

**2020 United States Geography Championships - Map Examination
Question Packet**

General instructions -

Respond to each of the following questions on the answer document provided. Only answers written in the appropriate space on the answer document will be marked. Where appropriate, you should write sentences or phrases instead of single words. If a question or section asks for a specific number of reasons or answers, give only the required number of answers specified. The examination consists of eight sections, and each section will be worth the specified number of marks. You have one hour to complete this section of the examination and the accompanying multiple choice questions.

Section 1 [20 marks]

Please refer to the image in Section 1 of the Resource Booklet.

1. Identify each of the following on the image – playa lake, butte, mesa, inselberg, alluvial fan
2. Define the term playa lake. [2 marks]
3. What structure will be left when this lake disappears? [1 mark]
4. Describe the relationship between a butte and a mesa. [2 marks]
5. Define the term inselberg. [3 marks]
6. Define the term shield as it relates to geographic regions. [3 marks]
7. Why are inselbergs common in shield regions? [2 marks]
8. Define the term alluvial fan. [2 marks]

Section 2 [25 marks]

9. Rank each of the following in order from largest to smallest based on the percentage contributed to overall greenhouse gas emissions in the United States – commercial and residential consumption; electricity production; agriculture; industry and manufacturing; transportation [5 marks]
10. As of 2018 and within 1%, how much have US greenhouse gas emissions risen since 1990? [1 mark]
11. Identify 3 factors that might cause year-to-year fluctuations in greenhouse gas emissions in the US. [3 marks]
12. What do scientists predict will be the trend in US greenhouse gas emissions for 2020? Provide one major reason for that prediction. [2 marks]
13. What percentage of Americans commute to work each day by driving alone? [1 mark]
14. What is the next most common method for Americans to commute to work? [1 mark]
15. What percentage of Americans commute to work each day on public transportation? [1 mark]

Section 2 (continued)

16. In a well-developed paragraph, identify the main reasons why most American cities do not have robust public transportation networks. Your answer should focus on the period from 1950 to present. [5 marks]
17. In a well-developed paragraph, identify steps major cities have taken since the 1980s to revive their public transportation networks. Make reference to both specific cities and types of projects that have been undertaken. [5 marks]

Section 3 [20 marks]

Please refer to the map in Section 3 of the Resource Booklet.

18. Define the term water security. [2 marks]
19. Describe the link between water security and sustainable development with specific reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). What specific things is the United Nations attempting to promote with regard to safe water and water security around the world? [4 marks]
20. According to the UN, what percentage of global freshwater resources are considered useable for ecosystems and humans? [2 marks]
21. Identify two specific reasons that freshwater would be considered unsuitable for use by ecosystems or humans. [2 marks]
22. Briefly describe how natural disasters contribute to freshwater scarcity. [2 marks]
23. In a well-developed paragraph, describe the reason that Uzbekistan and Tajikistan are shown as 'extreme risk' on this map and explain how their level of water insecurity relates to the disappearance of the Aral Sea. [8 marks]

Section 4 [20 marks]

Please refer to the chart in Section 4 of the Resource Booklet. This chart shows number of social media users on the top ten platforms in millions.

24. Of these platforms, which are owned by Facebook? [2 marks]
25. Which originated outside of the United States? [2 marks]
26. Define the term digital divide. [2 marks]
27. Identify and explain three major obstacles to closing the digital divide in developing countries. [3 marks]
28. Identify and explain three major obstacles to closing the digital divide in developed countries like the United States and China. [3 marks]
29. Briefly describe the effect of technology on economic globalization. [2 marks]
30. In a well-developed paragraph, describe the effect of technology on cultural globalization. In your answer make specific reference to the internet and the social media platforms referenced in the chart. [6 marks]