

Geography Bee – Round 1 (IS)

Regulation Tossups

(1) The Passeig de Lluís Companys is considered an extension of this city's Passeig de Sant Joan, which leads up to the Parc de la Ciutadella. This city is home to a monument dedicated to Christopher Columbus located at the end of La Rambla avenue, and Europe's largest stadium by seating capacity is this city's Camp Nou, Lionel Messi's former home. For the point, name this Catalan city where Antoni Gaudí designed the still-unfinished Sagrada Família.

ANSWER: **Barcelona** (or **Barça**; prompt on "BCN")

(2) This present-day country that was the home of the Merina Kingdom was largely unified in the 19th century by Radama the First. Since the discovery of the Ilakaka deposit in the 1990s, this country is the world's largest exporter of sapphires, in addition to being the leading exporter of ylang-ylang and natural vanilla. For the point, name this island in the Indian Ocean known for its biodiversity, whose native fauna include many species of lemurs.

ANSWER: **Madagascar** (or Republic of **Madagascar**)

(3) This state and the Isla Ángel de la Guarda are separated by the Canal de Ballenas. The entry to a northern neighbor's State Route 188 and Tecate are connected by this state's Federal Highway Three to its prominent port of Ensenada. This state is the northwesternmost in its country, and lies due south of San Diego County. Tijuana [[tih-HWAH-nah]] is located in, for the point what Mexican state occupying the northern half of an eponymous peninsula?

ANSWER: **Baja California** (do not accept or prompt on "Baja California Sur")

(4) The city of Lyman [[lee-MON]] in this region, a former export hub, went viral in 2025 after pictures of it covered in fiber optic cables were released. This region's former salt-mining settlement of Soledad was completely de-populated during a campaign which also involved the Battle of Bakhmut. The northern part of this region is known as Luhansk, and Mariupol is its largest port city, situated on the Sea of Azov. For the point, name this region of easternmost Ukraine, annexed by Russia in 2022.

ANSWER: **Donbass** (prompt on "Donets Basin" or "Donets Coal Basin"; prompt on "Donets River"; prompt on "Ukraine" or "Russia" or equivalents. Antiprompt on "Luhansk" before mention.)

(5) This city contains a cricket stadium called the Gabba, while its rugby teams are housed in Lang Park. This city's MacArthur Central lies at the former headquarters of the South West Pacific Area during World War Two. This city's eponymous river empties into Moreton Bay after rising from the Great Dividing Range, and this city forms an urban area with Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast. For the point, name this host of the 2032 Summer Olympics, the third-largest city of Australia and the capital of Queensland.

ANSWER: **Brisbane** [[BRIZ-bun]]

(6) In 2017, land from the Wele-Nzas province was carved out for the construction of this country's capital, which also borders the Central Sur province. This country's capital lies near the town of Mengomeyén in the center of Rio Muni, and its construction was a key initiative of President Teodoro Obiang Nguema. Also known as Djibloho and Oyala, ftp, what African country inaugurated a new capital in January 2026, replacing Malabo with Ciudad de la Paz?

ANSWER: **Equatorial Guinea** (or Republic of **Equatorial Guinea**; or **República de Guinea Ecuatorial**; do not accept or prompt on "Guinea"; do not accept or prompt on "Guinea-Bissau")

(7) *Structure and location required.* To improve the water quality in these structures, the Gemaal Zeebur power station was constructed to flush out dirty water using cleaner ones from the nearby Zuiderzee lake. They are not in Indonesia, but the four newest iterations of these structures were constructed at the Java Island in the IJ [[AY]] harbor. One of these major structures, the Herengracht, includes the Gouden Bocht. For the point, name these structures, most notably found in the Grachtengordel district, which gave one city the title "Venice of the North."

ANSWER: **Canals** of **Amsterdam** (prompt on partial answers; accept obvious equivalents; accept **grachten** for "canals")

(8) This river names an oil belt that stretches from Guárico to Delta Amacuro. The Cojedes [[koh-HEH-dez]] River is a tributary of this river and is home to the bulk of its namesake species of crocodile, which has declined in population due to competition from caimans. The Caroní River flows into this river near the site of Llovizna Falls. This river lies on the northern part of the Casiquiare [[kah-SEE-kee-AH-reh]] Canal, which links it to the Rio Negro and the Amazon River basin. For the point, name this principal river of Venezuela.

ANSWER: **Orinoco** River

(9) Olive Lembe di Sita helped create this city's urban nature reserve at the Nsele [[nn-SAY-lay]] Valley Park. This city's Boulevard of June Thirtieth links to Kintambo, while the *Palais de la Nation* and the United Nations's MONUSCO headquarters are located in this city's Gombe commune. Lingala is spoken in this city, whose inhabitants are referred to as *Kinois* [[kee-NWAH]]. Lying across from Brazzaville, for the point, what is the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo?

