



International Geography Championships

2026 Battery Examination - Part 2 Intermediate Division

Instructions – Mark your answers on the scantron provided. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

Questions 1-10 are about agriculture.

1. Which of these best describes what subsistence farmers grow?
 - A. large quantities of a single crop to sell in national and international markets
 - B. a variety of luxury foods such as coffee, cacao, and spices for export
 - C. only livestock and dairy products for local markets
 - D. just enough food to feed their family with little or nothing left over to sell
2. Shifting cultivation is a farming practice in which farmers do which of these?
 - A. grow the same crop on the same land for many generations
 - B. raise livestock without large feedlots
 - C. clear and farm a plot of land, then move to a new area when the soil is exhausted
 - D. use large machines and chemical fertilizers to maximize crop yields
3. Cotton is a key crop needed for the production of which of the following?
 - A. food and cooking oil
 - B. paper and cardboard
 - C. textiles and clothing
 - D. medicines and pharmaceuticals
4. Brazil and the Caribbean islands are among the world's leading producers of which crop?
 - A. pumpkins
 - B. sugarcane
 - C. barley
 - D. soybeans
5. Which of these crops were brought FROM the Americas TO Europe as part of the Columbian Exchange?
 - A. tomatoes and potatoes
 - B. wheat and barley
 - C. rice and sugarcane
 - D. coffee and tea

6. Mediterranean agriculture, practiced in Southern Europe and California, is best known for producing which of these crops?
 - A. wheat, corn, and soybeans
 - B. rice, tea, and cotton
 - C. sugar, cocoa, and bananas
 - D. olives, grapes, and citrus fruits
7. Farming, fishing, and forestry are all part of which sector of the economy?
 - A. primary
 - B. secondary
 - C. tertiary
 - D. quaternary
8. Rice is the dominant staple crop in parts of Asia with monsoon climates for which of these reasons?
 - A. the flat desert landscapes ideal for large-scale machinery
 - B. the region's warm temperatures and abundant seasonal rainfall
 - C. the cool dry winters that prevent crop disease
 - D. the short growing season that suits fast-maturing varieties
9. Plantation agriculture is best described as which of these?
 - A. small-scale family farming focused on producing food for personal consumption
 - B. large-scale farming of a single export crop, typically in tropical regions, using low-wage labor
 - C. the raising of livestock across large areas of dry grassland
 - D. community-run farming where all profits are shared equally among workers
10. Nomadic pastoralism is a way of life in which people do which of these?
 - A. migrate with their herds of livestock to find water and fresh grazing land
 - B. grow crops in one location and sell the surplus at market
 - C. raise animals in large enclosed feedlots near urban areas
 - D. cultivate the same plot of land using traditional tools and no machinery

Questions 11-20 are about rivers.

11. Rivers provide all of these benefits to human communities EXCEPT which of the following?
 - A. a source of fresh drinking water
 - B. transportation routes for trade
 - C. frequent flooding that destroys homes and crops
 - D. habitat for fish and other food sources
12. Which of the following is NOT a major source of river pollution?
 - A. ocean waves
 - B. agricultural fertilizer runoff
 - C. factory discharge
 - D. sewage from cities

13. Which of these is NOT a way that healthy rivers benefit the natural environment?

- A. transporting nutrients to coastal areas
- B. increasing greenhouse gas emissions
- C. providing habitats for plants and animals
- D. recharging underground water supplies

14. Deforestation along a river's banks and drainage basin makes flooding worse mainly because which of these happens?

- A. the extra sunlight heats the river and causes it to evaporate more quickly
- B. tree roots no longer absorb rainwater, so more water runs directly into the river
- C. trees release water vapor that increases rainfall over the river
- D. the removal of shade causes ice to melt and fill the river

15. The strip of vegetation growing along a riverbank, which filters pollutants and provides wildlife habitat, is known as what?

- A. discharge margin
- B. lacustrine corridor
- C. backswamp buffer
- D. riparian zone

16. A meander in a river system is best described as which of the following?

- A. a point where a river meets the sea
- B. a flat area of land beside a river that floods
- C. a wide curve or bend in the course of a river
- D. a narrow rocky channel where water flows fast

17. A tributary is a stream or river that does which of these?

- A. flows into a larger river
- B. does not ever flow into an ocean or larger body of water
- C. forms a kettle or finger lake
- D. forms when a meander is cut off

18. An oxbow lake forms when which of these events occurs on a river?

- A. a tight meander loop is cut off from the main river channel
- B. a river deposits sediment at its mouth to create new land
- C. a river overflows its banks and floods the surrounding plain
- D. erosion by a river creates a steep-sided valley or gorge

19. Which of these is NOT a feature of a river's lower course near its mouth?

- A. wide meanders
- B. steep V-shaped valleys
- C. a broad floodplain
- D. a delta or estuary

20. A waterfall forms where a river flows over which of these?

- A. a wide flat plain where the water spreads and slows
- B. a curved bend in the river where erosion undercuts the bank
- C. a point where two rivers meet and increase in volume
- D. a sudden drop in the height of the riverbed over hard rock

Questions 21-30 are about cities.

