

## 2021 US Geography Championships Multiple Choice Examination - Part 1

**Instructions** – This portion of the multiple-choice examination consists of 40 questions. You will receive two points for a correct answer. You will lose one point for an incorrect answer. Blank responses lose no points. Please fill in the bubbles completely on the answer sheet. You may write on the examination, but all responses must be bubbled on the answer sheet. All images are contained in the resource booklet. Diacritic marks such as accents have been omitted from place names and other proper nouns. You have one hour to complete both the written portion of the examination and this set of multiple-choice questions.

Questions 1-10 refer to the image in section 1 in the resource section of the examination.

1. This image represents landforms and structures formed by which of the following processes?
  - A. aeolian
  - B. fluvial
  - C. lacustrine
  - D. oceanic
2. Which of the following terms best describes the stream marked 2 on this image?
  - A. anastomosed
  - B. straight
  - C. braided
  - D. meandering
3. Which of these is an example of an anastomosing river in North America?
  - A. the Columbia River
  - B. the Colorado River
  - C. the Red River of the South
  - D. the Red River of the North
4. Which of the following are characteristic features of braided rivers and particularly associated with the River Thames in England?
  - A. stream pools
  - B. crevasse splay
  - C. aits (eyots)
  - D. riffles
5. Numbers 1 and 5 on the image represent which of the following?
  - A. oxbow lakes
  - B. meander scars
  - C. backswamps
  - D. cutbanks
6. Which of these represents the location of a natural levee?
  - A. 4
  - B. 5
  - C. 6
  - D. 8

7. Natural levees form immediately adjacent to which of the following?
  - A. cut banks
  - B. pendant bars
  - C. drainage basins
  - D. eskers
8. Which of the following best describes the relationship between a cut bank and a point bar?
  - A. they cannot be in close proximity to each other
  - B. both are common features of straight rivers
  - C. a cut bank is caused by erosion and a point bar by deposition
  - D. both must be located in river deltas
9. Which of the following is true of the structure located at 4 on the image?
  - A. it must be spring fed
  - B. it will usually join the main river or stream at a belated confluence
  - C. it must exist inside of natural levees
  - D. it can be caused by crevasse splay
10. Which of the following is a notable example of the structure marked 3 on the image?
  - A. Toledo Bend between Texas and Louisiana
  - B. Lake Okeechobee in Florida
  - C. Lake Pontchartrain in Louisiana
  - D. Lake Chicot in Arkansas

Questions 11-20 refer to the image in section 2 in the resource section. This image shows migration flows between the top 50 sending and receiving countries for the 5-year period 2005-10. The flow has the same color as the origin country and there is a white space between flow and destination country. Numbers show migrants in hundreds of thousands.

11. Given the information in the image, which of these countries has the largest outflow of migrants?
  - A. Mexico
  - B. Bangladesh
  - C. India
  - D. China
12. Of the countries listed, which of the following is the most common destination for migrants from Bangladesh?
  - A. the United States
  - B. the United Kingdom
  - C. Qatar
  - D. Saudi Arabia
13. Which of the following is true of emigration from the United States?
  - A. Mexico is the most common single destination for migrants from the US in this period
  - B. most migrants from the US emigrate to nations in western Europe
  - C. both India and China received more than 100,000 migrants from the US during this period

D. migrants from the US are Spain's largest immigrant group

14. The top sources for migrants to the United Kingdom are best characterized by which of the following?

- A. they are former British colonies
- B. they are Northern and Western European nations
- C. they are all in Southeast Asia
- D. they are African and Caribbean nations

15. All of these are true of immigration in the United States EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the number of immigrants living in the US has roughly quadrupled since 1970
- B. the percentage of the US population that is foreign-born is slightly lower than it was in 1890
- C. roughly 25% of the US population was foreign-born as of 2018
- D. the US has more immigrants than anywhere else in the world

16. The largest share of the foreign-born population of the US fell into which of these categories as of 2017?

- A. unauthorized immigrants
- B. temporary lawful residents
- C. lawful permanent residents
- D. naturalized citizens

17. Between 2002 and 2017, all of these nations were among the top countries of origin for refugees entering the US EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Burma
- B. Vietnam
- C. Iraq
- D. Bhutan

18. Which of the following has the largest percentage of the US foreign-born population?

- A. Texas
- B. Florida
- C. California
- D. New York

19. All of these are true of the educational attainment of the US foreign-born population age 25 or older as of 2018 EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the percentage of the foreign-born population holding a bachelor's degree or higher was roughly equivalent to that of native-born Americans
- B. fewer than 5 percent of Mexican immigrants to the US have bachelor's degrees or higher
- C. over two-thirds of South Asian immigrants over 25 have a bachelor's degree or higher
- D. over 40 percent of the foreign-born population in the US has at least some college education

20. Which of the following immigrant groups in the US has been undergoing a substantial counter-migration over the last decade?

- A. Guatemalans
- B. Indians
- C. Chinese

D. Mexicans

Questions 21-30 refer to the image in section 3 in the resource section.

