



2016 - 2017 Academic Junior High Decathlon
Current Events Individual Subject Test Study Guide #3
October 24th through November 7, 2016

Answer Keys



How the Government Lost Its Case against the Oregon Occupiers

1. What charges were brought against the defendants in the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge occupation case? **weapons charges and conspiracy to intimidate federal workers**
2. What verdict did the federal court hand down in the case against the defendants? **The seven defendants were found not guilty of all charges.**
3. What was included in the government's evidence against the defendants? **video footage and social-media posts from the occupiers during their armed takeover of the wildlife refuge**
4. When and why did the defendants in the case occupy the federal wildlife facility? **The defendants were protesting against the imprisonment of two Oregon ranchers who had been convicted of setting fire to federal lands.**
5. Who were the leaders of the protest group? **Ammon and Ryan Bundy**
6. What constitutional authority is the protest group challenging? **The protestors do not believe the federal government has the constitutional authority to own federal wildlands.**
7. Who was killed when state and federal law enforcement raided the federal refuge to arrest the protestors? **LaVoy Finicum, one of the protest leaders**
8. What were the most significant charges filed against the protest leaders? **felony conspiracy to intentionally intimidate government workers and prevent them from doing their jobs**
9. What did Ammon Bundy claim was his intent in occupying the refuge? **to take ownership of the land through "adverse possession"**
10. Why did the jury find the defendants not guilty? **The jury did not believe the prosecutors were able to prove the intent required to establish criminal conspiracy.**

Questions and Answers about Pope Francis' Visit to Sweden

1. Why is Pope Francis traveling to Sweden? **He is joining Lutheran leaders to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.**
2. When did the Protestant Reformation begin? **1517**
3. Who posted the 95 Theses on a church door to denounce the abuses of the Catholic Church? **Martin Luther**
4. Who excommunicated Martin Luther as a heretic? **Pope Leo X**
5. What religious sect was created during the Protestant Reformation? **Protestantism and Lutheranism**
6. What message does Pope Francis want to impart with his visit to Sweden? **the coming together of different religions to "walk, talk, and pray together"**
7. In what year did the Vatican and Lutherans issue a joint declaration on the doctrine of justification concerning God's forgiveness of sins? **1999**
8. Pope Francis hopes to use the trip to encourage the two churches working together on issued concerning **humanitarian initiatives.**
9. What do critics of Pope Francis say regarding his reform agenda? **Critics accuse the Pope of "Protestantizing" the Catholic Church.**
10. What is the main event scheduled for the Pope during his visit to Sweden? **an ecumenical service with the Lutheran World Federation at the Lund Cathedral to commemorate the Reformation**
11. How many Catholics reside in Sweden? **113,000**
12. Who is the most famous Swedish Catholic saint? **Saint Bridget**
13. What Swedish saint did Pope Francis canonize in June? **Saint Elizabeth Hesselblad**

Judge Denies Request to Allow "Ballot Selfies"

1. On what grounds did the ACLU request a judge allow voters to take selfies in the voting booth? **Selfies are a form of freedom of speech.**
2. For what reasons did the judge deny the request? **The request filed by the ACLU did not give enough time to assess the impact of taking selfies at polling places.**
3. Democratic Governor Jerry Brown signed a law that repeals California's ban on sharing photos of marked ballots, but it doesn't take effect until January 1. What is the intent of the current law (which has been on the books for 125 years)? **to protect voting privacy and prevent voter intimidation and vote-buying**
4. How did ACLU attorney Michael Risher respond to the judge's ruling? **He was disappointed with the ruling because it could be a violation of constitutional First Amendment rights that protects freedom of speech.**
5. For what purposes are voters in California currently permitted to use their smart phones on Election Day? **Voters may use their cell phones for research, to look at notes, and to take photos of their "I Voted" stickers.**
6. In how many states are there currently bans on sharing photos of voter ballots? **18 states ban sharing photos of voter ballots.**
7. What are the arguments in support of allowing ballot selfies?

The ACLU has argued a ban on ballot photos is outdated - that it prevents voters from exercising crucial political speech and discourages the use of technology in get-out-the-vote efforts: that it has a "chilling effect" on voters' free speech.

Assemblyman Marc Levine (D-San Rafael), who authored the law that will soon allow voters to share photos with their ballots said, "Freedom of speech is sacrosanct. Any direction to poll workers or voters that gets in the way of freedom of speech is misguided and also unconstitutional."

