The United States Geography Olympiad & The International Geography Bee
2017-2018 National Qualifying Exam – B Set Version

NAME: ___________________________________________ GRADE: __________ (e.g. 8th, 9th, 10th, etc.)

SCHOOL / HOMESCHOOL AFFILIATION: ____________________________________________________________

Check here: ______ if you were born before July 1, 2002 (if so, you are a VARSITY student for USGO & IGB)
Check here: ______ if you were born on or after July 1, 2002 (if so, you are a JV student for USGO & IGB)*

* = Students in 7th & 8th grade are eligible to compete in both JV and Middle School Divisions. Students in 6th grade and younger are eligible to compete in both the JV and Elementary Divisions. If you are in 8th grade or younger and you qualify for JV Nationals off this Exam, then you are also eligible to compete at Middle School or Elementary Nationals (depending on your grade) for USGO and IGB without needing to take another Exam.

Email to report score to: ________________________________________________________________ (print neatly!)

Instructions: Print the Correct Answer in the space provided or leave it blank. Write Neatly!!! Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points. You have 20 Minutes to complete this Exam. If you are also taking the US History Bee Exam, you have 40 minutes in which to complete both Exams and you may do them simultaneously or one after the other.

1) Renegade Japanese soldiers left behind after World War II held out in forests in which Pacific archipelagic nation into the 1960’s?
   A) Sri Lanka       B) Mongolia       C) Tonga       D) Philippines

2) Which American city is nicknamed “The Big Easy?”
   A) New York City   B) New Orleans   C) Chicago   D) Cheyenne

3) Which lake is not in the East African Rift?
   A) Lake Turkana   B) Lake Tanganyika   C) Lake Victoria   D) Lake Chad

4) Which countries still engage in whaling in the 21st century?
   A) Iraq & Iran   B) Spain & Israel   C) Japan & Norway   D) Uganda & Peru

5) Which US city is at greatest risk from rising sea levels due to global warming?
   A) Salt Lake City   B) Denver   C) Cincinnati   D) Miami

6) You can boogie under the midnight sun in June at Disko Bay on which North Atlantic island near Thule, where the US maintained a Cold War airbase?
   A) Labrador   B) Greenland   C) Majorca   D) Prince Edward Island
7) If you are touring China and wish to see the Great Wall, then you’re best off visiting which city, where a 90 minute drive north of it will take you to one of the Great Wall’s remaining sections?
A) Taipei  
B) Hong Kong  
C) Shanghai  
D) Beijing

8) By land area, which is the largest state in Australia?
A) Victoria  
B) New South Wales  
C) Western Australia  
D) Tasmania

9) An F5 tornado on the enhanced Fujita scale is most likely to hit which city’s metropolitan area?
A) Miami  
B) Boston  
C) Oklahoma City  
D) San Francisco

10) Russia maintains an exclave on the Baltic Sea known as the _______ Oblast?
A) Chukchi  
B) Kamchatka  
C) Chechnya  
D) Kaliningrad

11) When the jet stream dips southward in winter in the USA, what is a common result?
A) Tornadoes occur in the Great Lakes region  
B) Cold air masses fill the dip in the jet stream  
C) Droughts follow in the spring as a result  
D) Hot air masses fill the dip in the jet stream

12) Which country is often referred to as being located on a subcontinent?
A) India  
B) China  
C) Japan  
D) Uzbekistan

13) Bantu languages are most commonly spoken on which continent?
A) Antarctica  
B) Africa  
C) Europe  
D) North America

14) In which city did ISIS destroy the Great Mosque of al-Nuri before it fell to Iraqi forces in 2017?
A) Istanbul  
B) Tehran  
C) Riyadh  
D) Mosul

15) Which is not considered one of the Northern Mariana Islands?
A) Maui  
B) Tinian  
C) Saipan  
D) Rota

16) A trip to the Galapagos Islands would require passing through customs in what country?
A) Belize  
B) Cuba  
C) Ecuador  
D) Brazil

17) What features on glaciers can be fatal to unsuspecting hikers who fall into them?
A) Cols  
B) Drumlins  
C) Crevasses  
D) Inselbergs

18) Which form of capital is legal tender in the South Korean capital?
A) Won  
B) Zloty  
C) Pesos  
D) Euros

19) More imposing border fences on the US-Mexico border would make it harder for which native animal to repopulate the northern part of its historic range?
A) Lion  
B) Jaguar  
C) Cheetah  
D) Sabre-toothed Tiger

20) In what state could you visit a work of art known as Touchdown Jesus at Notre Dame University?
A) New Jersey  
B) Indiana  
C) Alaska  
D) New Mexico

21) This question was written in the back of a taxi on the Rive Gauche near the Champs Elysées in which foreign capital?
A) Brussels  
B) Paris  
C) Amsterdam  
D) Funafuti

