

**The United States Geography Olympiad & The International Geography Bee**  
**2016-2017 National Qualifying Exam – B Set Version**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate & Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions: Circle the correct answer or leave it blank. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.**

- 1) Which quadrant of the world is home to the majority of the world's population?  
a) Northern Hemisphere & Eastern Hemisphere quadrant  
b) Northern Hemisphere & Western Hemisphere quadrant  
c) Southern Hemisphere & Eastern Hemisphere quadrant  
d) Southern Hemisphere & Western Hemisphere quadrant
  
- 2) It is currently possible for tourists to run laps around the track at the site of the ancient Circus Maximus in which city?  
a) Paris                      b) London      c) Berlin                      d) Rome
  
- 3) What could you always do while standing on a moraine?  
a) View the path taken by a glacier      b) Admire the ring of coral surrounding you  
c) View active lava flows                      d) Enjoy the midnight sun on June 21
  
- 4) In which country could you potentially view the Aurora Australis?  
a) Ecuador      b) Colombia      c) Guyana      d) Chile
  
- 5) On the shortest possible flight from Cleveland to Detroit, which of these Great Lakes would you cross?  
a) Michigan      b) Superior      c) Erie                      d) Ontario
  
- 6) Which country has been at the center of a recent doping scandal due to its abuses when it hosted the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi?  
a) China              b) Japan              c) Russia              d) Italy
  
- 7) Alpine vegetation and average annual snowfall totals in excess of 250 inches can be most easily found at the highest summits of which of these mountain ranges?  
a) Berkshires      b) Poconos      c) Allegheny      d) White
  
- 8) Which country would be your safest travel destination if you had an all-consuming fear of tsunamis?  
a) Japan              b) Indonesia      c) Italy                      d) Central African Republic

- 9) What do San Marino and Lesotho have in common?  
a) Both consider aardvark a delicacy in their national cuisine  
b) Both are considered international powerhouses in Olympic archery  
c) Both were led by Green Party dictatorships in the 1960's  
d) Both are entirely surrounded by one other country
- 10) Airplane turbulence is most commonly found over which terrain?  
a) Deserts      b) Mountain ranges      c) Swamps      d) Salt marshes
- 11) The name of Australia's most populous state references which part of the United Kingdom?  
a) England      b) Scotland      c) Wales      d) Northern Ireland
- 12) Which island or island group is considered part of Melanesia and not Polynesia?  
a) Samoa      b) Hawaii      c) Vanuatu      d) Easter Island
- 13) During the medieval warm period, grapes were grown on which island to make wine?  
a) Maui      b) Britain      c) Bermuda      d) Spitsbergen
- 14) Which country is NOT considered part of the Middle East?  
a) Jordan      b) Sri Lanka      c) Qatar      d) Bahrain
- 15) Which disease has as of 2017 been eradicated from Africa?  
a) AIDS      b) Smallpox      c) Athlete's Foot      d) Sickle Cell Anemia
- 16) Which continent has more Portuguese speakers than any other?  
a) Africa      b) Europe      c) Asia      d) South America
- 17) The Silk Road skirted the southern edge of which desert?  
a) Sahara      b) Gobi      c) Mojave      d) Arabian
- 18) Which country's capital is also the name of a city in California with over 1 million people?  
a) Mexico      b) Haiti      c) Peru      d) Costa Rica
- 19) This question was written near 25 degrees North latitude, 150 degrees West longitude on a flight from Los Angeles to \_\_\_\_\_?  
a) Beijing      b) Honolulu      c) New York      d) Buenos Aires
- 20) Which island group was used by the Soviet Union as a testing ground for its nuclear weapons?  
a) Balearics      b) Antilles      c) Marquesas      d) Novaya Zemlya

