The US Geography Olympiad and International Geography Bee
2018-2019 G Set Version Qualifying Exam

This version is only taken online and only available to students and schools that have registered for the Middle School or Elementary School Divisions of the National History Bee and/or National Science Bee.

Score two points for a correct answer, zero for a blank answer, and -1 for an incorrect answer. Students have 20 minutes to take the exam.

1) Which state in New England is roughly as large as the other five New England states combined?
   A) Maine       B) Vermont       C) Massachusetts       D) Connecticut

2) In November 2018, devastating wild fires swept through Malibu, near what California city?
   A) New York City       B) Anchorage       C) Miami       D) Los Angeles

3) Reggae and Calypso music originated in which part of the tropics?
   A) The Arctic       B) The Middle East       C) The Caribbean       D) Tibet

4) When Germans go on vacation in Italy, they must cross which mountain range to get there?
   A) The Rockies       B) The Urals       C) The Himalayas       D) The Alps

5) In which location would you have the best chance of viewing the Aurora Australis in the night sky?
   A) Washington DC       B) Antarctica       C) Crete       D) North Korea

6) Ellis Island and Angel Island are known for their roles in which capacity?
   A) Hosting the Olympics       B) Processing immigrants to the USA       C) Nuclear weapons testing       D) Serving as prisons for members of the mafia

7) Part of which of these countries is located in the Sahara Desert?
   A) China       B) Australia       C) Libya       D) Turkmenistan

8) The 2019 International Geography Olympiad will be held in which city on the South China Sea?
   A) Tokyo       B) Pyongyang       C) Beijing       D) Hong Kong

9) Which continent is not located at all in the Northern Hemisphere?
   A) Asia       B) South America       C) Europe       D) Australia

10) Which mountain range separates the Iberian Peninsula from the rest of Europe?
    A) Caucasus       B) Pyrenees       C) Adirondacks       D) Andes

11) Which country’s flag consists of yellow stars on a red background?
    A) Russia       B) Japan       C) China       D) India
12) Which Romance language has the greatest number of native speakers around the world?
   A) Romanian  B) Sardinian  C) Spanish  D) Italian

13) Which of these industries is most important to the economies of Kentucky and West Virginia?
   A) Filmmaking  B) Sheep ranching  C) Coal mining  D) Deep sea fishing

14) Which city’s landmarks include a tall building called the Willis Tower, Wrigley Field, and beaches along Lake Michigan?
   A) Cleveland  B) Buffalo  C) Chicago  D) Milwaukee

15) Which of the following is a landlocked country in South America?
   A) Brazil  B) Chad  C) Peru  D) Paraguay

16) Kenya, Sri Lanka, and Australia all have a coastline on which ocean?
   A) Arctic  B) Atlantic  C) Pacific  D) Indian

17) Which of these countries has the greatest biodiversity among its flora and fauna?
   A) Finland  B) Colombia  C) Denmark  D) Uruguay

18) Which American city has by far the largest population?
   A) Salt Lake City  B) New York City  C) Dallas  D) Orlando

19) Which of these American states has the most electoral votes among the four listed here and is currently considered a swing state in presidential elections?
   A) Florida  B) Massachusetts  C) Arkansas  D) Washington

20) Dishes such as garlic naan bread, rogan josh, samosas, and chicken tandoori are from what country’s culinary heritage?
   A) Italy  B) Nigeria  C) Argentina  D) India

21) Which of these rivers does not flow into the Mediterranean Sea?
   A) Nile  B) Rhone  C) Amazon  D) Ebro

22) Earthquakes are commonly caused by which of the following methods?
   A) Abnormalities in ocean tides  B) Movement of tectonic plates against each other
   C) Lake effect snow squalls  D) Fluctuations in the solar wind

23) Which of these American mountains tops out at over 20,000 feet?