21. In the concentric zone model, which zone is located at the very center of the city?

- A. Central Business District
- B. working-class housing
- C. commuter zone
- D. factory zone

22. Homer Hoyt's sector model shows that cities grow outward in what shape?

- A. wedge shapes
- B. perfect circles
- C. a grid pattern
- D. random clusters

23. Which of these best describes an edge city?

- A. the historical core of a city
- B. a city that has declined economically
- C. a neighborhood inside a major downtown area
- D. a large suburban area with offices, malls, and jobs of its own

24. The multiple nuclei model suggests that cities have more than one what?

- A. river
- B. center of activity
- C. national border
- D. highway system

25. What term describes the growth of a city outward into surrounding rural areas?

- A. urban decay
- B. urban renewal
- C. urban sprawl
- D. urban primacy

26. A primate city is one that is far larger than any other city in its country and does what?

- A. has no suburbs around it
- B. is located at the coast of a country
- C. dominates its country economically and culturally
- D. always serves as a national capital

27. A megalopolis is formed when multiple large cities grow together and merge into what?

- A. one massive continuous urban region
- B. a series of separate city-states
- C. an independent country
- D. a network of small villages

28. A smart city uses technology and data to improve which of these?

- A. the number of cars on its roads
- B. city services and the quality of life for residents
- C. the number of factories built
- D. the height of its buildings

29. A green belt is an area of protected open land around a city designed to do what?

- A. generate electricity for the city
- B. attract industrial development
- C. create more housing for commuters
- D. limit urban sprawl and preserve open spaces

30. Which of these urban models was specifically designed to describe cities in Latin America?

- A. Griffin-Ford model
- B. concentric zone model
- C. sector model
- D. multiple nuclei model

Questions 31-40 are about forests.

31. Forests help slow climate change by doing which of the following?

- A. reflecting sunlight back into space and cooling the planet
- B. producing oxygen that traps heat and warms the air
- C. absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it in trees and soil
- D. releasing water vapor that thickens the ozone layer

32. The leading cause of deforestation around the world is the clearing of forests for which of these purposes?

- A. building roads and highways
- B. construction of new cities
- C. agriculture and farming
- D. mining for coal and oil

33. Which of the following is NOT a typical consequence of large-scale deforestation?

- A. increased soil erosion and loss of topsoil
- B. an increase in forest biodiversity as new species colonize cleared areas
- C. a reduction in the amount of carbon absorbed from the atmosphere
- D. disruption of local water cycles and rainfall patterns

34. Cutting down a forest increases the risk of soil erosion mainly because which of these happens?

- A. tree roots no longer hold the soil in place, so rain washes it away
- B. the absence of shade causes the soil to bake and crack in the sun
- C. trees normally produce a chemical that hardens the soil around them
- D. logging equipment compresses the soil so tightly that water cannot enter

35. Which of the following is NOT true of tropical rainforests?

- A. they contain an enormous variety of plant and animal species
- B. they are found near the equator where it is hot and wet
- C. they are threatened by deforestation for farming and logging
- D. they are found mainly in cold, dry climates near the poles

36. Trees in a temperate deciduous forest do which of these in autumn?

- A. shed their leaves as temperatures drop
- B. grow new leaves to absorb extra sunlight
- C. stop producing oxygen until spring arrives
- D. release seeds that sprout immediately in cold soil

37. Cloud forests are unique mountain forests characterized by which of the following?

- A. very high temperatures that cause clouds to form above the canopy
- B. a complete absence of rainfall, relying only on cloud water
- C. persistent low clouds and mist that keep them constantly wet
- D. seasonal droughts followed by brief periods of intense flooding

38. Forests protect watersheds by doing which of these to rainfall?

- A. blocking clouds from entering valleys where rivers begin
- B. slowing its runoff into rivers and filtering it through the soil
- C. evaporating rainfall before it reaches the ground
- D. directing all rainfall into underground aquifers permanently

39. Climate change is making forest wildfires more frequent and severe mainly by doing which of the following?

- A. increasing rainfall that encourages more trees to grow and burn
- B. producing more lightning strikes in areas without any previous fires
- C. cooling the upper atmosphere and trapping smoke near the ground
- D. creating hotter, drier conditions that make forests easier to ignite

40. Which of the following best describes a primary, or old-growth, forest?

- A. a forest that has grown back after being cut down
- B. a forest that has never been significantly cleared or logged by humans
- C. a forest planted by humans to replace native trees
- D. a forest that is managed for timber production

Questions 41-50 are about geographic concepts.

