

The United States Geography Olympiad & The International Geography Bee
2016-2017 National Qualifying Exam – E 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 state does not border the other three at the only spot where four states touch?
a) Idaho b) Utah c) Colorado d) New Mexico

- 2) Which biome is least prevalent in Canada?
a) Tundra b) Taiga c) Deciduous Forest d) Desert

- 3) No bridge or tunnel currently connects...
a) New York and New Jersey b) Sicily and Mainland Italy
c) England and France d) The Upper and Lower Peninsulas of Michigan

- 4) The Boers were _____ settlers in what is now _____.
a) British, Kenya b) French, Algeria
c) Dutch, South Africa d) British, Nigeria

- 5) The Cuyahoga River once notoriously caught fire in which US city?
a) Boston b) New York c) Pittsburgh d) Cleveland

- 6) Which line of latitude approximately corresponds to the Antarctic Circle?
a) 0 degrees b) 90 degrees south
c) 66 and a half degrees south d) 45 degrees south

- 7) The Tamil Tigers sought to create an independent state in the northern part of which island until their recent defeat in a civil war?
a) Britain b) Sumatra c) Luzon d) Sri Lanka

- 8) Which country does not have any part of its territory in the Amazon Watershed?
a) Brazil b) Peru c) Uruguay d) Ecuador

- 9) A train trip from Milan to Munich would traverse which mountain range?
a) Himalayas b) Pyrenees c) Urals d) Alps

- 10) Which city is name-checked in Lynard Skynard's song "Sweet Home Alabama"?
- a) Jackson b) Atlanta c) Tampa d) Birmingham
- 11) Which ethnic group of western China is predominantly Muslim and of Turkic origin?
- a) Manchus b) Uighurs c) Han d) Tibetan
- 12) Which English-speaking island group in the Caribbean Sea is known for its offshore banking industry and luxury resorts?
- a) Haiti b) Galapagos c) Turks and Caicos d) Cayman Islands
- 13) India and Pakistan maintain soldiers at which remote location, sometimes called the world's highest battlefield?
- a) Mt. Everest b) Xinjiang c) Siachen Glacier d) Sikkim
- 14) What is the world's most populous nation that is composed entirely of islands?
- a) Indonesia b) Japan c) Cuba d) United Kingdom
- 15) Which US state is considered part of the Wheat Belt, but not the Corn Belt?
- a) Iowa b) Kansas c) Illinois d) Indiana
- 16) What frequently shifting landforms often divide the Intracoastal Waterway from the Atlantic Ocean?
- a) Ergs b) Palisades c) Barrier islands d) Submarine canyons
- 17) Which country is divided into counties, such as Kerry, Mayo, and Galway?
- a) Canada b) UK c) Ireland d) New Zealand
- 18) Hurricanes that form from weather disturbances in the Atlantic that have moved off the west coast of Africa are given what moniker?
- a) Tunisia storms b) Cape Verde storms c) Chinooks d) Mistral
- 19) The public parkland of Washington, DC between the Washington Monument and the Capitol is known by what name?
- a) Central Park b) National Mall c) Wrigley Field d) The Supermax
- 20) This question was written in an airplane above the Bay of Bengal, an arm of which ocean?
- a) Atlantic b) Pacific c) Indian d) Arctic
- 21) If you were pompous in the Pampas, then you'd also be arrogant in....
- a) Argentina b) Austria c) Aruba d) Algeria