22) The only Canadian province to border the Pacific Ocean is?
A) Alberta  
B) Ontario  
C) British Columbia  
D) Manitoba

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23) During the Cold War, which was the only member state of NATO whose predominant religion was Orthodox Christianity?
A) Greece  B) Turkey  C) Romania  D) Czechoslovakia

24) The only country in Africa that completely surrounds another country is?
A) South Africa  B) Ethiopia  C) Egypt  D) Senegal

25) Which conflict was fought between Bolivia and Paraguay?
A) Patagonia War  B) Amazon War  C) Hispaniola War  D) Chaco War

26) The *South China Morning Post* has long been published in which city?
A) Vladivostok  B) Lhasa  C) Beijing  D) Hong Kong

27) Which of these US states is most likely to be a swing state in the 2020 presidential election?
A) Mississippi  B) Alabama  C) Wisconsin  D) Kentucky

28) Which two countries have bights named for them?
A) Australia and Benin  B) Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan
C) USA and Canada  D) Swaziland and Liechtenstein

29) In which month would you most likely need to worry about a hurricane striking Florida?
A) January  B) March  C) April  D) August

30) Which African countries were colonized by Portugal?
A) Mali & Benin  B) Egypt & Tunisia  C) Gabon & Eritrea  D) Angola & Mozambique

31) Which country’s name is not also found in the name of its capital city?
A) Mexico  B) Costa Rica  C) Guatemala  D) Panama

32) Which of these cities is classified as a Beta level global city?
A) London  B) Peoria  C) Montreal  D) Tokyo

33) Urban planners looking for transit solutions to help increase accessibility to Roosevelt Island in New York City might consider all of the following except...?
A) Ferry services  B) New subway stops  C) Longer aerial tram hours  D) Funicular railways

34) You’ve found a flag with red, white, and blue stripes in your basement left over from a past International History Olympiad. Before unfolding it, you know it could be the flag of...
A) Singapore  B) Thailand  C) Vietnam  D) China

35) Poland wants to diversify its supply of natural gas as it receives much of its current supply from?
A) Portugal  B) Russia  C) Barbados  D) Japan

36) The term or name “Acre” does not refer to which of the following?
A) A former Crusader stronghold now in Israel  B) A state of Brazil in the Amazon rain forest
C) A non-metric unit of land measurement  D) The ancient capital of Roman Britain

37) Several former presidents of which African country were born in the USA?
A) Angola  B) Liberia  C) Kenya  D) Libya
38) Which is the largest city by population in the USA lacking an Amtrak station, the nearest station being in the city of Maricopa?
A) New York City    B) Chicago    C) Detroit    D) Phoenix

39) The furniture store IKEA and the clothing label H & M are iconic brands from which country?
A) Belarus    B) Haiti    C) Sweden    D) Fiji

40) Which mountain range is not visited during a complete hike of the Appalachian Trail?
A) Cascades    B) White Mountains    C) Great Smokies    D) Green Mountains

41) Why is swimming off the Australian East Coast discouraged in certain months?
A) Hurricanes originating off Tasmania generate strong riptides
B) Box jellyfish, whose sting can be deadly, pose a threat to careless swimmers
C) Annual cycles of the Aurora Australis enlarge the hole in the ozone layer, leading to sunburns
D) Each year, the New Zealand Navy attempts an invasion to reconquer New South Wales

42) The Six Flags historically flown over Texas do not include that of which country?
A) Spain    B) Sweden    C) France    D) Confederate States of America

43) Which African country was recently estimated to have the lowest per capita income in the world, as judged by purchasing power parity?
A) Central African Republic    B) Tunisia    C) Egypt    D) South Africa

44) Which was the only one of the original 13 American colonies to not border the Atlantic Ocean or Long Island Sound?
A) New Jersey    B) Pennsylvania    C) Maine    D) Kentucky

45) Which country famous caned the naughty American student Michael Fay in the 1990’s and was led for decades by the recent deceased Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew?
A) Mongolia    B) Vatican City    C) Bhutan    D) Singapore

46) Which continent has never hosted the Summer Olympics?
A) South America    B) Australia    C) Africa    D) Asia

47) A World War I guerilla leader fighting the Ottoman Empire became known as Lawrence of _____?
A) Atacama    B) Arabia    C) Andalusia    D) Alabama

48) Liquefaction is of most concern during which type of natural disaster?
A) Tornadoes    B) Earthquakes    C) Drought    D) Locust plague

49) How many US states are located entirely south of the Tropic of Cancer?
A) Zero    B) One    C) Three    D) Thirty Seven

50) If as an AFS exchange student, your classes were held in the Tamil language, you might be studying in which city on the west coast of the Bay of Bengal?
A) Chennai    B) Santiago    C) Delhi    D) Oslo