



ECONOMIC RESEARCH TEAM

(160)

—Secondary—

REGIONAL – 2016

Judges/Graders: Please double check and verify all scores and answer keys!

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ECONOMIC RESEARCH TEAM (S) - REGIONAL 2016

ANSWER KEY

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Topic

The national debt of the United States is at an all-time high in dollar terms. Experts disagree on the size and importance of the debt. There is a concern that the debt is too high and will damage the future economic structure of the United States and adversely affect individuals and businesses. Research the causes of how the debt has grown and whether it is important for the debt to be controlled. Your research may include but is not limited to:

- What is the national debt and to whom is it owed?
- How does today's debt compare to that of other periods in US history?
- Should the growth of the debt be limited and if so what are some strategies for limiting its growth?
- What are some potential strategies for reducing or eliminating the debt?

Teams who do not submit an entry that follows this topic will be disqualified.

JUDGING PROCEDURE

- Teams will be introduced by team number. **Contestants may continue to wear their name badges.**
- As a team of judges, formulate two to three questions to ask at the conclusion of the presentation. Be sure to ask the same questions of each team.
- Teams will present before a panel of judges and timekeeper.
- The set-up time will be no more than three (3) minutes.
- The presentation will be no more than seven (7) minutes; followed by judges' questions not to exceed five (5) minutes.
- Excuse teams upon completion of judges' questions.
- **There can be no ties in the top ten (10) teams.** It is the responsibility of the judges to break any ties.
- Administrator will fill out ranking sheet prior to dismissing the judges.
- If more than one (1) section is necessary, finalists will be determined by selecting an equal number from each section.
- Give administrator all Judges' Rating Sheets, Judge Evaluation Sheets and contest materials.
- No audience is allowed in the contest room.

Please double-check and verify all scores!