- 21) A bottle tossed into the Gulf Stream off the Outer Banks would most likely end up where?  
a) Florida      b) Ireland      c) Barbados      d) South Dakota
- 22) Which biome is most widespread throughout Kazakhstan?  
a) Tundra      b) Taiga      c) Steppe      d) Mangroves
- 23) Which state is NOT home to one of the US Armed Forces' service academies?  
a) New York      b) Colorado      c) Maryland      d) California
- 24) The Bellagio hotel in Las Vegas is named for a picturesque town on the shores of which Italian lake?  
a) Como      b) Trasimene      c) Geneva      d) Maracaibo
- 25) Which name is used to refer to a series of climate zone classifications?  
a) München      b) Köln      c) Köppen      d) Lübeck
- 26) In which of the following countries is cocoa a major agricultural product?  
a) Canada      b) Sweden      c) Uruguay      d) Côte d'Ivoire
- 27) Islam, Christianity, and Buddhism all began on which continent?  
a) Europe      b) Asia      c) Africa      d) Antarctica
- 28) Which National Park is found east of the Mississippi River?  
a) Grand Canyon      b) Acadia      c) Yosemite      d) Yellowstone
- 29) In which mountain range is it easiest to ski in August?  
a) Pyrenees      b) Andes      c) Atlas      d) Appalachians
- 30) Desertification is currently of greatest concern in which region?  
a) Eastern France      b) Northern Russia  
c) Northern China      d) Western Norway
- 31) Which African city is the capital of a landlocked country?  
a) Bamako      b) Rabat      c) Timbuktu      d) Cairo
- 32) Which country is home to more native bird species than the other three choices combined?  
a) Peru      b) Iceland      c) Mongolia      d) Antigua and Barbuda
- 33) Which Caribbean island is least at risk of hurricane strikes due to its low latitude?  
a) Puerto Rico      b) Cuba      c) Aruba      d) Grand Bahama

- 34) Which house of worship could you find along Boston's historic Freedom Trail?  
a) St. Peter's Basilica                      b) Blue Mosque  
c) Golden Temple                              d) Old North Church
- 35) If as an AFS exchange student, you flew into Keflavik Airport and then participated with your classmates on the quiz show *Gettu Bettur*, you'd be studying where?  
a) Austria      b) Thailand      c) Iceland      d) New Zealand
- 36) The U2 album *Joshua Tree* was named for a plant and national park found in which US state?  
a) Michigan      b) Vermont      c) California      d) Rhode Island
- 37) Which ocean contains the deepest point on the earth's surface at Challenger Deep, miles below the ocean surface?  
a) Arctic      b) Atlantic      c) Pacific      d) Indian
- 38) Which river is home to a set of waterfalls known as cataracts, which have historically impeded navigation?  
a) Delaware      b) Nile              c) Amazon      d) Ob
- 39) It's AD 116, and you're the Roman Emperor Trajan. You decide to send a pesky senator into exile in the newly conquered province of Dacia, which shares territory with what modern-day country?  
a) France      b) Bhutan      c) Denmark      d) Romania
- 40) Which polity was once divided into the Districts of Keewatin, Mackenzie, and Franklin?  
a) Nunavut                                      b) Quebec  
c) Northwest Territories                  d) Prince Edward Island
- 41) Voter turnout in urban precincts in Wayne County and rural counties in the Upper Peninsula was crucial to the 2016 election results in which swing state?  
a) Wisconsin      b) Maine      c) Michigan      d) Florida
- 42) US battleships in World War II were typically named for which things?  
a) US cities      b) US states      c) US allies      d) US rivers
- 43) Which most heavily bombed country in world history has now oddly turned into a popular destination for river tubing on the Mekong River?  
a) Laos              b) Bangladesh      c) Cambodia      d) Malaysia

- 44) Which country features a crescent moon on its flag even though its population is not predominantly Muslim?  
a) Libya      b) Sweden      c) Paraguay      d) Singapore
- 45) Empty Shelves in Supermarkets! Oil Wealth Squandered! Riots against Nicolas Maduro's Regime! Talk of the End of *Chavismo*! Fracas in Caracas! These are some of your 2017 headlines as a journalist writing on the political situation where?  
a) Kansas      b) Norway      c) Venezuela      d) French Guiana
- 46) Instead of going to college, after turning 18, you decide to join the fight with Kurdish guerrillas against ISIS. Which Northern Iraqi city would you book a flight to, to meet with your Pesh Merga brothers-in-arms?  
a) Dublin      b) Erbil      c) Aleppo      d) Yerevan
- 47) US special forces have been active in fighting the Taliban in which mountain range?  
a) Tien Shan      b) Caucasus      c) Urals      d) Hindu Kush
- 48) Which African city would be the best choice for a base of operations for a hiking trip into the Great Rift Valley?  
a) Cape Town      b) Conakry      c) Tunis      d) Addis Ababa
- 49) Which of the lower 48 US states was once known as "Indian Territory"?  
a) Oklahoma      b) Utah      c) Texas      d) New Jersey
- 50) Which Canadian province is considered the most conservative in its politics in 2017?  
a) British Columbia      b) Ontario      c) Alberta      d) Nova Scotia