

BRICS Digital Economy Disruption: CBDCs, AI Dominance, and E-Commerce

BRICS Digital Economy · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which of the following initiatives is a key component of the BRICS nations' strategy to reduce reliance on the US dollar and Western-dominated payment systems, facilitating direct settlement between national digital currencies?

- A) The establishment of a single, supranational BRICS currency.
- B) The interconnectedness of existing national CBDCs through platforms like BRICS Pay.**
- C) A globalized cryptocurrency adoption mandate for all member states.
- D) Exclusive use of China's digital yuan for all intra-BRICS trade.

2. As of mid-2025, which BRICS nations are identified as leaders in integrating digital currency practices into their legal frameworks, achieving significant milestones in CBDC development?

- A) South Africa, Brazil, and India.
- B) China, Brazil, India, and Russia.**
- C) Russia, China, and South Africa.
- D) India, Brazil, and Egypt.

3. According to a study by Yakov and Partners (November 2024), nearly 70% of the potential impact of Generative AI integration into BRICS+ economies is expected to be concentrated in which six key industries?

- A) Healthcare, Agriculture, Education, Tourism, Manufacturing, and Mining.
- B) Banking, Retail, Engineering, Energy, Electronics, and IT.**
- C) Automotive, Construction, Pharmaceuticals, Logistics, Telecommunications, and Media.
- D) Finance, Entertainment, Transportation, Food Services, Real Estate, and Hospitality.

4. What is the primary driver identified for the BRICS e-commerce retail market's rapid expansion, in addition to massive populations and rising incomes?

- A) A significant decrease in cross-border tariffs.
- B) The widespread expansion of digital infrastructure.**
- C) A mandated shift to online purchasing by governments.
- D) The complete absence of traditional retail stores.

5. In the context of cross-border payments, what advantage does the proposed BRICS Clear system, potentially benefiting from Project mBridge, aim to offer over SWIFT?

- A) Increased transaction costs for member states.
- B) Greater reliance on US dollar as the settlement currency.
- C) Reduced transaction times from days to instantaneous settlement and lower costs.**
- D) Mandatory use of a single, gold-backed BRICS currency.

6. Which BRICS nation is actively developing a 'sovereign' AI ecosystem, integrating technologies into governance, business, and daily life, and aims to become a global AI leader by 2030?

- A) India
- B) Russia
- C) China**
- D) Brazil

7. What is a significant concern for cybersecurity in BRICS countries as highlighted in recent analyses, particularly in relation to Artificial Intelligence?

- A) The underutilization of AI in cyber defense strategies.
- B) The effective use of neural networks by hackers to automate attacks.**
- C) A complete lack of AI integration in cybersecurity frameworks.
- D) The inability of AI to detect basic phishing attempts.

8. Regarding e-commerce revenue and growth, how did BRICS compare to NAFTA in 2024, and what was the projected revenue for BRICS e-commerce by 2029?

- A) BRICS had lower revenue but faster growth; projected to reach \$1.5 trillion by 2029.
- B) BRICS had higher revenue and faster growth; projected to surpass \$3 trillion by 2029.**
- C) BRICS and NAFTA had similar revenues and growth rates.
- D) NAFTA outperformed BRICS in both revenue and growth by 2029.

9. What is the projected economic potential for generative AI technologies in BRICS+ countries by 2030, according to a study by Yakov and Partners?

- A) USD 100-200 billion
- B) USD 350-600 billion**
- C) USD 750-900 billion
- D) USD 1.5-2 trillion

10. As of mid-2025, what is the stated goal of China's digital yuan (e-CNY) initiatives, particularly in alignment with BRICS de-dollarization strategies?

- A) To exclusively replace all other currencies within BRICS nations.
- B) To offer interest incentives to promote its use as a settlement currency.**
- C) To encourage foreign investment solely through e-CNY.
- D) To limit its use to domestic transactions within China.