



International Geography Bee

2018 International Geography Bee European Championships Prelims - Round 1

1. One object in this location is known as the “sarcophagus”, and another object known as the “elephant’s foot” lies near it. The city of Pripyat was home to workers at this location, some of whom have retired to their original homes near this location. A disaster at this location was widely covered after the introduction of the policy of Perestroika. That disaster sent a radiation plume across much of Belarus. For the point, name this Ukrainian nuclear plant that melted down in 1986.

ANSWER: **Chernobyl**

2. An abortive Scottish colonization attempt in this country was called “New Caledonia”. This country’s Darien Gap is the only break in the Pan-American Highway. This country’s most famous piece of infrastructure passes through Gatun Lake, and allows ships to travel between coasts without having to round Cape Horn. For the point, name this Central American country that contains a canal whose adjoining region was owned by the US until 1999.

ANSWER: **Panama**

3. John McCrae wrote the most famous poem about this region which can be considered an elegy to soldiers who died there. This region contains the province of Limburg, and the cities of Ypres, Ghent, and Bruges were the centers of this region’s cloth industry in the middle ages. This region is represented by the nationalist party Vlaams Belang, and this region makes up a country with the French-speaking region of Wallonia. The city of Antwerp is the largest in, for the point, what Dutch-speaking region of Belgium?

ANSWER: **Flanders** (accept **Vlaanderen** - prompt on Belgium before country in line 4)

4. This ethnolinguistic group has traditionally had its languages divided into P and Q groups by linguists. These people inhabited the similarly named, but very geographically distant, regions of Galicia and Galatia in Roman times. These people’s languages are divided between Insular and Brythonic varieties, the latter of which includes Cornish and Breton. One group of these people were led against Rome by the warrior queen Boudicca, and a council named for them has members including Scotland and Ireland. For the point, name this linguistic and cultural grouping of people, many of whom speak Gaelic and live in the British Isles.

ANSWER: **Celts**

5. This country is the namesake of a kingdom formerly ruled by *obas* that is located in modern Nigeria. It was formerly named after its indigenous kingdom of Dahomey. A song commonly sung on slave ships instructed sailors to “beware, beware” of this country’s namesake Bight. This country’s largest city and seat of government is Cotonou though its capital is officially at Porto-Novo. For the point, name this West African nation that borders Nigeria and Togo.

ANSWER: **Benin**

6. A lagoon at the northern end of this sea is home to the island of Burano, which is famous for its lace-making and the island of Murano which is famous for glass-blowing. This body of water's medieval centers of trade included Durazzo and Ragusa. Winston Churchill referenced this body of water's port of Trieste along with "Stettin on the Baltic" in his "Iron Curtain" speech, and the Venetian trading empire was based in this body of water. For the point, name this arm of the Mediterranean that borders countries including Italy, Croatia, and Slovenia.

ANSWER: **Adriatic** Sea

7. This province contains the circular Manicoutin Reservoir and the Chic-Choc Mountains. This province's Anticosti Island and Gaspé Peninsula are located along the mouth of its longest river. This province's Ungava Peninsula is primarily populated by Inuit, and this province's major cities include Saguenay and Trois-Rivières. That larger city was founded in the 16th century by Jacques Cartier and translates as "Royal Mountain". For the point, name this Canadian province that is home to the city of Montreal and predominantly speaks French.

ANSWER: **Quebec**

8. The *fado* style of guitar music originates from this country, as does the machete, a precursor of the ukulele. This country's Algarve Region is named for the Arabic word for "West". This country controls the island of Madeira as well as the Azores, both of which lie off its west coast. This country's city of Porto is one potential origin of its name. For the point, name this Western European country with its capital at Lisbon.

ANSWER: **Portugal**

9. Joaquin Balaguer established a system of national parks on this island, resulting in a starkly visible divide in vegetation between its two halves. One half of this island contains the Gulf of Gonaïves and the city of Léogane, the site of a 2010 earthquake. The other half of this island has a major tourist industry centered on its cities of Punta Cana and Santo Domingo. This island contains two capitals, one of which is Port-au-Prince. For the point, name this island that contains Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

ANSWER: **Hispaniola**

10. This country's White Highlands were for years off-limits to its native African residents. This country's island of Lamu is one of its few Muslim regions. This country is home to the Maasai Mara Game Reserve, and its ethnic groups include the Luo, Kalenjin, and Kikuyu, who launched the Mau Mau Rebellion. This country's port city of Mombasa is its second largest, and while this country does not contain it, Serengeti National Park is just across this country's border with Tanzania. For the point, name this African country with its capital at Nairobi.

