

The International Geography Bee - Sample European Championships Qualifying Exam

NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____

Birthdate & Year: _____

Instructions: Circle the correct answer or leave it blank. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

- 1) Which country is now home to more kilometers of high-speed rail than any other?
 - a) Japan
 - b) France
 - c) China
 - d) USA

- 2) Which body of water sees the fewest number of tropical cyclones?
 - a) North Sea
 - b) Caribbean Sea
 - c) East China Sea
 - d) Bay of Bengal

- 3) Which country or group has not recently been active in the fighting in Syria?
 - a) Nusra Front
 - b) ISIS
 - c) Russia
 - d) Oman

- 4) Which of the following could a tourist NOT do in Spain?
 - a) Go on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela
 - b) Throw tomatoes at strangers at the Tomatilla Festival
 - c) Be gored by a bull during the Festival of San Fermin in Pamplona
 - d) Kiss the Blarney Stone near the city of Cork

- 5) Which country's existence is most threatened by the consequences of climate change?
 - a) Malta
 - b) Maldives
 - c) Cyprus
 - d) Fiji

- 6) As of 2017, which country has not been selected to host an upcoming Winter or Summer Olympic Games?
 - a) Japan
 - b) South Korea
 - c) China
 - d) Argentina

- 7) Which country in South America is most dependent on oil exports to sustain its national budget?
- a) Columbia
 - b) Venezuela
 - c) Chile
 - d) Uruguay
- 8) Which of the following cities is the center of the Bollywood film industry?
- a) Chennai
 - b) Mumbai
 - c) New Delhi
 - d) Kolkata
- 9) Which country did NATO offer an invitation to join in late 2015?
- a) Poland
 - b) Montenegro
 - c) Canada
 - d) Vatican City
- 10) Which island is home to two countries?
- a) Puerto Rico
 - b) Antigua
 - c) Aruba
 - d) Hispaniola
- 11) Sikhism and Jainism are religions which both originated in what is now which present-day country?
- a) Turkey
 - b) India
 - c) Kazakhstan
 - d) Iran
- 12) What landmass is most distorted on a map with a Mercator projection relative to its actual size?
- a) Australia
 - b) South America
 - c) Italy
 - d) Greenland
- 13) Which current helps keep Northern Europe warmer than other landmasses at that latitude?
- a) Humboldt Current
 - b) El Nino
 - c) Gulf Stream
 - d) Irish Conveyor

- 14) Which two countries stayed neutral in World War 2?
- a) Denmark and Norway
 - b) Switzerland and Austria
 - c) Spain and France
 - d) Sweden and Portugal
- 15) Which country is the current primary global supplier of rare earth metals?
- a) Andorra
 - b) Monaco
 - c) Tuvalu
 - d) China
- 16) Which of the following four American rivers has the largest drainage basin?
- a) Delaware
 - b) Mississippi
 - c) Connecticut
 - d) Illinois
- 17) If you opened an atlas to look at a map of the Atlas Mountains, which country's territory might you wish to look at?
- a) Libya
 - b) Cameroon
 - c) Algeria
 - d) Swaziland
- 18) Which country's official language is Slavic?
- a) Romania
 - b) Hungary
 - c) Germany
 - d) Poland
- 19) Which region of Russia is crossed by a namesake railroad that ends in Vladivostok?
- a) Siberia
 - b) Chechnya
 - c) Tver
 - d) Kaliningrad
- 20) Which is not an actual country?
- a) Guinea
 - b) Guinea-Bissau
 - c) Guyana
 - d) Guineastan

