

Academic World Quest Competition --2010

QUESTIONS 1-10 GREAT DECISIONS—2010

1. The United States Special Envoy to Iran is
- A. George Mitchell.
 - B. Richard Holbrooke.
 - C. Stephen W. Bosworth.
 - D. **None appointed.**

Answer: d. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 16*

2. Which of the following is **NOT** true of the G-20 nations?
- A. They produce 85% of the global economic output.
 - B. They account for 80% of global trade.
 - C. **They have more than 90% of global population.**
 - D. They include the BRIC countries.

Answer: c *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 63*

3. The largest group in the population of Kenya is the
- A. **Kikuyu.**
 - B. Luo.
 - C. Kalenjin.
 - D. Kenyatta.

Answer: a. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 19.*

4. In the early 1990s, in the African nation of Mozambique, a two-year mediation ended a brutal 16-year civil war that had caused the deaths of more than 900,000 Mozambicans.

What group led the mediation process to help resolve the rising conflict?

- A. United Nations
- B. **Community of Sant'Egidio**
- C. Catholic Relief Services
- D. Economic Community of West African State

Answer: b. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 96.*

5. President Obama appointed whom as Special Envoy to the Sudan?

- A. Stephen W. Bosworth
- B. J. Scott Gration**
- C. George Mitchell
- D. Bill Clinton

Answer: b. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 13.*

6. “R2P” stands for?

- A. regular two people
- B. responsibility to prevent (genocide)
- C. river to paradise
- D. responsibility to protect**

Answer: d. *Great Decisions, 2010, pp 17-18.*

7. The fastest growing type of transnational organized crime is

- A. people smuggling.**
- B. drug trafficking.
- C. nuclear material smuggling.
- D. trade in weaponry.

Answer: a. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 36.*

8. Which country is the world’s largest emitter of CO₂?

- A. United States
- B. China**
- C. India
- D. Russia

Answer: b *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 44.*

9. Post-Vietnam War, the United States did not want to alienate or tarnish its relations with two leading, oil-producing countries. Consequently, the U.S. adopted the “**twin pillars**” policy of strengthening relations with two prominent allies. Which countries were the two prominent allies?

- A. Iran and Iraq
- B. Kuwait and Iraq
- C. Iran and Saudi Arabia**
- D. Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates

Answer: c. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 82.*

10. In mid-2006 in the Sunni Arab community in Western Iraq, there was a shift in both the level of violence and its direction. A backlash to the violent sectarianism and puritanical streak of al-Qaeda in Iraq developed into what came to be called *what movement*?
- A. The Reformation
 - B. The Uprising
 - C. The Awakening**
 - D. The Resurrection

Answer: c. *Great Decisions, 2010, p. 87.*

QUESTIONS 11-20 PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

11. At a secretive meeting in October the Chinese Communist Party leadership appointed a Vice-President to a senior military post. In the party's coded language this means he will begin taking over as China's leader in two years' time. Who is this designated next leader of China?
- A. Hu Jintao
 - B. Kim Jong Un
 - C. Wen Jiabao
 - D. Xi Jinping**

Answer: d *Economist, 10/23/10*

12. Name the 2010 winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature who once ran for President in Peru.
- A. Pablo Neruda
 - B. Mario Vargas Llosa**
 - C. Gabriel Garcia Marquez
 - D. Isabel Allende

Answer: b. *Economist, 10/14/10; NYTimes.com, 10/08/10*

13. The president of France recently pushed through legislation to raise the official retirement age by two years, despite strong opposition, including street demonstrations and strikes. What is his name?
- A. Jean-Claude Trichet
 - B. Dominique Strauss-Kahn
 - C. Nicolas Sarkozy**
 - D. Francois Fillon

Answer: c *Economist, 10/23/10, 10/30/10*

14. Who is currently expected to become the next leader of North Korea upon the death or retirement of Kim Jong-Il?
- A. Ri Yong Ho
 - B. Kim Jong Un**
 - C. Kim Il Song
 - D. Chong Do Hah

Answer: b. *Economist*, 10/14/10; *NYTimes.com*, 9/28/10

15. During the weekend before the recent United States election, two political satirists organized a pair of competing rallies at the National Mall in Washington – events that were combined into a single super-gathering called the “Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear.” Who were the two political satirists?
- A. Glenn Beck and Anderson Cooper
 - B. Bill O’Reilly and Al Franken
 - C. Bill Maher and Barry Crimmins
 - D. Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert**

