The United States Geography Olympiad & The International Geography Bee

2016-2017 National Qualifying Exam – D Set Version

NAME: ____________________________ SCHOOL: ____________________________

Birthdate & Year: ____________________ Grade in School/Homeschool Association:_____

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 two countries are each home to more than one billion people?
   a) India and Pakistan   b) USA and Brazil
   c) India and China     d) China and Japan

2) Which country is not a permanent member of the UN Security Council?
   a) Russia   b) Portugal   c) France   d) United Kingdom

3) Extensions of a state’s territory which are surrounded by other states or water on three sides, such as in Texas, Florida, and Oklahoma, are called:
   a) Panhandles   b) Potholders   c) Exclaves   d) Enclaves

4) Which name did the Ancient Romans use to refer to the area which now forms France and Northern Italy, dividing it into Transalpine & Cisalpine sections?
   a) Hispania   b) Dacia   c) Asia Minor   d) Gaul

5) The Nile and the Rhine both flow predominantly in which direction?
   a) From South to North   b) From North to South
   c) From East to West     d) From West to East

6) Which of these Canadian provinces is considered one of the Maritime Provinces?
   a) Alberta   b) Manitoba   c) Ontario   d) Nova Scotia

7) The classic movie Casablanca is set primarily in a city in which present-day country?
   a) France   b) Spain   c) Morocco   d) Algeria

8) Which mountain range forms part of the border between Europe and Asia?
   a) Atlas   b) Urals   c) Andes   d) Himalayas

9) Which of these countries stands to lose the greatest percentage of its territory due to the effects of climate change?
   a) Maldives   b) Armenia   c) India   d) Cuba
10) The controversial mining process known as fracking seeks to extract oil and gas deposits from what type of rock, found commonly in Pennsylvania and Texas?
   a) Marble  b) Basalt  c) Shale  d) Pumice

11) Which continent hosted its first Olympic Games in 2016?
   a) Australia  b) Africa  c) Asia  d) South America

12) Which of these landmasses only became inhabited within the past 500 years?
   a) Iceland  b) Bermuda  c) Hawaii  d) New Zealand

13) Which of the following states is most conservative in its politics in 2017?
   a) Vermont  b) Illinois  c) Texas  d) Washington

14) Which country’s population mostly speaks a Slavic language?
   a) Sweden  b) Italy  c) Finland  d) Poland

15) Water that is found in an estuary and is in the transition zone from fresh water to salt water is referred to by which term?
   a) Brackish  b) Saline  c) Aquifer  d) Sedimentary

16) Which state is located in the region of the USA known as Tornado Alley?
   a) Maine  b) Utah  c) Hawaii  d) Kansas

17) Which symbol is on the flag of each country in Scandinavia?
   a) A star  b) A cross  c) An eagle  d) A Viking helmet

18) If you were traveling this summer and wished to visit Uluru and the Great Dividing Range, which country should you book a flight to?
   a) Argentina  b) Nepal  c) Australia  d) Switzerland

19) Because much of its water is taken for irrigation and residential use, which river’s mouth is usually dry?
   a) Columbia  b) Colorado  c) Delaware  d) Yukon

20) Mexico City is built on top of the ruins of which other city?
   a) Cuzco  b) Lima  c) Cahokia  d) Tenochtitlan

21) Which landmass’s size is most distorted on a world map using the Mercator projection?
   a) Africa  b) New Guinea  c) Greenland  d) Cyprus

22) The terrorist group Boko Haram has destabilized much of the north of which country?
   a) Slovakia  b) Uruguay  c) Nigeria  d) Philippines
23) This question was written in the backseat of a taxi in Mumbai in the Indian state of...
   a) Maharashtra  b) Jammu and Kashmir  c) Nagaland  d) West Bengal

24) Which island would you see while using the Drake Passage to avoid going around the tip of Cape Horn?
   a) Tierra del Sol  b) Tierra del Rio  c) Tierra del Fuego  d) Tierra del Oso

25) Which National Park’s landmarks include the rock formations Half Dome and El Capitan, as well as Tuolumne Meadows in the Sierra Nevada?
   a) Yellowstone  b) Yosemite  c) Acadia  d) Grand Canyon