- 22) Which country has been torn by civil war among its Dinka and Nuer populations upon receiving its independence in the 21st century?
a) East Timor b) Montenegro c) Monaco d) South Sudan
- 23) The Vikings are known to have reached what landmass for certain?
a) Long Island b) Nantucket c) Bahamas d) Newfoundland
- 24) Reggae music and jerk chicken are hallmarks of what country's cultural heritage?
a) Belize b) Bhutan c) Paraguay d) Jamaica
- 25) The strip of land separating North and South Korea is known by what term?
a) Checkpoint Charlie b) Demilitarized Zone
c) Aozou Strip d) Pusan Perimeter
- 26) Which capital city is located at the highest elevation?
a) La Paz b) Lima c) Brasilia d) Buenos Aires
- 27) Where would you be most likely to find koalas in the wild?
a) Tasmania b) Victoria Desert c) Queensland d) South Island
- 28) Almost all of the world's weather occurs in what layer of the atmosphere?
a) Mesosphere b) Lithosphere c) Troposphere d) Thermosphere
- 29) As of 2017, what country is conducting civilian defense exercises to prepare for the possibility of a Russian invasion?
a) Czech Republic b) Hungary c) Estonia d) Albania
- 30) The Irrawaddy is the primary river of which country?
a) Vietnam b) Myanmar c) Laos d) Thailand
- 31) Piracy is a major concern in which waterway between Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula?
a) Strait of Gibraltar b) Palk Strait
c) Straits of Malacca d) Lake Huron
- 32) As a cheeky tourist, you can slide down the bannister inside the Great Pyramid at what city?
a) Giza b) Gaza c) Geezer d) Gilead
- 33) What landform is not known for being flat?
a) Prairie b) Plateau c) Mesa d) Ravine

- 34) The land that composed Mesopotamia is mostly found in what present-day country?
a) Iran b) Iraq c) Yemen d) Bahrain
- 35) As an evolutionary adaptation, flightlessness in birds is most commonly found among species that live where?
a) In Australia b) On islands c) The Arctic d) In mountain ranges
- 36) If you hiked the length of the Appalachian Trail, which mountain would you not see on your trip?
a) Mt. Katahdin b) Clingmann's Dome c) Springer Mountain d) Mt. Whitney
- 37) Major earthquakes are least common in which country?
a) Greece b) Italy c) Japan d) France
- 38) Which two cities lie at opposite ends of Interstate Highway I-90?
a) New York and San Francisco b) Montreal and Miami
c) Boston and Seattle d) San Diego and Seattle
- 39) Niagara Falls is located in between which two Great Lakes?
a) Huron and Erie b) Michigan and Huron
c) Superior and Huron d) Erie and Ontario
- 40) The capital city of Liberia was named for...
a) King George III of England b) Nelson Mandela
c) The 5th president of the USA d) A famous painter
- 41) Which European country once belonged to the defense alliance known as the Warsaw Pact?
a) Spain b) Hungary c) Italy d) Finland
- 42) Which language has the majority of its speakers living outside of Europe?
a) German b) Italian c) Spanish d) Norwegian
- 43) Part of which US state was acquired in the Gadsden Purchase?
a) Arizona b) Ohio c) Georgia d) Rhode Island
- 44) The gloriously named Omar Bongo served for decades as the leader of which Sub-Saharan African country on the Atlantic coast?
a) Ghana b) Gabon c) Kenya d) Libya

- 45) Nazareth and Bethlehem are cities where Jesus lived, and also name cities in the Eastern part of which US state?
a) Alaska b) Florida c) Nevada d) Pennsylvania
- 46) Russian researchers have been criticized for their method of recovering ice samples from which Antarctic lake which lies beneath the icepack?
a) Lake Ladoga b) Lake Baikal c) Lake Vostok d) Lake Putin
- 47) The movement of the Arabian and African tectonic plates away from each other means that which sea is getting slightly wider?
a) Red Sea b) Dead Sea c) Yellow Sea d) Sea of Okhotsk
- 48) What is the most commonly known nickname of Denver?
a) D-Ville b) Rockytown c) Area 51 d) Mile High City
- 49) If you ate samosas in Samoa, you'd be...
a) Eating Indian food in Polynesia b) Eating Greek food in Melanesia
c) Eating Chinese food in Melanesia d) Eating Swedish food in Sweden
- 50) If as an AFS exchange student you got put back on a flight to your home country from the airport in Accra because you broke AFS's strict no hitchhiking rule, you'd have to say good-bye to your host family in which country?
a) Togo b) Benin c) Ghana d) Guinea-Bissau