

2017 United States Geography Olympiad - Written Examination (Middle School)

Student Name _____ School _____

General instructions - Respond to each of examination questions in the space provided. Only answers written in the appropriate space on the answer document will be marked. Where appropriate, you should write sentences or phrases instead of single words. If a question or section asks for a specific number of reasons or answers, give only the number of answers specified. Please write clearly and legibly.

Section 1 - [10 marks]

Use the charts in section 1 to complete the following.

1. [4 marks] Which country has a larger population? _____

Which country has a faster population growth? _____

In the United States, do men or women have a higher life expectancy? _____

In India, are there more men or women in the total population? _____

2. [3 marks] What demographic trend in the United States accounts for the spike in the number of people between the ages of 64 and 49 years old? Why did this trend occur?

3. [3 marks] Given the information in the graph, how would you characterize the population growth rate of the United States? Why would you expect this level of population growth (or loss)?

Section 2 - [14 marks]

Use the map in section 2 to complete questions 1-4.

1. [4 marks]

Name the two main islands shown on this map. _____

Which two cities on the map are national capitals? _____

2. [6 marks] What is the average temperature for each of the following months -

Lake Vyrnwy - April _____ August _____ December _____

London - March _____ September _____ November _____

3. [2 marks] Why do you think the average temperatures in Llanbedr and Lake Vyrnwy so different even though they are so close together on the map?

4. [2 marks] Why do you think the average temperatures in Edinburgh are so much lower than the temperatures in London?

Section 3 - [16 marks]

Use the picture in section 3 to complete the following.

1. [4 marks] Briefly describe the process that is taking place at the point marked A on the map. What type of rock is formed here?

2. [4 marks] Briefly describe the process that is taking place at the point marked B on the map. What type of rock is formed here?

3. [4 marks] Briefly describe the process that is taking place at the point marked C on the map. What type of rock is formed here?

4. [4 marks] What type of rock are each of the following?

Basalt _____ Sandstone _____
Granite _____ Marble _____

Section 4 - [7 marks]

Use the pictures in section 4 and the word bank below to complete the following.

1. [5 marks] Label each of the following features on the first picture. 1 _____
2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____

2. [2 marks] What process would produce features like the ones seen in these pictures? In what country was the second photograph likely taken?

Section 5 - [8 marks]

Use the maps in section 5 to complete the following.

1. [4 marks] How often did each of the following cities have passenger rail service every day in 2005?

Buffalo, NY _____ Boise, ID _____

Chicago, IL _____ New Orleans, LA _____

2. [2 marks] What is the difference between the amount of passenger rail service in the United States in 1965 and 2005? Why do you think this change took place?

3. [2 marks] What areas of the United States still have passenger service more than six times per day? Why do you think these particular areas still have this service?