21. Which of the following is true of El Nino?

- A. it is associated with a band of warm ocean water that develops in the central and east-central equatorial Pacific
- B. it will cause the sea surface temperature across the eastern equatorial part of the central Pacific Ocean to be lower than normal by 3 to 5 degrees Celsius
- C. El Nino phases last roughly six months
- D. the phenomenon occurs as strong winds blow warm water at the ocean's surface away from South America and across the Pacific Ocean towards Indonesia

22. Image 3 depicts the global effects of El Nino during which of the following times of year?

- A. March to May
- B. June to August
- C. September to November
- D. December to February

23. Which of these is generally true of the effect of El Nino cycles on weather in Indonesia?

- A. conditions will be more dry June to August but much more wet from December to February
- B. Indonesia will be more dry for almost the entire year
- C. conditions will be more wet June to August but more dry from December to February
- D. El Nino has no appreciable effect on the weather in Indonesia

24. Generally the southern United States will be more dry and warm than normal during which of the following?

- A. an El Nino winter
- B. an El Nino summer
- C. a La Nina winter
- D. a La Nina summer

25. Which of these is true of tropical cyclones in the North Atlantic during strong El Nino years?

- A. there will be a strong increase in overall intensity of storms
- B. there will be a sharp decrease in the overall number of storms
- C. both frequency and intensity will increase slightly
- D. there is no appreciable effect on North Atlantic cyclones due to El Nino

26. Which of these is true of the relationship between the Walker circulation and El Nino?

- A. seasonal oscillations in the Walker circulation will bring about an El Nino period every six months or so
- B. an especially strong Walker circulation will bring about the beginning of an El Nino cycle
- C. a weakening or reversal of the Walker circulation helps to cause El Nino
- D. there is no relationship between the Walker circulation and El Nino

27. Which of these extreme weather events was caused in part by the exceptionally strong La Nina event taking place at the beginning of the 2010s?

- A. the 2010 Pakistan floods
- B. the 2010-11 floods in Queensland Australia
- C. the 2011 East Africa drought
- D. all of these were a result of this La Nina event

28. Which of these is true of the relationship between El Nino and the jet stream in the United States?

- A. El Nino causes a stronger, more northerly jet stream
- B. El Nino causes a stronger, more southerly jet stream
- C. El Nino causes a weaker, more northerly jet stream
- D. El Nino causes a weaker, more southerly jet stream

29. Which of these is considered the atmospheric component of El Nino?

- A. the Southern Oscillation
- B. the Madden-Julian oscillation
- C. Hadley cells
- D. the Intertropical Convergence Zone

30. Which of these is the name given to the permanent east-to-west prevailing winds that flow in the Earth's equatorial region?

- A. trade winds
- B. westerlies
- C. the Doldrums
- D. the Roaring Forties

Questions 31-40 refer to the image in section 4 in the resource section.

31. Given the information on the map, which of the following best describes the countries in Europe with the lowest median income per adult?

- A. they are also the nations with the highest population in Europe
- B. they are all in Western Europe
- C. they were formerly part of the Soviet Union
- D. they were constituents of the former Yugoslavia

32. Which of the following statements is true of the median income per adult in South America?

- A. every country in South America has a median income per adult over \$10,000 USD
- B. according to the map, the wealthiest area in South America is not an independent nation
- C. Argentina has a median income per adult over \$50,000
- D. Venezuela's median income per adult is less than \$2,500

33. Which of the following best defines the term purchasing power parity?

- A. it is a measure of the exchange rate between two currencies
- B. it is the historical measure of the purchasing power of a country's currency
- C. it is a measure of the availability of certain types of goods within a country

D. it is a measurement that uses a 'basket of goods' to compare the absolute purchasing power of one country's currency compared to another

34. In addition to median income per adult, all of these are used to measure the relative wealth of countries EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. fertility rate
- B. per capita GDP
- C. income distribution
- D. consumption per capita

35. Which of the following is true of Rostow's Stages of Economic Growth model?

- A. all but a handful of Asian countries are in the 'preconditions for take-off' or Stage 2 of the model
- B. the United States would have reached the 'age of high mass-consumption' in the late nineteenth century under this model
- C. no entire country in the modern world is in Stage 1 of the model
- D. all of the wealthiest nations in the world have reached 'beyond consumption' or Stage 6 of the model

36. All of these are criticisms of Rostow's model EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it encouraged the exploitation of less-developed countries by wealthier countries
- B. it did not account for non-capitalist economic systems
- C. it assumed that all developing nations would receive support from wealthier nations at some point
- D. it did not fully consider significant differences among nations on their path to development

37. Unlike Rostow's model, Immanuel Wallerstein's World Systems Theory suggests which of the following about development?

- A. that there are clear and measurable ways for all countries to improve their position in the world and become core countries
- B. some countries will never progress beyond a certain stage of development
- C. all countries will eventually begin to regress and become less developed over time
- D. that development must follow clear and predictable patterns

38. In Wallerstein's model, China falls into which of the following categories?

- A. core
- B. periphery
- C. semi-periphery
- D. global power

39. All of these were among the UN Millennium Development Goals EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. improving maternal health
- B. promotion of gender equality and empowering women
- C. eradication of extreme poverty and hunger
- D. eliminating carbon emissions

40. One key difference between the Millennium Development Goals and the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals of the UN is which of the following?

- A. specific focus in the SDGs on the elimination of poverty
- B. the absence of gender equality in the MDGs
- C. an emphasis in the SDGs on collective action by all countries rather than a donor-recipient relationship between developed and developing nations
- D. no mention in the SDGs of environmental issues