ANSWER: **Kinshasa** (or **Kinsásá**; accept **Léopoldville**; accept **Leopoldstad**)

(10) The Sagaing Region contains a crossing over this river named the Ava Bridge, which was the only bridge to span this river until the 21st century. In 2001, the State Peace and Development Council finished spanning this river with the completion of the Anawrahta Bridge. This river forms from the convergence of the N'mai and Mali rivers in the Kachin State. Flowing through Mandalay before reaching the Andaman Sea, for the point, what is this primary river of Myanmar?

ANSWER: **Irrawaddy** River (or **Ayeyarwady** River)

(11) A geological rift passing through this archipelago is named after its Terceira Island, and from the peak of Caldeira Volcano, one can see islands in its central group, including São Jorge [[sao HOR-heh]] Island. São Miguel Island is the largest island in this archipelago, as well as the site of its largest settlement, Ponta Delgada. This archipelago's Mount Pico is the tallest peak in its country. For the point, name this archipelago in the Atlantic Ocean, Portugal's westernmost point.

ANSWER: The Azores [[AY-zores]] (or Açores [[AH-shorzh]])

(12) This city's skyline is dominated by the 19th century-era Château Frontenac hotel and the modern skyscrapers Édifice Marie-Guyart and Le Concorde. It's not Paris, but the term "Latin Quarter" also refers to the area where this city's Laval University was built. This city's old town, containing one of North America's oldest churches, the Notre-Dame-des-Victoires Church, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Battlefields Park contains the Plains of Abraham in, for the point, what capital of an eponymous Canadian province?

ANSWER: Quebec City

(13) A special line of the MTR connects this facility to Sunny Bay. Themed areas called Mystic Point and Grizzly Gulch are exclusive to this facility, and it also houses the planned Stark Expo. This facility was constructed on reclaimed land in Penny's Bay, on Lantau Island. Home to the largest example of "Adventureland," the *Castle of Magical Dreams* forms the centerpiece of this facility. For the point, name this amusement park home to Toy Story Land, where signs utilize Cantonese and feature Mickey Mouse.

ANSWER: Hong Kong Disneyland (accept HK Disneyland; prompt on "HKDL")

(14) In one city, this river is crossed by the Martyrs Bridge and the King Fahd Bridge. The W National Park is located along the winding course of this river, which has a reservoir called Kainji Lake. This river has its source at Tembakounda, which is in the Djallon Mountains, and the historic trans-Saharan trade hub of Gao is a Malian city located along this river. With the Benue [[ben-WEH]] River as one of its tributaries, for the point, which West African river flows through cities like Bamako and Niamey?

ANSWER: Niger [[nee-ZHAIR]] River (or fleuve Niger)

(15) The Sirhind Canal is located in this state, beginning near the city of Rupnagar. This state's Malwa region is found west of the Sivalik Hills and is north of the Ghaggar River. This state's most populous city lies on a former bank of the Sutlej River and contains Guru Nanak Stadium, and this state contains a gurdwara known as the Golden Temple, a Sikh holy site in the city of Amritsar. For the point, identify this state in India which shares its name with a province in Pakistan.

ANSWER: Punjab

(16) A gold-plated statue of this man in Tongxu County was quickly de-constructed after it was finished in 2016. A massive bust of this man, built on Orange Isle within Changsha, was built to be 135 feet high, in commemoration of the Zunyi Conference. A house in Shaoshan, Hunan, is protected as the birthplace of this man. Tiananmen Square contains the mausoleum of, for the point, what founder of the People's Republic of China?

ANSWER: Mao Zedong (or Chairman Mao; accept either underlined portion)

(17) A rugged area of Colorado called the "Western Slope" has its boundaries defined by this feature, which reaches its lowest point above sea level at the Isthmus of Rivas. This feature, which encloses an endorheic basin in southern Wyoming, forms the eastern portion of the Montana-Idaho boundary. Running along the Rocky Mountains, for the point, what is this hydrological feature crossed by Two Ocean Pass, demarcating where water in North America flows east and west?

ANSWER: **Continental Divide** of the Americas (or **Divisoria continental** de América; or **Gran Divisoria**; or **Great Divide**; or **Western Divide**)

(18) A city in this country, located near settlements like Ksar Ouled Soltane and named Tataouine, inspired the name of a planet from Star Wars. This country's Jebel Dahar mountain chain runs east towards the Grand Erg Oriental, and this country's Chott el Djerid is a member of a group of salt lakes. The Mosque of Uqba [[OOK-bah]] is located in the city of Kairouan [[kay-roo-WAHN]] in this country. Lying on the Mediterranean Sea, for the point, what country in the Maghreb borders Algeria and Libya?

