timeline of U.S.-South Korean Relations**” – Christopher Connell, Share America, April 12, 2019
    - <https://share.america.gov/timeline-u-s-south-korean-relations/>
- **Partners in Foreign Affairs**
  - Read “**South Korea Is a Hesitant, but Friendly, U.S. Ally in the Indo-Pacific**” – Cheol Hee Park, Council on Foreign Relations, March 26, 2019
    - <https://www.cfr.org/blog/south-korea-hesitant-friendly-us-ally-indo-pacific>
  - Read section “**South Korea’s Regional Relations**” through “**South Korea-China Relations**” from “**U.S.-South Korea Relations**” – Congressional Research Service Report
    - [https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/R41481.html#\\_Toc490059914](https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/R41481.html#_Toc490059914)
  - Read “**The U.S.-ROK Alliance and Policy Coordination Toward China**” – Scott Snyder, Council on Foreign Relations, March 19, 2019
    - <https://www.cfr.org/blog/us-rok-alliance-and-policy-coordination-toward-china>
- **Regional Conflicts**
  - Read “**Japan and South Korea Can’t Get Along: Why America Needs to Help Its Allies Mend Fences**” – Celeste Arrington and Andrew Yeo, Foreign Affairs, July 31, 2019
    - <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/japan/2019-07-31/japan-and-south-korea-cant-get-along>
  - Read “**Collateral Damage: What U.S.-China Competition Means for Korea**” – Victor Cha, Center for Strategic and International Studies, October 10, 2019
    - <https://www.csis.org/analysis/collateral-damage-what-us-china-competition-means-korea>
- **Hallyu – The Korean Wave**
  - Read first section only of “**Hallyu (Korean Wave)**” – Korea.net
    - <http://www.korea.net/AboutKorea/Culture-and-the-Arts/Hallyu>
  - Watch “**South Korea: The Silent Cultural Superpower**” (Video) BBC Documentary on YouTube, December 11, 2016. Only minutes 29:05-33:18 are required.
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dGYVKt1zw4>
  - Read “**The South Korean Government Actually Has a Department Dedicated to K-Pop**” – Emma Kelly, Metro, January 19, 2018
    - <https://metro.co.uk/2018/01/19/south-korean-government-actually-department-dedicated-k-pop-7242799/?ito=cbshare>

## Category 4: Oceans: The World's Garbage Dump

Climate change is an increasingly contentious and unavoidable issue impacting the international community. Environmental protection is a shared responsibility requiring high levels of international cooperation and agreement. Marine pollution is a major threat against environmental stability. Chemicals, industrial and agricultural waste, domestic garbage, air debris, and other toxic materials are dumped into oceans at an alarming rate harming thousands of species of marine life and endangering entire ecosystems. This topic will explore the many facets of marine pollution; the sources and types of ocean garbage and their negative impact; why marine pollution is a major international threat and what can be done to combat it; and the future of the environment if marine pollution continues at the current rate.

- **Overview**

- Read **"Dimensions of Pollution: Marine"** – UN Environment Assembly
  - <https://web.unep.org/environmentassembly/marine>
- Read **"Trash Pollution"** – Ocean Health Index
  - <http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/methodology/components/trash-pollution>
- Read **"What Is Marine Debris?"** – Debris Free Oceans
  - <https://debrisfreeoceans.org/marine-debris>
- Read **"Ocean Trash Plaguing Our Sea"** – Maggy Hunter Benson, Smithsonian, May 31, 2015
  - <https://ocean.si.edu/planet-ocean/tides-currents/ocean-trash-plaguing-our-sea>
- Read **"Learn About Ocean Dumping"** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - <https://www.epa.gov/ocean-dumping/learn-about-ocean-dumping#MPRSA>

- **Sources of Ocean Garbage**

- Read **"Where Did the Trash in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch Come From? How Do We Stop It?"** – Doyle Rice, USA Today, September 7, 2018
  - <https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/science/2018/09/07/great-pacific-garbage-patch-where-did-all-trash-come/1133838002/>
- Read **"90% of Plastic Polluting Our Oceans Comes From Just 10 Rivers"** – Alex Gray, World Economic Forum, June 8, 2018
  - <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/06/90-of-plastic-polluting-our-oceans-comes-from-just-10-rivers/>
- Read **"Here's Where the Ocean's Trash Comes From"** – Catherine Zuckerman, National Geographic, July 3, 2019
  - <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/news/heres-where-oceans-trash-comes/>

- **Types of Ocean Garbage**

- Explore **"Plastic in the Ocean Facts"** – The World Counts
  - [https://www.theworldcounts.com/counters/waste\\_pollution\\_facts/plastic\\_in\\_the\\_ocean\\_facts](https://www.theworldcounts.com/counters/waste_pollution_facts/plastic_in_the_ocean_facts)