ANSWER: **Kenya**

11. This city's Bronzeville neighborhood was the subject of a poetry collection by Gwendolyn Brooks. This city also contains an Anish Kapoor sculpture colloquially called "the Bean". This city's parks include Grant Park and Lincoln Park, which contains this city's zoo. This city's tallest building was known as the Sears Tower until 2009. For the point, name this city that contains the Willis Tower and lies along the coast of Lake Michigan, the largest in Illinois.

ANSWER: **Chicago**

12. The "Great Berm" is located on one of this country's borders. One breakaway region controlled by this country is led by the POLISARIO front and has its capital at El Aïaun (**pr. El eye YOON**). This country's cities of Safi, Fes, and Meknes are located north of its Atlas Mountains, and the coastal Spanish cities of Melilla and Ceuta are otherwise surrounded by this country's territory. This country may have derived its English name from its medieval capital of Marrakech. For the point, name this North African country with its capital at Rabat.

ANSWER: **Morocco**

13. This river flows through the Alashan Mountains and the Ordos Desert, as well as an area of yellowish soil known as the Loess Plateau. This river's most recent change of course brought its mouth from Jiangsu Province to the Gulf of Bo Hai; those course changes and their accompanying floods led this river to be nicknamed "China's Sorrow". For the point, name this river, one of China's two longest along with the Yangtze.

ANSWER: Yellow River (accept Huang He)

14. This state's biomes include rainforests on the Cape York Peninsula which are found near the eastern shore of the Gulf of Carpentaria. This state is also home to the city of Townsville, a major access point to its main tourist attraction, which is under threat from climate change and the crown-of-thorns starfish. This state contains the Northern end of the Great Dividing Range, and its state capital of Brisbane is Australia's third largest city. For the point, name this Northeastern state of Australia, the northernmost of its two named for Queen Victoria.

ANSWER: Queensland

15. The most distant point from the center of the earth is located in this mountain range. This mountain range's rain shadow forms the Sechura Desert, and the fortress of Sacsawaman was built by an empire centered in this mountain range. This mountain range contains Mount Chimborazo and Mount Aconcagua, and it runs through capitals such as Sucre and Quito. This mountain range, the world's longest, runs from Colombia to Argentina. For the point, name this South American mountain range.

ANSWER: Andes

16. This region is connected to the Eurasian mainland by the Isthmus of Perekop. The city of Feodosia, formerly known as Caffa, is a former Greek and Genoese colony in this region. The Gulf of Kerch borders this region, and the recent construction of a bridge over the Strait of Kerch to this region had geopolitical implications. This region's city of Sevastopol was the target of a British and French siege during this region's namesake 1850s war. For the point, name this region annexed by Russia from Ukraine in 2014.

ANSWER: Crimea

17. This country's Southeast is home to the majority-Shia city of Najran, and this country is the southernmost that contains the Nafud Desert. This country's port of Dhahran is near the most productive oil field in history, and this country is connected to another by the King Fahd Causeway. This country is home to a desert also known as the "Empty Quarter", the Rub al-Khali. This country also contains the two holiest cities in Islam, Mecca and Medina. For the point, name this Middle Eastern country with its capital at Riyadh.

ANSWER: Saudi Arabia

18. This body of water's Tangier Island speaks a dialect of English that's remained largely unchanged since the 17th century. The islands of Assateague and Chincoteague in this body of water are home to a wild horse population, and the James and Rappahannock Rivers flow into this body of water. This body of water is separated from the Atlantic Ocean by the Delmarva Peninsula, and the Potomac River flows into this bay. For ten points, name this bay that makes up most of the coastline of Maryland and Virginia.

ANSWER: Chesapeake Bay

19. The Kaya and Koguryo Kingdoms ruled from this peninsula. The Taebaek Sanmaek mountain range runs down the length of this peninsula, and one of its two countries contains mountains such as Kumgang and Paektu. This peninsula's other country contains the cities of Daegu and Busan, and the two countries on this peninsula are separated by a demilitarized zone. The nuclear program of one country on this peninsula threatens the other country's capital of Seoul. For the point, name this peninsula divided into "North" and "South" countries.

ANSWER: Korean Peninsula (accept Korea)

20. This is the westernmost of the two countries that share the Bialowieza Forest, the last habitat of the European Bison. This country is divided into Voivodships, and its region of Silesia contains the cities of Katowice and Wroclaw. This country's port of Gdansk was formerly known as Danzig. This country's capital was formerly Krakow, but was moved in 1596. For the point, name this Eastern European country with its capital at Warsaw.

ANSWER: **Poland**

21. This civilization may have collapsed due to a centuries-long war between the kingdoms of Mutal and Ka'an. This civilization built the sites of Kohunlich and Tulum, and this civilization may have practiced human sacrifices in underground lakes called cenotes. This civilization built the cities of Tikal and Palenque as well as the world heritage site of Chichen Itza. For the point, name this civilization that inhabited Southern Mexico and northern Central America.

