

2020 MASQ REGIONAL QUALIFIER #1 EXTEMP TOPICS

RD 1	USX Questions
101	What is the "real" state of the US economy?
102	Does the recent election indicate a need for election reform in the US?
103	Has "remote work" changed the American workplace forever?
104	Despite the pandemic and a faltering economy, why has the US housing market prospered?
105	Will the next round of stimulus relief come too late for many Americans?
106	Was it wise to continue college and professional sports during the pandemic?
107	What factors contributed to the high voter turnout in November 2020?
108	After passing a statehood referendum, what's next for Puerto Rico?
109	Can the Biden administration turn the economy around while fighting Covid-19?
110	What steps can be taken to reduce food insecurity in the US?
111	Is the Electoral College still relevant?
112	Who are the real winners and losers during this pandemic?
113	Does there seem to be a shift on the Supreme Court regarding religious freedoms?
114	Will redesigning state flags and removing statues be enough to end racism in the US?
115	Should presidential candidates be required to submit tax returns before running?

RD 2	IX Questions
201	Should the international community intervene in Ethiopia?
202	What impacts will the US troop draw down in Afghanistan and Iraq likely have on the region?
203	Will the pandemic and economic instability cause more countries to leave the EU?
204	Why are tensions escalating between Turkey and Greece?
205	Is NATO still relevant?
206	What are the differences between Trump, Merkel, and Macron's approach to Covid-19?
207	What will Shinzo Abe's legacy be?
208	Should Mexico's "televised schooling" serve as a model for other nations to follow?
209	Is the US still considered a superpower by the rest of the world?
210	Joining, then withdrawing from international organizations, then rejoining: Is the US reliable?
211	Are the cartels really the governing entities in South America?
212	Has foreign meddling in Venezuela's politics exacerbated the nation's problems?
213	What did the massive explosion in Beirut expose about Lebanon's government?
214	Why is Latin America so foreboding to environmentalists?
215	What is the likely blowback of the assassination of Iran's key nuclear scientist?

RD 3	USX Questions
301	Should federal executions have resumed this year?
302	Are political party conventions still necessary to inform and energize voters?
303	Has social media been devoured by fake news, censorship, and political nastiness?
304	Are mask mandates a violation of US Constitutionally protected freedoms?
305	What are positive steps that can be taken to reform police actions and procedures?
306	What do activists hope to accomplish by "defunding the police"?
307	Are there signs that women are making headway in equal opportunity?
308	Will "virus fatigue" make it more difficult to mitigate the pandemic?
309	Who should be prioritized to receive the Covid-19 vaccine initially?
310	Will the "Black Lives Matter" movement bring about real change?
311	Why can't big cities like Portland and Chicago quell their on-going violence?
312	Has freedom of speech become a thing of the past in the USA?
313	What will President Trump's legacy be?
314	Should the US voting age be reduced to 16?
315	Is it time to eliminate Daylight Saving Time?

RD 4	IX Questions
401	Whose national interests will likely prevail in the South China Sea?
402	Why has Australia decided to push back against the Chinese?
403	Will Belarus survive the illegitimacy and corruption of Lukashenko??
404	How long can Putin hold on to power in Russia?
405	Did US withdrawal from the Open Skies Treaty unintentionally benefit Russia?
406	Would a Biden administration foster better relations with Latin America?
407	As Africa becomes more modernized, is pollution being properly addressed?
408	Was Brexit a really bad idea for Great Britain?
409	Will 3rd world countries be left behind in the distribution of Covid-19 vaccines?
410	Why are Arab nations moving toward establishing diplomatic relations with Israel?
411	Should the international community confront China concerning the treatment of the Uighurs?
412	China's crackdown on Hong Kong: Is Taiwan next?
413	Could cross-border tourism be the answer to reunifying the Koreas?
414	What root causes are behind the ongoing violence in Nigeria?
415	Has the US defaulted on its obligation to protect and support Puerto Rico?