

- The Academic Decathlon competition is comprised of ten events. There are seven multiple-choice exams — one in each of the following subject areas: Art, Economics, Language & Literature, Mathematics, Music, Science, and Super Quiz™ (Social Science).

Students take six written exams at Local Competition to determine the 60 teams advancing to Regional Competition where students will take the six written exams — as well as write an essay and be judged in Speech and Interview events before two judges.

From Regional Competition, 20 teams will advance to State Competition where the teams will compete in all ten decathlon events.

The Super Quiz™ event includes a relay portion in addition to the written exam. Both the Super Quiz™ written exam and the Super Quiz™ relay are in multiple-choice format.

**Note: In Wisconsin, Super Quiz™ is only at State Competition.**

- The multiple-choice exams in Art, Economics, Language & Literature, Music, and Science each have 50 questions. The Math exam has 35 questions. In Wisconsin, the written Super Quiz™ exam has 40 questions and the Super Quiz™ Relay has 5 questions per student.
- Test writers construct each test with at least 10–20% of the questions reflecting the use of higher-order thinking skills.
- Written multiple-choice exams are timed. **Refer to Wisconsin's testing schedule for each level of competition.** Students will have 50 minutes to complete the Essay exam.
- USAD® permits students to use calculators for the Math exam only. USAD® permits students to use graphing calculators, provided they have none of the features listed in Section III of the USAD® Calculator Policy. Coaches can view USAD's calculator policy at [www.usad.org](http://www.usad.org) or contact USAD® to receive a copy of the calculator policy.

***If using a graphing calculator, competitors are expected to honor the fact that they are not to refer to information stored in the graphing calculator memory during the mathematics test.***

- The Language & Literature test items will be derived from the selected works of literature and from the information provided in the **Language & Lit Resource Guide**. Furthermore, Language & Lit tests will include a critical reading passage with accompanying test items. The Language & Lit test will also expect students to be able to analyze the selected works of literature as well as the critical reading passage and will expect students to be familiar with literary terms and devices.
- The USAD® competition tests will be written in accordance with the topics and percentages noted in the subject area outlines that are published in the USAD® **Study Guide**. The *Study Guide* summarizes the curriculum for the entire year and includes detailed outlines for Art, Economics, Language & Literature, Mathematics, Music, Science and Super Quiz™ (Social Science).

The *Study Guide* also includes rules and guidelines for the Essay, Interview and Speech events. Teams can either order hard copies of the *Study Guide*, or order as a PDF for electronic download.

- All of the Super Quiz™ test items—both relay and written—will be derived from the **Super Quiz™ Resource Guide**. The student's relay Super Quiz score accounts for 40% of his/her overall SQ score. The student's written Super Quiz score accounts for 60% of his/her overall SQ score.

- USAD® offers **Resource Guides** and **Student Exercise Books** in Art, Economics, Language & Lit, Mathematics, Music, Science, and Super Quiz™ (Social Science). Whereas the *Super Quiz™ Resource Guide* is a compendium of previously published articles, the other *Resource Guides* and the *Student Exercise Books* are written by individual writers under contract with USAD®. The *Resource Guides* and *Student Exercise Books* will assist students in their study of the topics listed in the subject area outlines. **All USAD® competition test items will be derived from the information and concepts presented in the Resource Guides, as well as the selected literature, artworks and musical works.**
- The **Resource Guides** provide a thorough review and academic treatment of all the topics noted in the subject area outlines for each subject. The guides offer an essential resource that will assist students in their mastery of the topics and aid in their preparation for the competition tests.
- The **Student Exercise Books** provide a student-friendly synthesis of the material presented in the USAD® *Resource Guides* and offer students a chance to test and reinforce their knowledge of the curriculum through a variety of exercises and activities. The exercise books include section overviews, timelines and graphic organizers, as well as short quizzes, true/false questions, fill-in-the-blank items, etc., to assist students in their mastery of the curriculum.

Teams can either order hard copies of the *Student Exercise Books* — or as PDFs for electronic download. **Available August 1<sup>st</sup>.**

- While the **Art Resource Guide** includes information relevant to the 18 selected artworks, this guide contains text only and does NOT include images of the artworks.
- Companion to the *Art Resource Guide*, the **Art Reproductions Booklet** contains reproductions of the 18 artworks that are included in this year's art curriculum. The booklet includes works by various artists and architects. However, please be aware that no text beyond the title, artist, date, etc., accompanies these reprints.
- **The Practice Test Booklet is the most important coaching tool for understanding Academic Decathlon® tests.** Written by the official USAD test writers in each subject area. Contains seven tests, sample essay prompts, speech and interview rules and rubrics. The PTB may be reproduced at the school level only. Includes accompanying music-excerpt CD. The PTB is also available as a PDF and the CD as an MP3 file for electronic download.
- Produced exclusively for USAD®, the 14-track Music CD, **Music of the Romantic Era**, will provide students with an introduction to the music of the Romantic era. Also available as an MP3 file for electronic download.
- The USAD® **Virtual Classroom** is an online moderated forum available only to student subscribers that is designed to provide both content and study strategies to assist students in their preparation for the season.

The *Virtual Classroom* is moderated by content experts who can provide answers to students' questions about the curriculum and offers analyses of the selected literature; content notes on composers and artists; listening cues and focused questions and answers to help students prepare for the listening portion of the music test; proven strategies for essay writing, interview, speech and Super Quiz™; and sample prompts and impromptu topics.

- Check [www.usad.org](http://www.usad.org) for curriculum corrections and updates issued by USAD® — as well as the WIAD website [www.WIAD.org](http://www.WIAD.org) for news and weekly updates. **WIAD's Coaches Corner is a secure site intended for coach's use only.** Upon registration, coaches are e-mailed the User Name and Password needed to access the site.