Answer: d_ *New York Times*, 10/30/10

16. Name the president of Chile who has been widely praised for his leadership in the rescue of the 33 trapped Chilean miners.
- A. Sebastian Pinera**
 - B. Eduardo Frei
 - C. Evo Morales
 - D. Hugo Chavez

Answer: a *Economist*, 10/14/10, *NYTimes.com*, 10/13/2010

17. WikiLeaks recently published thousands of classified United States documents from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Who is the leader of WikiLeaks?
- A. Daniel Ellsberg
 - B. Mark Zuckerberg
 - C. Julian Assange**
 - D. Jimmy Wales

Answer: c. *Economist*, 10/30/10, *NYTimes.com*, 10/23/10

18. Former Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was assassinated during the campaign in 2007. Her husband is now President of Pakistan. His name is
- A. Pervez Musharraf.
 - B. Asif Ali Zardari.**
 - C. Nawaz Sharif.
 - D. Murtaza Bhutto.

Answer: b *Economist, 10/09/10; NYTimes.com, 9/28/10*

19. Abdullah Gul is president of a country which has been recently criticized for restrictions on freedom of the press. Which country is this?
- A. Turkey**
 - B. Syria
 - C. Jordan
 - D. Iran

Answer: a *Economist, 11/11/10*

20. Who is the leader of a democracy movement in Myanmar (Burma) who was recently released by the Government after seven years of house arrest?
- A. Abhisit Vejjajiva
 - B. Salil Shetty
 - C. Aung San Suu Kyi**
 - D. Than Shwe

Answer: c *NY Times, 11/13/10*

QUESTIONS 21-30 CURRENT EVENTS

21. Discussions are continuing with Russia about the role and importance of NATO. Which country is **NOT** a member of NATO?
- A. Belarus**
 - B. Poland
 - C. Hungary
 - D. Norway

Answer a *Economist, 11/13/10*

22. President Obama attended the recent meeting in South Korea of this organization and discussed current account imbalances and currency values around the world. The organization is the
- A. World Bank.
 - B. International Monetary Fund.
 - C. G-8.
 - D. G-20.**

Answer: d *Economist, 11/4/10; NYTimes.com, 11/12/10*

23. This African nation has just been elected to another two-year term on the United Nations Security Council. It had previously been a member in 2007-2009. Which African country is this?
- A. Nigeria
 - B. Myanmar

C. South Africa

D. Egypt

Answer: c *Economist, 10/14/10*

24. Recently, in order to bring down long-term interest rates, the Federal Reserve announced plans to purchase Treasury bonds with \$600 billion of new money. What is the monetary term for this Federal Reserve action?

A. Multiple Efforts, or ME

B. Quantitative Easing, or QE

C. Currency Appreciation, or CA

D. Fiscal Stimulus, or FS

Answer: b *Economist, 11/06/10; WSJ.com, 11/04/10*

25. Brazil recently held a presidential election, in which a popular president was ineligible to run because of term limits. Who won the election?

A. Lula da Silva

B. Luiz Inácio

C. José Serra

D. Dilma Rousseff

Answer d *BBCNews.com, 11/01/10*

26. What is the name given to the computer worm that is suspected of disrupting Iranian uranium enrichment this year, though the Iranian government has denied that the worm reached its target?

A. Striker

B. Stuxnet

C. Intruder

D. Semtex

Answer: b *NY Times.com, 11/18/10; BBC News, 11/24/10*

27. Terror networks seem to provide an ever-changing face to Western authorities. Recently complex explosive devices aimed at Western targets originated in what country?

A. Iran

B. Syria

C. Saudi Arabia

D. Yemen

Answer: d *Economist, 11/04/10, BBCNews, 11/10/10*

28. A recent international incident between two countries on the East China Sea involved the ramming of a coastguard vessel and an arrest of the offending fishing boat captain. Which two countries were involved?
- A. **China and Japan**
 - B. Taiwan and South Korea
 - C. North Korea and South Korea
 - D. Japan and Philippines

Answer: a *Economist, 11/04/10; NYTimes.com, 9/27/10*

29. This river bisects Pakistan. It overflowed its banks in summer 2010, causing historic flooding and displacing millions of Pakistanis. Its name is
- A. Ganges.
 - B. Indus.**
 - C. Genghis.
 - D. Tigris.