26) Which country was NOT once part of the Soviet Union?
   a) Turkmenistan  b) Pakistan  c) Kyrgyzstan  d) Uzbekistan

27) The Everglades are located between the Gulf of Mexico and which lake in Florida?
   a) Erie  b) Okeechobee  c) Tahoe  d) Winnipesaukee

28) Khoi-San people live in which desert in Southern Africa?
   a) Sahara  b) Victoria  c) Mojave  d) Kalahari

29) Which city is home to St. Basil’s Cathedral near Red Square?
   a) London  b) Berlin  c) Warsaw  d) Moscow

30) Which nation recently ended its decades-long civil war with rebels from the FARC organization?
   a) Nicaragua  b) Colombia  c) Peru  d) Belize

31) Which river does not flow into the Arctic Ocean?
   a) Amur  b) Ob  c) Lena  d) Yenisei

32) Which city is closest to 0 degrees longitude as the Prime Meridian passes through its neighborhood of Greenwich?
   a) Dublin  b) Glasgow  c) Manchester  d) London

33) What extends roughly 80-100 miles off the coast of New Jersey?
   a) Seamounts  b) Continental Shelf  c) Abyssal Plains  d) Outer Banks

34) Nazca, Juan De Fuca, Indian, and Arabian are all...
   a) Oceans  b) Trenches  c) Tectonic Plates  d) Subduction Zones
35) Among others, what contribution did the Ancient Greek thinker Eratosthenes make to geography?
   a) Deduced the existence of the Americas
   b) First to suspect the earth was round
   c) Calculated the circumference of earth
   d) Was the first Greek traveler to visit India

36) Which agricultural activity is most widespread in Wisconsin?
   a) Dairy farming
   b) Salmon farming
   c) Date palm plantations
   d) Truffle cultivation

37) Which religion first developed in the area known as the Punjab?
   a) Islam
   b) Shinto
   c) Zoroastrianism
   d) Sikhism

38) The main continental divide in the USA most closely runs along which mountain range?
   a) Ozarks
   b) Rockies
   c) Sierra Nevada
   d) Green Mountains

39) Which small country has a tropical climate?
   a) Andorra
   b) San Marino
   c) Singapore
   d) Liechtenstein

40) The Rub al-Khalī desert can be found where?
   a) Near the ancient city of Petra
   b) In the western half of Pakistan
   c) At the Oman and Saudi Arabia border
   d) Surrounding Mesopotamia

41) Which population trend is currently occurring throughout most of Africa?
   a) Parents are selecting for girls leading to an underpopulation of boys
   b) Life expectancies are on the decline in most countries due to HIV
   c) Urban populations are increasing in most countries
   d) Women with more education are having more children on average than less educated women

42) If as an AFS exchange student you went with your family on a walk on La Rambla in your new hometown in Catalonia, you would be studying where?
   a) Barcelona
   b) Madrid
   c) Seville
   d) Naples

43) Which region has not been agitating for independence over the past 50 years?
   a) Hokkaido
   b) Scotland
   c) Chechnya
   d) Basque Country

44) Which state is home to the New England Patriots football team?
   a) Maine
   b) Oregon
   c) New York
   d) Massachusetts
45) Which country’s indigenous population, known as the Maori, hunted the moa birds to extinction on North and South Island?
   a) Australia  b) Vanuatu  c) Kiribati  d) New Zealand

46) How many US states have a land border with exactly one other US state?
   a) Zero  b) One  c) Two  d) Five

47) Which city name is shared by cities in both Virginia and Egypt?
   a) Luxor  b) Alexandria  c) Arlington  d) Sharm-el-Sheik

48) Mediterranean climates can be found in which two countries?
   a) Chile and Australia  b) Tuvalu and Iceland  c) Panama and Chad  d) Italy and Mongolia

49) The only Great Lake that Canada does not border is...
   a) Michigan  b) Erie  c) Huron  d) Superior

50) Which South American country lost all of its oceanic coastline in the War of the Pacific?
   a) Chile  b) Peru  c) Ecuador  d) Bolivia