24) Which of these countries is not currently home to any US military installations?
   A) Germany  B) Russia  C) Qatar  D) Japan

25) Which Canadian province is located in the easternmost time zone of any Canadian province?
   A) Ontario  B) Manitoba  C) Newfoundland & Labrador  D) Alberta

26) On which island did the Roman Empire build Hadrian’s Wall and the city of Londinium?
   A) Jamaica  B) Iceland  C) Great Britain  D) Honshu

US Geography Olympiad and International Geography Bee  |  2  | 2018-2019 G Set National Qualifying Exam
27) Which of these places has the greatest variation between its average January and July high temperatures?
   A) Singapore  B) Honolulu  C) San Diego  D) Toronto

28) Which word follows “Erie”, “Suez”, & “Panama” to name a geographic feature made by people?
   A) Dam  B) Fort  C) Canal  D) Seaport

29) Which European country lacks land borders with any other country?
   A) Malta  B) Austria  C) Portugal  D) Slovakia

30) Significantly colder average global temperatures, such as those found during ice ages, lead to which of the following outcomes?
   A) Rising global sea levels  B) Greater biodiversity in mid-latitude regions
   C) Falling global sea levels  D) A decline in the extent of land covered by glaciers

31) A non-stop flight from Miami to which of these state capitals would take the longest?
   A) Baton Rouge  B) Atlanta  C) Boise  D) Richmond

32) This question was written in the middle of which mountain range in Vermont?
   A) Green Mountains  B) Rocky Mountains  C) Cascade Mountains  D) Ozark Mountains

33) Which of these countries has seen the greatest percentage rise in its Gross Domestic Product since 1955?
   A) South Korea  B) Haiti  C) Somalia  D) Yemen

34) Lions, zebras, and giraffes inhabit which biome in East Africa?
   A) Savannah  B) Tundra  C) Taiga  D) Mangrove swamps

35) Which word is used for the result when rain sweeps away topsoil and plants off a hillside?
   A) Desalinization  B) Erosion  C) Subduction  D) Desertification

36) On December 21, which city has the smallest amount of daylight hours?
   A) Fairbanks, AK  B) Houston, TX  C) Baltimore, MD  D) Cedar Rapids, IA

37) Which of these countries ranks in the top 10 in both land area and population?
   A) Brazil  B) Argentina  C) Chile  D) Ecuador

38) Volcanoes do not pose a serious hazard to any part of which country?
   A) Japan  B) USA  C) Bahamas  D) Indonesia

39) Which of these parts of the world produces the most oil and natural gas?
   A) Central America  B) Middle East  C) Australia & New Zealand  D) Polynesia

40) Which of these American states shares a land border with a foreign country?
   A) South Dakota  B) Arizona  C) New Jersey  D) Tennessee

41) Which country celebrated its victory in the 2018 FIFA World Cup soccer tournament with a parade on the Avenue des Champs Elysées?
   A) Russia  B) Botswana  C) Germany  D) France
42) “The Ukraine girls make me sing and shout” is a line from which song by The Beatles?
   A) “London Calling”   B) “Back in the USSR”   C) “Norwegian Wood”   D) “Spanish Harlem”

43) Hikers can travel over 2000 miles on which walking path in the eastern USA?
   A) Oregon Trail   B) Pacific Crest Trail   C) Appalachian Trail   D) Chisholm Trail

44) Which of the following rivers is a tributary of the Mississippi River?
   A) Delaware River   B) Colorado River   C) Connecticut River   D) Ohio River

45) Hinduism has the most adherents in which South Asian country?
   A) Nepal   B) India   C) Pakistan   D) Bangladesh

46) If as an AFS exchange student you lived with a reindeer-herding Sami family in Lapland, you might be studying where?
   A) Switzerland   B) Sweden   C) Swaziland   D) Honduras

47) Which of these islands is one of the Greater Antilles?
   A) St. Lucia   B) Hispaniola   C) Trinidad   D) Key West

48) Which US county can be described as suburban?
   A) Kings County, NY   B) Lake County, IL   C) Aroostook County, ME   D) Maui County, HI

49) Which two rivers of southern Africa were used to name two of the Boer Republics?
   A) Orange & Vaal   B) Niger & Congo   C) Zambezi & Limpopo   D) Volta & Blue Nile

50) Which European country contains the world’s highest number of speakers of an Ugric language as well as the Hortobágy National Park and Lake Balaton?
   A) Bulgaria   B) Moldova   C) Slovenia   D) Hungary