ANSWER: Classic **Maya**

22. This city was built on the site of the Swedish fortress of Nyenskans (Nigh-ens-kahns) while its country did not control the land it stands on. This city contains a statue called the Bronze Horseman, and its Nevsky Prospekt is the namesake of a short story collection by Nikolai Gogol. This city was renamed Petrograd and later Leningrad after the Soviet Union was formed. For the point, name this Russian city on the Baltic Sea named for a "Great" czar.

ANSWER: **St. Petersburg** (accept **Petrograd** before mention)

23. One of these regions' name translates as "once you get in, you'll never get out". These regions include the Dasht-e-Kavir and Dasht-e-Lut in Iran, and the Thar example of these regions is also called the Great Indian. Copper mining is a profitable industry in a landform of this type in South America near the city of Antofagasta. "Cold" examples of these regions include the Gobi in Mongolia. For the point each, name these dry regions, one example of which is the Sahara.

ANSWER: **Deserts**

24. This city was once split into a separate state from its suburb of Niteroi. This city's slums include the German Complex and the City of God, and its Barra de Tijuca neighborhood is one of its richest. Pollution is a major issue in this city's Guanabara Bay, and Sugarloaf and Corcovado Mountains overlook this city. The latter mountain contains this city's famous Cristo Redentor statue. For the point, name this Brazilian city that recently hosted the 2016 Summer Olympics.

ANSWER: **Rio de Janeiro**

25. This body of water is connected to the extremely salty Kara Bogaz Bay by a rocky ridge that occasionally floods over. Ports on this body of water include Aytrau and Turkmenbasy. This body of water is connected to the neighboring and shrinking Aral Sea by a canal, and the city of Baku is a national capital on this body of water. This is the world's largest inland body of water. For the point, name this saline lake that borders Turkmenistan, Iran, and Azerbaijan.

ANSWER: **Caspian Sea**

26. This country's Sperrgebiet National Park is named for a region that non-employee natives were forbidden to enter. This country's Herero and Nama tribes were the target of a German campaign of genocide, and its Caprivi Strip was the subject of dispute between colonial powers. This country's Skeleton Coast is named for its high number of shipwrecks, and its town of Walvis Bay was until 1994 controlled by its neighbor, South Africa. For the point, name this southwest African country, a former German colony.

ANSWER: **Namibia**

27. This region is located Northeast of Buzzards Bay, and this region contains the cities of Hyannis and Barnstable. This region's city of Provincetown is located at its northern tip while Woods Hole, in the southwest of this region is home to a oceanographic institution. The islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket are located due south of this region. For the point, name this region of eastern Massachusetts that protrudes into the Atlantic and nearly surrounds its namesake Bay.

ANSWER: **Cape Cod**

28. The Cauvery river in this country is the focus of disputes between two of its states. During World War II, the Battle of the Tennis Court occurred in the city of Kohima in what is now the capital of this country's state of Nagaland. This country annexed its present-day state of Goa from the Portuguese during Operation Vijay. Kashmir was partitioned in 1948 between this country and its predominantly Muslim neighbor. For the point, name this country with several ongoing boundary disputes with Pakistan.

ANSWER: **India**

29. This country's Mergui Archipelago is home to the seafaring nomadic Moken People. This country's hill tribes include the Shan and Wa, and this country's Rakhine State has recently been the site of clashes between Buddhists and Muslims. Those clashes are widely considered an ongoing genocide against the Rohingya people. The Irrawaddy River runs through this country, and this country's former capital of Yangon is located at its delta. For the point, name this country with its capital at Naypyidaw, widely known as Burma.

ANSWER: **Myanmar** (accept **Burma** before last word)

30. The Ludlow Massacre, in which striking coal miners were killed, occurred in this state. The sources of the White and Arkansas Rivers are in this state, and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison is one of this state's four national parks, which also include Mesa Verde. "America the Beautiful" was inspired by a view from this state's Pike's Peak. For the point, name this Western state whose cities include the university town of Boulder and its capital of Denver.

ANSWER: **Colorado**

Extra Tossup – ONLY READ IF A QUESTION IS BOTCHED!

31. This territory is separated from its neighbors by the Maroni River. Henri Charierre escaped from the Devil's Island Prison colony in this territory, and this territory contains the European Space Agency's primary launch site. This territory's capital is the namesake of a red variety of pepper, and this territory borders Suriname and Brazil. For the point, name this French territory, the only European colony on the South American continent.

ANSWER: **French Guiana**