ANSWER: **Tunisia** (or Republic of **Tunisia**; or al-Jumhuriyyah at-**Tunisiyyah**; accept **Tunisian** salt lakes)

(19) This country banned mountaineering since 2003, meaning that Gangkhar Puensum will remain unclimbed. A major glacial river in this country, the Mo Chhu, originates in the northern hills of Laya and Lingzhi and flows through Punakha Valley. Dzongkha is the official language of this country, which is led by Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the current Dragon King. For the point, name this landlocked Himalayan country which has its capital at Thimphu [[TIM-poo]].

ANSWER: **Bhutan** (or Kingdom of **Bhutan**; or **Druk gyal khab**)

(20) The Europos Centro Golf Club is found in this country's village of Girija as a claimant to being the geographical center of Europe, and its largest bog is the Čepkeliai Marsh. The sand dunes of Kuršių Nerija National Park are located in this country, and the Curonian Lagoon is where the Neman River of this country empties, flowing through its second-largest city, Kaunas. For the point, name this Baltic country where the Neris River flows through Vilnius.

ANSWER: Republic of **Lithuania** (or **Lietuvos** Respublika)

(21) This state contains monuments like the Ajanta Caves as well as the Kailasa Temple, which is a rock-cut Hindu temple in the Ellora Caves. The Deccan Plateau contains this state's "Oxford of the East," the city of Pune [[POO-neh]]. The capital city of this state is built on what was previously known as the Seven Islands of Bombay. The second-most populous state in India, for the point, what state hosts cities like Nagpur and Mumbai?

ANSWER: **Maharashtra**

(22) A facility called the Clinton Centre is situated on this island's city of Enniskillen, built on the site of the Remembrance Day bombing. This island's city of Waterford is known for its production of crystal. One of this island's largest cities is variously called Derry or Londonderry, and kissing a stone in its Blarney Castle is said to bestow the "gift of gab." For the point, name this island, where the Good Friday Agreement was signed in Belfast.

ANSWER: **Ireland** (or **Eire**; do not prompt on "United Kingdom;" do not accept or prompt on "Northern Ireland")

(23) Dialects of the primary language spoken in this country include Dhofari, which is spoken around Salalah. A minority of this country's population lives on its exclave on the Musandam Peninsula, which it shares with its northern neighbor. A significant diaspora of people from this country live at the Gwadar port city across its shores on the Arabian Sea, which it owned until 1958 when it was purchased by Pakistan. For the point, name this country where the Al Bu Said dynasty lives in Muscat.

ANSWER: Sultanate of **Oman** (or Saltanat **Uman**)

(24) The town of Okha is located directly south of the Schmidt Peninsula in its north. The La Pérouse Strait separates this island from a southern island, while the Strait of Tartary separates it from the Asian mainland. Since the end of World War Two, Russians have comprised the majority demographic on this island, though its indigenous Ainu people remain a notable minority. For the point, name this large Russian island located north of Hokkaido.

ANSWER: **Sakhalin** (or **Yankemosir**; or **Karafuto**; accept **Tschoka**; accept **Kuye Fiyaka**)

(25) The Pax Yogurt company was founded on this island at a monastery called Mount Saint Benedict. The town of Carapichaima on this island is home to the reconstructed Temple in the Sea, which was constructed in the Gulf of Paria off the coast of this island by an indentured servant. The largest city on this island is Chaguanas and this island, the main center of calypso music, is home to the capital city Port of Spain. For the point, name this Caribbean island that forms a country with Tobago.

ANSWER: **Trinidad** (accept **Trinidad** and Tobago)

(26) A portion of a park found on this headland is where the Kanonkop and Buffels Bay troops of chacma baboons are located. This headland next to False Bay was renamed by John the Second of Portugal due to interest sparked by the discovery of a route to India. This headland, featuring the Cross of Bartholomew Dias, is partly located in Table Mountain National Park. For the point, name this headland, once called the "Cape of Storms," which is often confused with Cape Agulhas as being the southernmost point in Africa.

ANSWER: Cape of **Good Hope** (or Kaap de **Goede Hoop**; or Cabo da **Boa Esperanca**)

(27) A geographic landscape known as the "Earth Suspended River" is located on this river's lower reaches, and it empties into the Bohai Sea at the Shandong Peninsula. The Ordos Loop is a large turn in the course of this river, which runs from Yushu to Kenli, and this river gets its name from materials it carries as it flows through the Loess Plateau. Zhengzhou and Lanzhou are major cities located on, for the point, what colorfully named second-largest river of China?

ANSWER: **Yellow** River (or **Huang He**)

(28) This country's city of Quibdó is the capital of its Chocó Department, and residents of African descent form the majority of the population of its city of Buenaventura. This country controls the English-speaking islands of San Andres and Providencia. This country contains the largest Spanish-speaking African-descended population in the Americas, concentrated in Caribbean and Pacific coastal areas in cities such as Cali and Cartagena. For the point, name this country governed from Bogota.

