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From: Geographical Association

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**Nation's brightest geographic whizz kids
will compete for international geography title**

Three of the UK's brightest geography students have been selected to participate in the ninth National Geographic World Championship in Mexico City from July 11 to 16. The presenting sponsor of the international contest, organized by the National Geographic Society, is Telmex Foundation. Supporting sponsorship is provided by the Mexican Academy of Sciences.

Lydia Jewell and Xue Wang, in Year 11 at King Edward VII School, Sheffield and Daniel Morris from The Stanway School in Essex excelled in the **Geographical Association's annual Worldwide Challenge competition**. Their selection for the national team followed their winning performances in both a local schools geography quiz and also the subsequent Worldwide Challenge competition, which took place at the Field Studies Councils' Field Centres at Malham Tarn and Juniper Hall, Dorking in Spring 2008.

Eighteen teams from around the globe will meet to answer questions on physical, cultural and economic geography in two levels of competition. Current world champion Mexico will defend its title against teams from Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Czech Republic, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

When not competing, the students will explore historic locations in Mexico City, including the museums near Chapultepec Park, one of the largest urban parks in the world. The championship finals will be held on Wednesday, July 15, at the National Museum of Anthropology, where the three teams with the highest scores in the preliminary activities will meet. They will answer questions in a game-show format, moderated by Alex Trebek, host of the popular U.S. television quiz show "Jeopardy!"

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Notes to Editors

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Up-to-date information and photographs of the competition, including the winning team on July 15, will be posted in the National Geographic online press room at nationalgeographic.com/pressroom

Photographs of the participating students available upon request

The Geographical Association

The Geographical Association (GA) is a subject association with a mission to further the teaching of geography and to communicate the value of learning geography for all. The GA was founded in 1893 and has around 6,000 memberships including teachers in primary and secondary schools and further education, academic geographers, universities and teacher educators and trainers. For more information visit

www.geography.org.uk