- **How to Combat This Problem & Looking Ahead**

- Read **"Plastic Pollution in The Ocean Set to Triple by 2025"** – Tom Hale, Iflscience, March 21, 2018
  - <https://www.iflscience.com/environment/plastic-pollution-in-the-ocean-set-to-triple-by-2025/>
- Read **"Garbage Patches: How Gyres Take Our Trash Out to Sea"** – National Ocean Service (or listen to the Podcast).
  - <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/podcast/mar18/nop14-ocean-garbage-patches.html>
- Watch **"The Ocean Cleanup Launches to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch"** (Video) – CNET on YouTube, September 10, 2018

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYC4Q-0wcAc>
- Read “‘Great Pacific Garbage Patch’ Clean-Up Project Launches Trial Run: UN Environment” – UN News, September 10, 2018
  - <https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/09/1018862>
- Read “UN Clinches Deal to Stop Plastic Waste Ending Up in the Sea” – Tom Miles, Reuters, May 10, 2019
  - <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-environment-plastic/u-n-clinches-deal-to-stop-plastic-waste-ending-up-in-the-sea-idUSKCN1SG19S>
- Read “The Future of Our Plastic Oceans” – Steve Roman, Wartsila, August 7, 2018
  - <https://www.wartsila.com/twentyfour7/environment/the-future-of-our-plastic-oceans>
- Read “Where Mismanaged Plastic Waste Is Generated and Possible Paths of Change” – Laurent Lebreton, The Ocean Clean Up, January 28, 2019
  - <https://theoceancleanup.com/updates/where-mismanaged-plastic-waste-is-generated-and-possible-paths-of-change/>

## Category 5: Brexit and the EU

Brexit (Britain’s exit) is the scheduled withdrawal of the UK from the European Union following a June 2016 referendum. In March 2017, the UK government began the exit process, which was scheduled to end on March 29, 2019. Without the UK parliament consistently voting against the withdrawal agreement, the deadline has been extended twice with a current deadline of October 31, 2019. Brexit is a complex and heated issue dividing the British population on how closely the UK will be entangled with the EU – influencing some to push for a no-deal Brexit. This topic explores the events that lead the UK to Brexit; the developments since the 2016 referendum; the various efforts of multiple Prime Ministers to work with UK Parliament; the Irish role in the conversation; and the economic impact of Brexit on the U.S. and EU.

- **Overview & Background**
  - Read “The History Behind Brexit” – Sarah Pruitt, History.com, June 20, 2019
    - <https://www.history.com/news/the-history-behind-brexit>
  - Read “The Roots of Brexit” – Bloomberg, March 20, 2019
    - <https://www.bloomberg.com/quicktake/will-uk-leave-eu>
  - Read “Brexit: Why Britain Left the EU, Explained With a Simple Cartoon” – Alvin Chang, VOX, June 24, 2016
    - <https://www.vox.com/2016/6/24/12025514/brexit-cartoon>
  - Read “Brexit: All You Need to Know About the UK Leaving the EU” – BBC, September 16, 2019
    - <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-32810887>
- **The UK Prime Minister and Brexit**
  - Read “Brexit Failure Forces British Prime Minister Theresa May to Announce Resignation” – Eliza Mackintosh and Tara John, CNN, May 24, 2019
    - <https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/24/europe/theresa-may-resigns-brexit-gbr-intl/index.html>
  - Read “Boris Johnson Suffers Two Major Losses in Parliament, Leaving His Governing Authority and the Terms of Brexit in Doubt” – Kevin Sullivan and Karla Adam, The Washington Post, September 4, 2019
    - [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/uk-parliament-brexit-vote/2019/09/04/cc934b1c-cb6d-11e9-9615-8f1a32962e04\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/uk-parliament-brexit-vote/2019/09/04/cc934b1c-cb6d-11e9-9615-8f1a32962e04_story.html)

- **Impact of Brexit**
  - View “**The Economics of Brexit: A Lose-Lose Proposition?**” infographic – Ana Sofia Oliveira Goncalves, GED Bertelsmann Stiftung, December 8, 2015
    - <https://ged-project.de/videos/international-trade/european-trade/infographic-on-the-economics-of-brexit-a-lose-lose-proposition/?cn-reloaded=1>
  - View “**Making Sense of the Issues**” infographic – NHS Confederation EU, February 3, 2017
    - <https://www.nhsconfed.org/-/media/Confederation/Files/EU-Office/Making-sense-of-the-issues-infographic.pdf>
- **No-Deal Brexit**
  - Read “**What Is Brexit? What Does ‘No-Deal’ Mean?**” – Benjamin Mueller, New York Times September 8, 2019
    - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/world/europe/what-is-brexit.html>
  - Read “**What Is a 'No-Deal Brexit'?**” – BBC, September 13, 2019
    - <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-48511379>
- **How does Brexit Affect the U.S.?**
  - Read “**5 Reasons Americans Ought to Care About Brexit**” – Taylor Rockhill, PRI, January 21, 2019
    - <https://www.pri.org/stories/2019-01-21/5-reasons-americans-ought-care-about-brexit>
  - Read “**Why Brexit Really Is a Big Deal for the U.S. Economy**” – Rana Foroohar, TIME, June 27, 2016
    - <https://time.com/4383202/brexit-america-fallout-economy-fed/>

## Category 6: China’s Belt & Road Initiative

The Belt and Road Initiative is a Chinese global infrastructure and investment development strategy introduced by President Xi Jinping in 2013. With routes in the Silk Road, the Belt refers to the aboveground economic road and rail transportation routes, and the Road refers to the maritime economic routes. This topic covers the background behind the initiative and the historical, cultural ties to the Chinese Silk Road; the effects on the U.S., the EU, and the global marketplace; the regional impact on large Eastern powers and smaller Pacific nations; and the environmental implications of the construction and operation of these economic routes.