Answer: b *Economist, 8/28/10; BBC News, 8/18/10*

30. In November, 2010, a growing financial crisis led a European country to negotiate for a bail-out with the European Union and the IMF and plan major cuts in government spending and increases in taxes? Which country was this?
- A. Ireland**
 - B. Spain
 - C. Portugal
 - D. Greece

Answer: a *Economist, 11/11/10; BBC News, 11/24/10*

QUESTIONS 31-40 COUNTRIES

31. Which of the following countries is **NOT** an acknowledged nuclear power?
- A. Libya**
 - B. Pakistan
 - C. France
 - D. North Korea

Answer: a *World Almanac 2010, p. 742*

32. Which country is the home base for the Arab news network Al-Jazeera?

- A. Bahrain
- B. Qatar**
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Malaysia

Answer: b *World Almanac 2010, p. 829*

33. What type of democracy does the country of Japan have, along with its constitutional monarchy?

- A. direct democracy
- B. deliberative democracy
- C. parliamentary democracy**
- D. participatory democracy

Answer: c *World Almanac 2010, p. 796*

34. With which major country is India in conflict over the control of Kashmir?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Pakistan**
- C. China
- D. Bangladesh

Answer: b *World Almanac 2010, p. 790*

35. What percentage of foreigners makes up the population and nearly all the private work force in the United Arab Emirates?

- A. 50%
- B. 60%
- C. 70%
- D. 80%**

Answer: d *World Almanac 2010, p. 849*

36. Which former President of the United States was named as special United Nations envoy to Haiti?

- A. Bill Clinton**
- B. George H.W. Bush
- C. George W. Bush
- D. Jimmy Carter

Answer: a *World Almanac 2010, p. 787*

37. Since 1986, the LRA, a rebel group in Uganda, has abducted some 30,000 children to serve as soldiers and sex slaves. What does “LRA” stand for?
- A. Liberal Republic Army
 - B. Liberal Resistance Army
 - C. Lord’s Resilience Army
 - D. Lord’s Resistance Army**

Answer: d *World Almanac 2010, p. 848*

38. In 2008, which of the following organizations did **NOT** contribute to the \$25.1 billion aid package to rescue Hungary’s economy?
- A. International Monetary Fund
 - B. European Union
 - C. World Trade Organization**
 - D. World Bank

Answer: c. *World Almanac 2010, p. 788*

39. Which of the following cities will host the 2016 Summer Olympics?
- A. Brasilia
 - B. Rio de Janeiro**
 - C. Buenos Aires
 - D. São Paulo

Answer: b *World Almanac 2010, p. 760*

40. In what city in the United States did the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia negotiate and initial a peace agreement in 1995?
- A. St. Louis, MO
 - B. Austin, TX
 - C. Dayton, OH**
 - D. Pittsburgh, PA

Answer: c *World Almanac 2010, p. 759*

QUESTIONS 41-50 ENERGY

41. Which country in 2008 produced the largest proportion of its electricity generation from hydropower?

- A. China
- B. United States
- C. Canada
- D. Norway**

Answer: d *International Energy Agency, Key World Energy Statistics 2010.(IEA) p. 19*

42. Which country was the largest exporter of natural gas in the world in 2009?

- A. Norway
- B. Canada
- C. United States
- D. Russia**

Answer: d *IEA, p.13*

43. Which country in 2008 produced the largest proportion of its electricity generation from nuclear power?

- A. Japan
- B. Canada
- C. France**
- D. Sweden

Answer: c *IEA, p. 17*

44. Geothermal energy is produced from below the earth's surface by

- A. decay of radioactive particles.**
- B. underground burning of fossils.
- C. transfer of solar heat through the earth's crust.
- D. earthquakes.

Answer: a *EIA, Energy Explained –Geothermal Explained*

45. From which country did the United States import the most crude oil in 2009?

- A. Venezuela
- B. Canada**
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Mexico

Answer: b *BP Statistical Review of World Energy, June 2010 (BP), p.20*

46. Which of the following is not a greenhouse gas?

- A. methane
- B. carbon dioxide
- C. nitrogen**
- D. water vapor

Answer: c *EIA, Energy Explained --Greenhouse Gases*

47. Currently operating nuclear power plants produce energy through a process known as

- A. nuclear explosions.
- B. nuclear fusion.
- C. nuclear fission.**
- D. nuclear radiation.

Answer: c *EIA, Energy Explained –Nuclear Explained*

48. Which country led the world in crude oil production in 2009?

- A. Russia**
- B. Kuwait
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Venezuela

Answer: a *IEA, p. 11*

49. Which of these countries in 2009 was most dependent upon oil from the Middle East?

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Japan**
- D. United States

Answer: c *BP, p. 20*

50. Ethanol as a gasoline additive or substitute can be produced from

- A. potato skins.
- B. yard clippings.
- C. corn.
- D. all of the above.**

Answer: d *EIA, Energy Explained – Ethanol and Biofuels Explained*