The Case For and Against Daylight Saving Time

1. What is daylight saving time (DST)? **The practice of setting the time forward one hour during the spring and setting the time back again in the fall in order to take advantage of natural daylight.**
2. When does daylight savings time begin in the fall of 2016? **Sunday, November 6**
3. Why did the government begin daylight saving time during the First World War? **to save energy and boost industrial production**
4. What did a study from the Department of Energy show regarding the effect of daylight saving time on saving energy? **The study showed that DST has little effect on the amount of power bills.**
5. What did one study on the impact of DST on human health show? **The risk of having a heart attack increases by up to 25% on the Monday after the time moves forward in the spring and drops by 21% when time moves back in the fall.**
6. According to Till Roenneberg, what are the consequence of DST? **decreased productivity and quality of life, increased susceptibility to illness, and feeling tired**
7. Why are farmers against DST? **It disrupts the habits of livestock and requires shifting schedules for markets and suppliers.**
8. Why do business support DST? **Extra hours of evening daylight increases summer recreation and supports businesses based on outdoor activities, gas sales, and retail sales.**
9. In a 2014 poll, how many responded that they did not feel that DST was worth the effort? **48%** How many supported DST? **33%**
10. What benefit did a 2015 report by the Brookings Institute attribute to DST? **a drop in robbery rates and a reduction of \$59 million annually in costs related to crime**
11. What legislation in the United States established a uniform date for DST? **the Uniform Time Act of 1966**
12. What two states do not observe daylight savings time? **Hawaii and Arizona**

Cyber 'SWAT' Teams Gird for Election Day Trouble

1. Why are officials worried about cyberattacks on Election Day? **Officials are worried that cyberattacks may be used to destabilize or influence the U.S. presidential election.**
2. What federal department is conducting audits of election systems? **the Department of Homeland Security**
3. How many states have requested audits of their election systems? **46 states**
4. What state has set up a cyber war room for the upcoming election? **Indiana**
5. Why are cyber threats to vote tabulation systems difficult to perpetrate? **The voting systems in the U.S. are typically non-digital and are not centralized.**
6. Who is the ranking Democratic representative on the House Intelligence Committee? **Representative Adam Schiff of California**
7. What country is suspected of trying to influence the U.S. presidential election? **Russia**
8. Who is the current Secretary of Homeland Security? **Jeh Johnson**
9. What is an "open door" in cybersecurity? **An "open door" is a vulnerability or flaw in a computer security program that could allow hackers to access information.**
10. What non-partisan organization is operating a voter information hotline? **Election Protection**
11. Who are the individuals involved in the rapid-response team set up to address cyberattacks on Election Day? **Andrew Appel, Josh Benoloh, Harri Hursti, Walter Mebane, and Ron Rivest**

2016 U.S. Election Results

1. Who won the 2016 U.S. Presidential race? **Donald Trump**
2. How many electoral votes did the winning candidate receive in the presidential race? **276**
3. How many popular votes did the top three presidential candidate receive? **Donald Trump received 59,088,024 votes, Hillary Clinton received 59,238,523 votes, and Gary Johnson received 4,012,795 votes.**
4. Based on the election results, what political party will control the majority in the Senate? **the Republican Party**
5. What political party will control the majority in the House of Representatives? **the Republican Party**
6. Is the president from the same political party that controls the Senate and House of Representatives? **Yes**

North Korean Missile Test

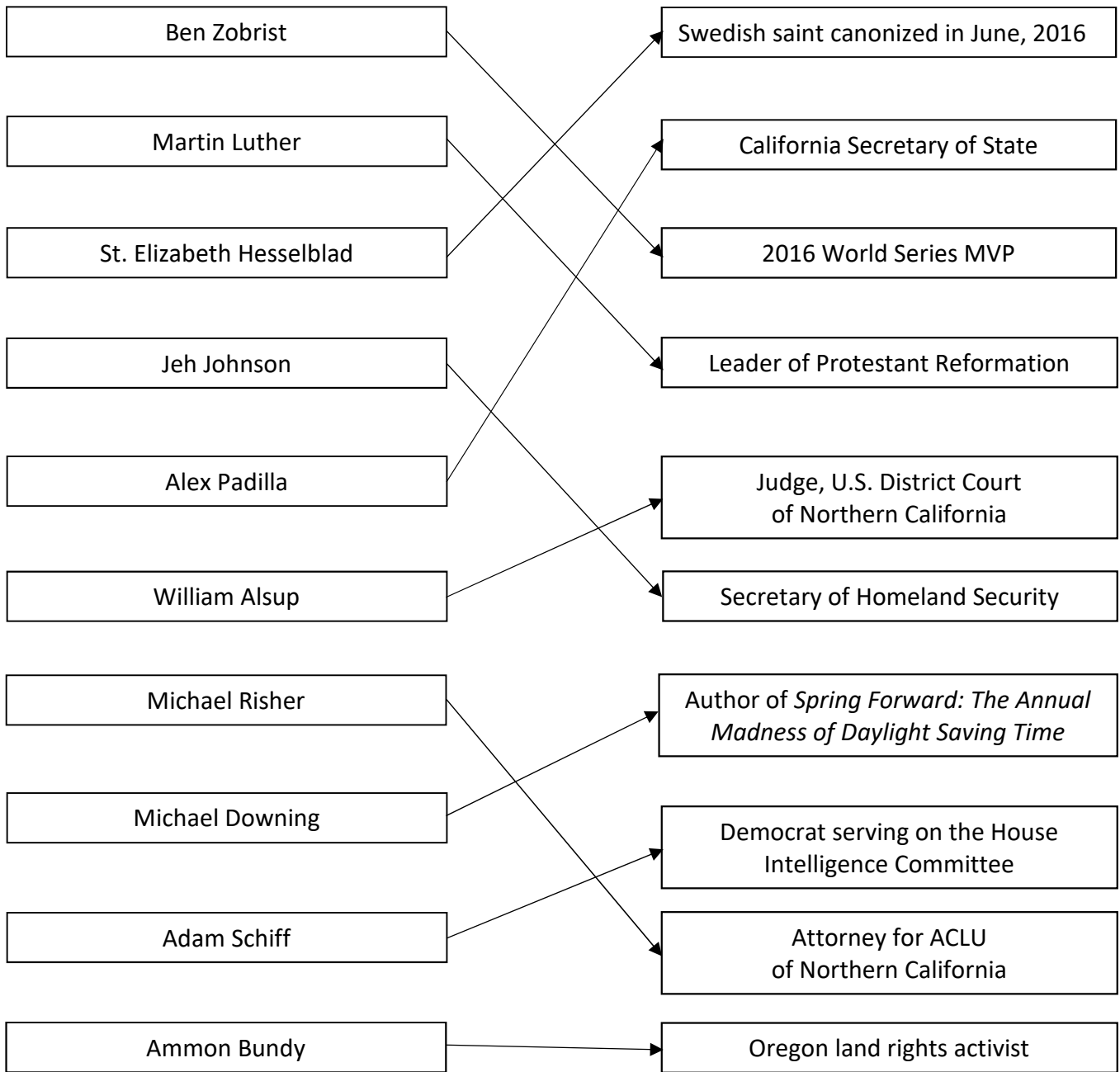
1. What is the nickname given to the bomb tested by the Soviet Union in 1961? **Tsar Bomba or Ivan**
2. When did the Soviet Union test the bomb? **October 30, 1961**

