

Test Your Knowledge of the EU (practice quiz based on the 2009 status of the EU)

1. Explain in very simple, easy to understand, and general terms using your own words: What is the EU?
2. In studying a single culture/country of Europe, why is it important to understand the basic principles of the EU?
3. How many member countries are there in the EU?
4. What is roughly the population of the combined EU states?
5. Name four (4) goals/purposes/missions of the EU. (Include one goal where unification/standardization is NOT a target.)
6. Name three (3) countries in Europe who are NOT current members nor applicant members of the EU.
7. Give a brief explanation as to why those countries (above) are not members or applicants.
8. Name two (2) countries applying for membership in the EU.
9. Give a brief assessment of the chances for joining the EU (of those two countries listed above).
10. What is meant by a “knowledge-based” economy?
11. Where does the EU rank in terms of world economy?
12. Very roughly and briefly explain at least two of the criteria required to join the EU (more than two are even better).
13. In which ways might the US not be qualified to apply for acceptance into the EU (obviously it’s not a European country).
14. Explain what is meant by the “Schengen Area”.
15. Briefly explain what the Euro is.
16. How many countries have adopted the Euro?
17. Name three EU member states in Western Europe that have not adopted the Euro.
18. Briefly name some of the reasons why these countries have not adopted the Euro.
19. What is roughly the current value of the Euro?
(Try to answer question number 20 before referring to any of the items further below.)
20. Name the three (3) main bodies created to help with the governance and legislation within the EU.
Explain very briefly each of the following. Roughly how many members does each have and where does each one meet?
21. - European Parliament
22. - Council of the European Union
23. - European Commission
24. What is the standard language used in EU documents and transactions? (trick question)
25. Which language spoken in the EU has the greatest number of native speakers?
26. Which EU country has the single greatest population?
27. In the early stages of the creation of what would eventually become the EU, there were six participating nations. Why is it significant that France and Germany were two of these countries to set up trade agreements after the second world war?
28. There were major expansions of the EU in 2004 and again in 2007. What are geographically and politically the most notable developments in EU expansion of those years?
29. Very briefly explain what are: (1) the Bologna Process, and (2) the Lisbon Process.
30. The EU is considered a “supranational” organization. Explain briefly how you understand the term “supranational” and how this term relates to the governance/cooperation of the states participating in the EU.