- **Overview & Background**
  - Read “**What Is China's Belt and Road Initiative?**” – Lily Kuo and Niko Kommenda, The Guardian
    - <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/ng-interactive/2018/jul/30/what-china-belt-road-initiative-silk-road-explainer>
  - Read “**The New Silk Road – The Belt and Road Initiative**” – China Highlights, January 23, 2019
    - <https://www.chinahighlights.com/silkroad/new-silk-road.htm>
  - Read “**China’s Maritime Silk Road Initiative: Economic Drivers and Challenges**” – Matthew Funaiole and Jonathan Hillman, Center for Strategic and international Studies, April 2, 2018
    - [https://www.csis.org/analysis/chinas-maritime-silk-road-initiative-economic-drivers-and-challenges?gclid=EAlaIqobChMIjbXck9OA5QIV8IFaBR0sCQ6vEAAYyAAEgLyJvD\\_BwE](https://www.csis.org/analysis/chinas-maritime-silk-road-initiative-economic-drivers-and-challenges?gclid=EAlaIqobChMIjbXck9OA5QIV8IFaBR0sCQ6vEAAYyAAEgLyJvD_BwE)
- **U.S. and the Belt & Road**
  - Read “**Belt & Road Full of Opportunities for U.S. Companies in Third Markets**” – Belt & Road News, April 25, 2019



- <https://www.beltandroad.news/2019/04/25/belt-road-full-of-opportunities-for-u-s-companies-in-third-markets/>
  - Read **“United States Under Donald Trump Is Veering Away from China’s Belt & Road”** Nectar Gan and Robert Delaney, South China Morning Post, April 25, 2019
    - <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/article/3007504/united-states-under-trump-veering-away-chinas-belt-and-road>
- **India and the Belt & Road**
  - Read **“China’s Belt and Road Fuels India’s Fears of Encirclement”** – Stratfor, April 19, 2019
    - <https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/chinas-belt-and-road-fuels-indias-fears-encirclement-cpec-saarc-bri>
  - Watch **“Manish Tewari, Foreign Policy Spokesman for the Indian Congress Party, on China’s Intentions With the BRI”** (Video) – International Politics and Society
    - <https://www.ips-journal.eu/videos/show/article/show/indias-perspective-on-chinas-belt-and-road-initiative-3103/>
  - Read **“What Are India’s Stakes in China’s Belt and Road Plan”** – Bruno Maçães, Quartz India, February 11, 2019
    - <https://qz.com/india/1547154/what-are-indias-stakes-in-chinas-belt-and-road-plan/>
- **Pacific Island Nations and the Belt & Road**
  - Read **“China’s Belt and Road Initiative in the Pacific Islands”** – Chris Devonshire-Ellis, Silk Road Briefing, May 23, 2019
    - <https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2019/05/23/chinas-belt-road-initiative-pacific-islands/>
  - Explore **“Chinese Aid in the Pacific”** – Lowy Institute for International Policy
    - <https://chineseaidmap.lowyinstitute.org/>
- **Europe and the Belt and Road**
  - Read **“European Pragmatism at the Belt and Road Forum”** – Erik Brattberg, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, April 30, 2019
    - <https://carnegieendowment.org/2019/04/30/european-pragmatism-at-belt-and-road-forum-pub-79037>
  - Read **“China’s Belt and Road Gets a Win in Italy”** – Andrew Chatzky, Council on Foreign Relations, March 27, 2019
    - <https://www.cfr.org/article/chinas-belt-and-road-gets-win-italy>
- **The Green Belt and Road**
  - Read **“Is a Green Belt and Road Feasible? How to Mitigate the Environmental Risk of BRI Infrastructure Project”** – World Bank Blogs, January 29, 2019
    - <https://blogs.worldbank.org/trade/green-belt-and-road-feasible-how-mitigate-environmental-risk-bri-infrastructure-project>
- **Debt Trap Diplomacy**
  - Read **“It’s a (Debt) Trap! Managing China-IMF Cooperation Across the Belt and Road”** – Dylan Gerstel, Center for Strategic and International Studies
    - [https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/181017\\_DebtTrap.pdf?MKq76YIBpiOgyPZ9EyK2VUD7on\\_2rIV](https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/181017_DebtTrap.pdf?MKq76YIBpiOgyPZ9EyK2VUD7on_2rIV)
  - Read **“Unequal Sequel: China’s Belt and Road Initiative”** – Felix Chang, Foreign Policy Research Institute, August 6, 2019
    - <https://www.fpri.org/article/2019/08/unequal-sequel-chinas-belt-and-road-initiative/>