41. A pilot planning a flight route from one city to another would most likely use which type of projection, since it shows true direction from a central point?

- A. conformal projection
- B. azimuthal projection
- C. cylindrical projection
- D. interrupted projection

42. Airline pilots often fly routes that follow a great circle because this type of path does which of these?

- A. avoids all time zone changes during the flight
- B. keeps the aircraft at a constant altitude throughout the trip
- C. follows a straight line on a Mercator projection map
- D. represents the shortest distance between two points on the globe

43. Geographers study 'spatial interaction' to understand which of the following?

- A. how people, goods, and ideas move and connect between different locations
- B. how the physical features of an area formed over millions of years
- C. how governments divide land into political units
- D. how populations grow or decline over time

44. What does the term 'sense of place' describe?

- A. the mathematical coordinates used to locate a place on a map
- B. the physical characteristics that make a landscape distinctive
- C. the emotional and personal meaning that people attach to a specific location
- D. the political boundaries that define a country's territory

45. Countries, states, and counties are all examples of which type of region?

- A. physical regions
- B. perceptual regions
- C. administrative regions
- D. economic regions

46. An area where the characteristics of one region gradually blend into those of a neighboring region is known as which of these?

- A. transition zone
- B. boundary zone
- C. buffer region
- D. administrative district

47. Which of these is NOT true of a formal region?

- A. it is defined by a measurable, shared characteristic
- B. it can be based on language, climate, or political control
- C. it can be as small as a school district or as large as a continent
- D. its boundaries are often vague and based on personal perception

48. A GPS receiver determines your exact location by communicating with what?

- A. cell towers and local Wi-Fi networks
- B. a network of satellites orbiting the Earth
- C. GIS databases stored on remote servers
- D. radio towers broadcasting from major cities

49. In GIS, data stored as points, lines, and polygons representing features like roads and boundaries is called what?

- A. raster data
- B. vector data
- C. remote sensing data
- D. satellite imagery data

50. A large-scale map of a single city neighborhood would show which of these compared to a small-scale map of an entire country?

- A. more detail but a smaller geographic area
- B. less detail but a larger geographic area
- C. the same level of detail in less space
- D. fewer features because scale reduces complexity

Questions 51-60 are about economic geography and development.

51. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures which of the following in a given country?

- A. the total value of all goods and services produced in a year
- B. the total amount of money the government collects in taxes
- C. the average wage earned by workers across all industries
- D. the total value of all natural resources still in the ground

52. Manufacturing and processing raw materials into finished goods is the focus of which economic sector?

- A. extractive
- B. secondary
- C. consumptive
- D. informal

53. A tariff is best described as which of these?

- A. a ban on trading with a specific country
- B. a subsidy paid to domestic industries by the government
- C. an agreement between two countries to trade freely
- D. a tax charged on goods imported from other countries

54. High literacy rates in a country are generally associated with which of the following outcomes?

- A. lower GDP because educated workers demand higher wages
- B. faster population growth due to better health education
- C. higher levels of economic development and better job opportunities
- D. increased exports of raw materials to wealthier countries

55. Many early factories were built alongside rivers because rivers provided which essential resource?

- A. water power to run machines and a route for transporting goods
- B. fertile land to grow food for factory workers
- C. natural barriers protecting factories from competition
- D. fresh drinking water not available in cities

56. The Industrial Revolution began in Britain rather than elsewhere in Europe primarily because Britain had which combination of factors?

- A. the largest army in Europe and the most advanced system of roads and bridges
- B. accessible coal and iron deposits, navigable rivers, colonial markets, and available labor from enclosures
- C. the world's most educated workforce and the most advanced university system
- D. a centralized government that could direct industrial investment across the nation

57. Mercantilism gave way to free-market capitalism partly because which of these occurred?

- A. colonial uprisings made it impossible to enforce mercantilist trade restrictions
- B. economists like Adam Smith demonstrated that free trade creates more total wealth than zero-sum bullion accumulation
- C. gold and silver became so abundant that they lost their value as measures of wealth
- D. industrialization made raw material imports so cheap that trade restrictions were no longer needed

58. A company that builds a factory in a developing country to take advantage of lower wages is engaging in which of the following?

- A. portfolio investment
- B. offshore financial transfer
- C. foreign direct investment
- D. bilateral aid

59. Import substitution industrialization strategies often fail in developing countries mainly because which of these happens?

- A. foreign companies flood the market with cheaper goods before industries can establish
- B. workers move from manufacturing back to agriculture as wages equalize
- C. governments lose tax revenue and cannot fund the required infrastructure
- D. protected domestic industries become inefficient without competition, raising consumer costs

60. Dependency theory argues that developing countries remain poor primarily because of which of these?

- A. their failure to adopt the democratic institutions that drive capitalist growth
- B. geographic factors like landlocked terrain and disease-prone climates
- C. high population growth that outpaces any gains from industrialization
- D. their structural integration into the global economy on unfavorable terms set by wealthy nations

Questions 61-65 are about artificial landforms.

