

## 2020 US Geography Challenge Middle School Multiple Choice Examination - Part 2

**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 1-4 are about the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

1. Puerto Rico is which of the following in relation to the United States?
  - A. an enclave
  - B. a state
  - C. a territory
  - D. Puerto Rico is not a part of the United States
2. Which of these is the dominant language of Puerto Rico?
  - A. English
  - B. Spanish
  - C. Portuguese
  - D. French
3. All of these are true of the economy of Puerto Rico EXCEPT which of the following?
  - A. Tourism is an important part of Puerto Rico's economy
  - B. Puerto Rico has abundant natural resources and oil
  - C. Puerto Rico was encouraged by the United States to develop its manufacturing sector
  - D. Agriculture is a very small part of Puerto Rico's economy
4. The population of Puerto Rico is closest to which of the following?
  - A. 3 million
  - B. 6 million
  - C. 12 million
  - D. 24 million
5. Lake Van, Mono Lake and the Dead Sea all have which of the following in common?
  - A. they are the largest lakes in their respective countries
  - B. they are all the lowest points below sea level in their respective countries
  - C. they are all salt lakes
  - D. they are all rapidly growing in size due to climate change

6. A fertile area in a desert or semi-desert environment is known as which of the following?

- A. an erg
- B. a salt pan
- C. an oasis
- D. a mirage

7. Which of these countries has the highest percentage of its population made up of immigrants?

- A. the United Arab Emirates
- B. Great Britain
- C. France
- D. Germany

8. All of these are triggers of mass wasting or slope movement EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. terracing
- B. earthquakes
- C. increased soil moisture
- D. man-made causes like overbuilding

9. Drowned river valleys or rias are often confused with which glacial landform, often found in places like Alaska, Norway and Greenland, because of their similar shapes and features?

- A. drumlins
- B. fjords
- C. aretes
- D. cirques

10. Which of the following is the term for planting forests, often to increase carbon capture?

- A. denudation
- B. bioturbation
- C. afforestation
- D. subsidence

11. All of these weathering processes are commonly found in deserts EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. thermal stress
- B. physical weathering
- C. haloclasty
- D. biological weathering

Questions 12-18 are about the city of Moscow, Russia.

12. All of these are notable landmarks in Moscow EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the Kremlin
- B. St. Basil's Cathedral
- C. Lenin's tomb
- D. the Hermitage Museum

13. Which of the following rivers flows through Moscow?

- A. the Don
- B. the Ob
- C. the Moskva
- D. the Neva

14. All of these are true of Moscow EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it is the coldest megacity in the world

- B. it is the largest city by land area in Europe
- C. it is the most populous city entirely within Europe
- D. it is the northernmost national capital in the world

15. Moscow has a climate most similar to which of the following cities?

- A. Quebec City
- B. New York
- C. London
- D. Beijing

16. After Russians, which of these is the next largest ethnic group in Moscow?

- A. Americans
- B. Chechens
- C. Ukrainians
- D. Uzbeks

17. All of these are true of the Moscow Metro system EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it is the longest system in Europe
- B. it is the busiest system in the world
- C. it was built with help from British experts who had worked on the London Underground
- D. it is one of the deepest metro systems in the world

18. Which of the following is true of the cost of living in Moscow?

- A. it has the lowest cost of living of any major city in the world
- B. real estate has become very expensive in Moscow since the collapse of the Soviet Union
- C. apartments in the center of the city near Red Square are cheap compared to other areas of Moscow
- D. food costs are very low in Moscow compared to other areas of Russia

19. Which waterfall on the border between Argentina and Brazil is considered the world's largest waterfall by width?

- A. Victoria Falls
- B. Boyoma Falls
- C. Iguazu Falls
- D. Vermillion Falls

20. All of these are true of permafrost EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. climate change, especially in the Arctic, is causing increasing rates of permafrost melting
- B. it is defined as ground that has been frozen for at least a month
- C. permafrost can occur on mountaintops in the Southern Hemisphere
- D. melting permafrost releases methane which contributes to climate change

21. Three of the largest artificial islands in the world, including two in Japan, were constructed for what purpose?

- A. for large prisons
- B. recreation areas
- C. for flood control

D. as a location for airports

22. Chesapeake Bay in the United States was formed by which of the following processes about 35.5 million years ago?

- A. erosion
- B. glaciation
- C. a large impact event
- D. orogeny

23. Ruby Canyon, Westwater Canyon, Glen Canyon and Marble Canyon were all formed by which major American river?

- A. the Colorado
- B. the Missouri
- C. the Mississippi
- D. the Ohio

24. All of these are considered African Great Lakes EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Lake Malawi
- B. Lake Victoria
- C. Lake Baikal
- D. Lake Tanganyika

25. Which of these is the largest country in South America by area?

- A. Peru
- B. Chile
- C. Argentina
- D. Brazil

The remaining questions on this part of the test will refer to pictures in the resource booklet.

Questions 26-32 refer to the map in Section 1 of the resource booklet.

26. Which of the following is the most commonly spoken language in the light yellow area (marked by 1 and 5) on the map?

- A. Arabic
- B. Amharic
- C. Somali
- D. Hausa

27. Which of the following best defines the term lingua franca?

- A. it is a term for the use of the French language around the world
- B. it is the official language of a given country
- C. it is a language that is used to make communication possible between groups of people who do not share a native language
- D. it is a reference to the use of English on legal documents in various parts of the world

28. Which language serves as a lingua franca in the area marked 2 on the map?

- A. French
- B. Swahili
- C. English

D. Russian

29. Which number on the map indicates an area heavily influenced by French and Belgian colonization?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

30. Which of the following areas features a language heavily influenced by Dutch vernacular?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

31. Malagasy is an Austronesian language that is the national language in what area on the map?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

32. What is indicated by the white areas on this map?

- A. people in these areas speak too many languages to classify
- B. these areas are predominantly home to English speakers
- C. these are desert regions without permanent populations
- D. none of these things are indicated by the white areas on the map

Questions 33-38 refer to the picture in Section 2.

33. What is the name given to the area that is roughly enclosed by the oval on the map?

- A. the Eurasian Plate
- B. the Juan de Fuca Plate
- C. the Ring of Fire
- D. the Hot Zone

34. If the red dots on the map represent the locations of earthquakes from 1900 to 2013, what is most likely represented by the yellow triangles?

- A. active volcanoes
- B. inhabited islands in earthquake zones
- C. landfall locations of hurricanes
- D. flood zones

35. What numbers on the map indicate convergent plate boundaries?

- A. 6 only
- B. 4, 5 and 7
- C. 1 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

36. What numbers on the map indicate divergent plate boundaries?

- A. 6 only
- B. 4, 5 and 7
- C. 1 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

37. The area marked 6 on the map is the location of which of the following?

- A. the Equator
- B. Japan
- C. Hawaii
- D. the Philippines

38. The area marked 5 on the map is the border between the Pacific Plate and which of the following?

- A. the Australian Plate
- B. the Filipino Plate
- C. the North American Plate
- D. the Nazca Plate

Questions 39-40 refer to the pictures in section 3.

39. These images are related to which of the following nations?

- A. Japan
- B. North Korea
- C. China
- D. Thailand

40. The tower shown in the top left image is representative of which of the following in the nation depicted?

- A. the political ideology of the country
- B. victories in sporting events
- C. its friendship with its closest neighbors
- D. the birthplace of its ruling imperial family