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

NAME: ___________________________________________ GRADE: _______ (e.g. 6th, 7th, 8th, etc.)

Check here:____ if you’re in 7th or 8th grade (if so, you’re a MIDDLE SCHOOL division student for USGO & IGB)

Check here:____ if you’re in 6th grade or younger (if so, you’re an ELEMENTARY division student for USGO & IGB, even if you attend a middle school) **

** = Homeschooled students who are not officially in any grade are considered Elementary if born after October 1, 2005

SCHOOL / HOMESCHOOL AFFILIATION: ________________________________________________________________

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.

_______ 1) Which state’s nickname is the Lone Star State?
   A) Texas       B) New Jersey  C) Utah       D) Michigan

_______ 2) Which country is the largest by area in South America?
   A) Argentina   B) Peru       C) Brazil    D) Ecuador

_______ 3) The Spanish Steps aren’t in Spain, but are a landmark in which city, near the Coliseum?
   A) Paris       B) London     C) Rome      D) Madrid

_______ 4) Which country is most at risk from tsunamis?
   A) Austria     B) Japan      C) Sweden    D) Chad

_______ 5) This question was written on a flight from Vienna to Doha, the capital of which Middle Eastern country?
   A) Israel      B) Iraq       C) Nepal     D) Qatar

_______ 6) Starbucks, Microsoft, and Amazon are all headquartered in which US state?
   A) Nevada      B) Washington C) Louisiana D) Rhode Island

_______ 7) What is the only one of the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World still standing?
   A) Lighthouse of Alexandria B) Hanging Gardens of Babylon
   C) Statue of Zeus at Olympia D) Great Pyramid of Giza
8) French, Italian, and Spanish are all known as what type of language?
   A) Slavic    B) Germanic    C) Finno-Ugric    D) Romance

9) Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island are collectively known as what?
   A) Arctic Provinces    B) Maritime Provinces    C) Pacific Provinces    D) Prairie Provinces

10) Which country, with approximately 300,000 people just became the smallest ever by population to qualify for the FIFA World Cup of soccer?
    A) Iran    B) Iceland    C) Poland    D) Colombia

11) Which river in Africa flows predominantly from South to North?
    A) Niger    B) Congo    C) Nile    D) Volta

12) Which volcano lies on the Big Island of Hawaii?
    A) Vesuvius    B) Mauna Kea    C) Mt. Rainier    D) Popocatepetl

13) Which of these countries is a permanent member of the UN Security Council?
    A) Albania    B) Greece    C) France    D) Denmark

14) Which two countries collectively are home to about 1/3 of the world’s population?
    A) Japan and China    B) China and India    C) India and Vietnam    D) China and South Korea

15) The Andes Mountains run along the Western edge of which continent?
    A) Africa    B) Europe    C) South America    D) Australia

16) Which of these is not an actual sea that borders parts of Asia?
    A) Black Sea    B) Pink Sea    C) Yellow Sea    D) Red Sea

17) Which baseball team would have the longest trip home after finishing a series in Miami?
    A) Atlanta Braves    B) Chicago Cubs    C) Houston Astros    D) San Francisco Giants

18) Which present-day country’s territory was once part of the Roman Empire?
    A) Portugal    B) Angola    C) Belize    D) Burkina Faso

19) Which of these small countries has a tropical climate?
    A) San Marino    B) Andorra    C) Liechtenstein    D) Singapore

20) Which highway runs east to west across the USA from just west of New York City to California?
    A) Interstate 95    B) Oregon Trail    C) US Route 1    D) Interstate 80

21) Which country has never hosted the Winter Olympics?
    A) USA    B) Canada    C) Russia    D) India

22) The United Kingdom and Argentina once fought a war over control of what?
    A) Bermuda    B) Falkland Islands    C) Suriname    D) Missouri

23) Which city is in the Mountain Time Zone?
    A) Los Angeles    B) Salt Lake City    C) Baltimore    D) Dallas

24) If you wanted to take a river cruise on the Danube River, where might you first get on your ship?
    A) Budapest    B) Boston    C) Beijing    D) Brisbane
25) Which is the only Great Lake that doesn’t border Canada?
   A) Huron   B) Ontario   C) Superior   D) Michigan

26) Which of these countries has a cross on its flag?
   A) Japan   B) Sweden   C) Mexico   D) China

27) The landmass known as Pangaea was once a what?
   A) A supercontinent   B) An atoll   C) An archipelago   D) An extinct volcano

28) Hunan, Szechuan, and Cantonese are three varieties of what?
   A) French swimsuits   B) Chinese cuisine   C) Indian warships   D) Italian leather goods

29) Which country has recently been criticized for its ballistic missile and nuclear weapons tests?
   A) Slovakia   B) Barbados   C) North Korea   D) Tunisia

30) South Africa borders all of the following countries except which one?
   A) Namibia   B) Lesotho   C) Botswana   D) Libya

31) Jainism, Buddhism, and Hinduism all began in which country?
   A) Israel   B) India   C) Iraq   D) Iceland

32) Which is the only island state of Australia?
   A) Bali   B) Sumatra   C) Tasmania   D) New Caledonia

33) Which river does not begin in the Himalayas or the Himalayan Foothills?
   A) Ganges   B) Indus   C) Brahmaputra   D) Euphrates

34) Which country is located in Central America?
   A) Nicaragua   B) Paraguay   C) Cape Verde   D) Tonga

35) Which city is located in the Midwest USA?
   A) Philadelphia   B) Chicago   C) San Diego   D) Tampa

36) Which body of water is an arm of the Pacific Ocean?
   A) Gulf of California   B) Gulf of Mexico   C) Caribbean Sea   D) Hudson Bay

37) Which two states contain portions known as Panhandles?
   A) Vermont & Iowa   B) Illinois & Kansas   C) Texas & Florida   D) Oregon & Montana

38) Snowfall is most common in January in which of the following world cities?
   A) Madrid   B) Melbourne   C) Moscow   D) Mexico City

39) Which of these African countries is landlocked?
   A) Algeria   B) Mali   C) Kenya   D) Egypt

40) Which of these states voted for the Democratic candidate in the last two US presidential elections?
   A) Texas   B) Ohio   C) California   D) Nebraska

41) The region of Catalonia has recently tried to break away from which European country?
   A) Russia   B) Hungary   C) Spain   D) Ireland
42) Some boundaries along mountain ridges that determine river drainage basins are called?
A) Isthmuses  B) Tectonic Plates  C) Coral Reefs  D) Continental Divides

43) The largest country by land area that has existed over the past 100 years was what former one?
A) Yugoslavia  B) Czechoslovakia  C) Soviet Union  D) Austria-Hungary

44) Which country is home to a flightless bird and a native fruit, both of which are called kiwis?
A) Canada  B) New Zealand  C) United Kingdom  D) Germany

45) What US state is home to the only major coffee growing region in the USA?
A) Alaska  B) Minnesota  C) New Mexico  D) Hawaii

46) Which defensive alliance does the USA belong to, along with other countries like Canada & France?
A) ASEAN  B) OPEC  C) NATO  D) Warsaw Pact

47) Which continent is the second largest in both area and population?
A) Asia  B) Europe  C) Africa  D) Antarctica

48) Which country's most important industries include banking, watchmaking, cheese production, and chocolate production?
A) Honduras  B) Switzerland  C) Mongolia  D) Yemen

49) Which state is currently home to no cities that are served by Amtrak?
A) New York  B) Illinois  C) Maryland  D) Wyoming

50) The study and practice of mapmaking is known by what term?
A) Cartography  B) Glaciation  C) Calligraphy  D) Mercatorization