The Chicago Cubs Win the 2016 World Series

1. What was the score of Game 7 in the 2016 World Series? **8 to 7**
2. Where was the last game of the World Series played? **Progressive Field in Cleveland**
3. How long had it been since the Chicago Cubs won the World Series? **108 years**
4. Who was named MVP of the 2016 World Series? **Ben Zobrist**

2017 Current Events
 People in the News Worksheet #2 Answer Key
 October 24 through November 9, 2016

Draw a line from the person to the honor/position/history most related to the person:



2017 Current Events

Multiple Choice Quiz Answer Key – October 24 through November 8, 2016

1. What charges did federal officials file against the Oregon activists who occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge?
 - A. conspiracy with intent to intimidate government workers
 - B. adverse possession
 - C. weapons charges
 - D. trespassing
 - E. A and C only

2. Who was killed when federal and state law enforcement officers entered the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge to arrest activists?
 - A. Kenneth Medenbach
 - B. Ammon Bundy
 - C. Ryan Bundy
 - D. LaVoy Finicum
 - E. Morgan Philpot

3. To what country is Pope Francis traveling to participate in a commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation?
 - A. Germany
 - B. Uganda
 - C. Sweden
 - D. Switzerland
 - E. United States

4. What organization filed a suit in California court to allow voters to take ballot selfies at polling places?
 - A. ACLU
 - B. Legal Defense Fund
 - C. Democratic Party
 - D. Republican Party
 - E. NAACP

5. How many states currently ban sharing photos of voter ballots?
 - A. 12
 - B. 18
 - C. 22
 - D. 25
 - E. 50

2017 Current Events

Multiple Choice Quiz Answer Key – October 24 through November 8, 2016

6. What group traditionally supports the use of daylight savings time?
 - A. business owners
 - B. dairy farmers
 - C. religious groups
 - D. doctors
 - E. robbers

7. What two states currently do not use daylight savings time?
 - A. Hawaii and Alaska
 - B. Hawaii and Arizona
 - C. Hawaii and Texas
 - D. Alaska and Arizona
 - E. Hawaii and Florida

8. What non-partisan organization is running a voter hotline during the 2016 U.S. elections?
 - A. ACLU
 - B. Department of Homeland Security
 - C. Election Protection
 - D. Election Verification Network
 - E. NAACP

9. What country conducted the most powerful nuclear test in history?
 - A. North Korea
 - B. South Korea
 - C. United States
 - D. Soviet Union
 - E. China

10. Who won the 2016 World Series?
 - A. Cleveland Indians
 - B. San Francisco Giants
 - C. Chicago Cubs
 - D. Florida Marlins
 - E. Houston Astros

Map of South America

Each country in South America is indicated by a number on the map below.
Write the name of the country on the line next to its number.



- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Colombia | 7. Uruguay |
| 2. Venezuela | 8. Paraguay |
| 3. Guyana | 9. Bolivia |
| 4. Suriname | 10. Argentina |
| 5. French Guiana | 11. Chile |
| 6. Brazil | 12. Peru |