ANSWER: Republic of **Colombia** (or República de **Colombia**)

(29) One of these locations in Chooz lies on the tip of a peninsula on a bend in the Meuse [[MYOOZ]] River near the Belgian border. Marcoule hosts the oldest one of these facilities in France, which overlooks the Rhône River. The Superphénix one of these locations near Lyon was built as part of the Mesmer Plan and closed in the 1990s due to cost overruns. For the point, name these facilities operated by the EDF, which provide France with over 70 percent of its electricity.

ANSWER: **nuclear** power plants (prompt on "power plants" or clear-like equivalents; do NOT accept coal, oil, or any other type of power plant)

(30) The Colonial National Invitational and the Byron Nelson Classic are two annual PGA Tour tournaments held in this U.S. state, and Formula One hosts the annual U.S. Grand Prix in its Circuit of the Americas. The first NFL stadium with a retractable roof is this state's N-R-G Stadium. The moniker of this state names an annual collegiate athletics rivalry between two of its teams nicknamed the Longhorns and the Aggies. Home to the Spurs and the Cowboys, for the point, what is this U.S. state?

ANSWER: **Texas** (or **Tejas** [[TEH-hahs]]; prompt on "TX" or "Lone Star State" or "Lone Star Showdown")

(31) Since the eruption of the Eyjafjallajökull [[ay-yah-FYAH-luh-YOH-kul]] volcano, this city has promoted geotourism through its Harpa Concert Hall's Volcano Express. The Safnahúsið [[sahp-nah-HOO-sith]] museum in this city hosts the original manuscripts of the *Poetic Edda* and the Sagas. Located on the Faxaflói Bay, the world's oldest legislature, the Althing, is located in this city, and it is also the world's northernmost capital city. Settled during the Viking explorations, for the point, what is this capital of Iceland?

ANSWER: **Reykjavik** [[RAYK-yah-vik]]

(32) An attempt to hold back this desert, the Three-North Shelter Forest Program, included tree planting in the Uxin [[OO-SHEEN]] Banner. The Alashan Plateau ecoregion borders this desert's portion of the extended Altai Mountains, while its eastern steppe region has historically served as part of trade routes leading toward cities such as Kalgan. Genghis Khan lends his name to sections of the Great Wall in, for the point, what desert, situated between China and Mongolia?

ANSWER: **Gobi** Desert

(33) This neighborhood houses a 13-story tower designed to look like a stack of records. The neighborhood features live music venues like the Whisky a Go Go and the Troubadour; the latter is where Elton John launched his global stardom. This neighborhood's namesake boulevard contains the Dolby Theater and Chinese Theater, as well as a "walk of fame" along its sidewalks. For the point, name this neighborhood of Los Angeles synonymous with the American film industry.

ANSWER: **Hollywood** (accept West **Hollywood**; accept **Hollywood** Boulevard; prompt on "Los Angeles" or "L.A.")

(34) A fixed photo-op spot marking this site consists of a red-and-white striped barber pole topped with a metallic sphere. A station at this site contains the Jack F. Paulus Skiway, which Hercules aircraft visit. This location has no time zone assigned, and all directions at this location are given with respect to "grid north." Containing a station that was named for Roald Amundsen and Robert F. Scott, for the point, what site is diametrically opposite to a "north" location and can be found in Antarctica?

ANSWER: **South Pole** (or Geographic **South Pole**; or Terrestrial **South Pole**; or True **South Pole**; accept Amundsen-Scott **South Pole** Station; prompt on "Antarctica"; do NOT accept or prompt on "south magnetic pole" or "magnetic south pole")

(35) This city was led for an extended period in the 21st century by Anne Hidalgo though it was founded over two millennia prior as the outpost of Lutetia. Famous bridges found in this city include its oldest, Pont Neuf, Pont Alexandre the Third, and Ponte de la Concorde. La Défense, located west nearby this city, is Europe's largest dedicated business district, and notable tourist attractions in it include the Centre Pompidou and the Musée d'Orsay, the latter of which houses the largest collection of Impressionist art in the world. For the point, name this city which hosts the Louvre, the capital of France.

ANSWER: **Paris**

Extra Question

(1) It is not in the Netherlands, but Dutch Harbor in this archipelago is the site of Pyramid Peak, and its tallest peak, Mount Shishaldin, is located on Unimak Island. The largest uninhabited island in the U.S. is this archipelago's Attu Island, and immediately located west of that island is Russia's share of this archipelago, the Commander Islands, located east of Kamchatka. Containing the United States' westernmost *and* easternmost non-territorial points, for the point, what is this island chain extending westward from Alaska?

ANSWER: **Aleutian** Islands (or **Aleut** Islands; or **Aleutic** Islands; prompt on "Catherine Archipelago" before mentioned)