61. Dams are built across rivers for which of these purposes?

- A. draining wetlands to create new farmland
- B. marking boundaries between countries or regions
- C. creating artificial beaches for tourism
- D. storing water, generating electricity, and controlling floods

62. The Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric dam, is located on which river in China?

- A. Yellow River
- B. Pearl River
- C. Yangtze River
- D. Mekong River

63. A reservoir is best described as which of the following?

- A. an artificial lake created by building a dam across a river
- B. a tunnel dug beneath a river to carry water to a city
- C. a raised wall built along the edge of a flood-prone river
- D. a large flat field flooded to grow crops like rice

64. An artificial levee built alongside a river is designed to do which of these?

- A. channel water from the river into surrounding farmland
- B. raise the riverbank to prevent the river from flooding nearby land
- C. slow the river's current to make it easier for boats to navigate
- D. filter pollution from river water before it reaches a city

65. The Palm Islands, the world's largest artificial islands, were constructed off the coast of which city?

- A. Baghdad
- B. Dubai
- C. Doha
- D. Cairo

Questions 66 to 85 refer to Image 1 in the resource section at the end of the exam.

66. What capital and largest city of Tamil Nadu is shown at number 9 on the map?

- A. Chennai
- B. Rajpur
- C. Puducherry
- D. Bengaluru

67. What Vietnamese financial center shown at number 20 on the map was once known as Saigon?

- A. Ho Chi Minh City
- B. Hanoi
- C. Da Nang
- D. Haiphong

68. Which of the following is the most practiced religion in the nation indicated by number 15?

- A. Buddhism
- B. Christianity
- C. Hinduism
- D. Islam

69. What resort town indicated by the number 19 serves as the primary gateway to the ruins in Angkor?

- A. Lhasa
- B. Kathmandu
- C. Siem Reap
- D. Mandalay

70. In 2021, the Taliban regained control of what nation shown at number 1 on the map?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Kuwait
- C. Jordan
- D. Turkmenistan

71. What number on the map indicates Chittagong, the busiest container port in the Bay of Bengal?

- A. 9
- B. 11
- C. 5
- D. 4

72. Which of the following is the second most populous city in the nation indicated by number 18?

- A. Lop Buri
- B. Phuket
- C. Hat Yai
- D. Chiang Mai

73. The nation indicated at number 16 is home to which of these UNESCO World Heritage sites?

- A. Mount Fuji
- B. Borobudur
- C. Luang Prabang
- D. Kinabalu Park

74. What Himalayan region indicated at number 2 has been the target of geopolitical disputes since 1947?

- A. Kashmir
- B. Dokdo
- C. Rakhine
- D. Golan

75. What nation shown at number 3 on the map has the world's second largest Muslim population?

- A. Iran
- B. Algeria
- C. Indonesia
- D. Pakistan

76. As of June 2026, Ram Chandra Paudel serves as the president of what nation indicated by number 13 on the map?

- A. Cambodia
- B. Nepal
- C. Iraq
- D. Turkiye

77. The Ashoka Chakra lies at the center of the flag that represents what nation indicated by number 6?

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Japan
- D. Mongolia

78. What city located at number 4 on the map is the largest of its nation but does not serve as its capital?

- A. Kabul
- B. Karachi
- C. Islamabad
- D. New Delhi

79. Which of the following serves as the legislative capital of the nation indicated by the number 8?

- A. Ulaanbaatar
- B. Krung Thep
- C. Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- D. Bandar Seri Begawan

80. Male is the capital city of what island nation indicated by the number 7 on the map?

- A. Brunei
- B. Taiwan
- C. Philippines
- D. Maldives

81. Until 2022, the Gross National Happiness was used to measure the well-being of what nation shown at number 14?

- A. Madagascar
- B. Egypt
- C. Bhutan
- D. Qatar

82. What number on the map indicates Maharashtra's capital city which was once known as Bombay?

- A. 5
- B. 12
- C. 4
- D. 11

83. What "Chicken's Neck" chokepoint shown at number 10 on the map connects its nation's mainland to eight northeastern states?

- A. Great Wall of China
- B. Khyber Pass
- C. Strait of Malacca
- D. Siliguri Corridor

84. What state indicated by number 12 on the map has a population of 243 million as of 2026?

- A. Tibet
- B. Karbala
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Punjab

85. What nation formerly known as Burma is shown at number 17 on the map?

- A. Myanmar
- B. Singapore
- C. Nepal
- D. Cambodia

Image 1 (Questions 66-85)