- 21) Which country's economy is the most diversified?
- a) Saudi Arabia
 - b) Malta
 - c) Nauru
 - d) Canada
- 22) Which country does not currently have the Union Jack on its flag?
- a) Australia
 - b) Fiji
 - c) New Zealand
 - d) Philippines
- 23) Ian Fleming's house named "Goldeneye" and the opening scene of *Dr. No* in Kingston can both be found where?
- a) Cuba
 - b) Jamaica
 - c) Iceland
 - d) Hokkaido
- 24) Which Canadian province is one of the world's largest wheat producers and is also one of the Prairie Provinces?
- a) Nova Scotia
 - b) British Columbia
 - c) Saskatchewan
 - d) Quebec
- 25) Which European country has more than ten million people than the other three listed?
- a) France
 - b) United Kingdom
 - c) Italy
 - d) Germany
- 26) The lowest-elevation land point in the world not covered by water or glaciers can be found where?
- a) The shores of the Dead Sea
 - b) Death Valley
 - c) Lake Eyre
 - d) Faroe Islands
- 27) Which Balearic Island in Spain is famous for high numbers of German tourists who have their own German-language radio station there?
- a) Tenerife
 - b) Sicily
 - c) Gran Canaria
 - d) Mallorca

- 28) Which present-day country's territory was never conquered by Alexander the Great?
- a) Lebanon
 - b) Iraq
 - c) Israel
 - d) France
- 29) If, as an AFS exchange student, you learned that Suomi was the name of your host country in its native Uralic language, you'd be studying where?
- a) Austria
 - b) Sweden
 - c) Finland
 - d) Albania
- 30) Which country's cuisine includes delicacies such as escargots, bouche de Noel, and bouillabaisse?
- a) Sweden
 - b) Spain
 - c) France
 - d) Portugal
- 31) Which is a line of longitude?
- a) Tropic of Capricorn
 - b) Arctic Circle
 - c) Prime Meridian
 - d) 38th Parallel
- 32) Which country is most prone to earthquakes?
- a) Finland
 - b) Italy
 - c) Lithuania
 - d) Ireland
- 33) Which country has by far the most tornadoes of any country on earth?
- a) Estonia
 - b) Chile
 - c) Vietnam
 - d) USA
- 34) Which of the following four countries has the highest median age for its population?
- a) Germany
 - b) Haiti
 - c) The USA
 - d) Niger

- 35) What is globalization?
- a) The process by which the Earth becomes rounder as it spins faster
 - b) The tendency of ideas, commerce, or technologies to spread out across the whole world
 - c) The process by which a currency becomes an official currency in multiple countries
 - d) The process by which the educated establishment gradually came to accept the idea that the Earth is round
- 36) China is potentially interested in building a new canal across which Central American country, making use of one of its large lakes?
- a) El Salvador
 - b) Honduras
 - c) Belize
 - d) Nicaragua
- 37) Which name has never been used for a Russian/Soviet city on the Gulf of Finland?
- a) Stalingrad
 - b) St. Petersburg
 - c) Leningrad
 - d) Petrograd
- 38) The USA reopened its embassy in which country in 2015?
- a) Iran
 - b) Iraq
 - c) Cuba
 - d) Jamaica
- 39) As of 2017, which country has a monarchy but is not a member of the European Union?
- a) Austria
 - b) Ukraine
 - c) Norway
 - d) Sweden
- 40) If Suzie sells seashells in the Seychelles, then she's peddling her wares surrounded by which ocean?
- a) Atlantic
 - b) Pacific
 - c) Indian
 - d) Arctic
- 41) Which was not a site of nuclear weapons testing in the mid-twentieth century?
- a) New Mexico
 - b) Bikini Atoll
 - c) Novaya Zemlya
 - d) Bavaria

- 42) Earth's weather takes place primarily in which region of the atmosphere?
- a) Mesosphere
 - b) Ionosphere
 - c) Troposphere
 - d) Thermosphere
- 43) Which countries' flags are most likely to be mistaken for each other?
- a) Netherlands and Luxembourg
 - b) Netherlands and Belgium
 - c) Belgium and France
 - d) France and Luxembourg
- 44) As of 2017, which of the following countries has the highest percentage of its citizens infected with the HIV virus?
- a) Swaziland
 - b) Switzerland
 - c) Pakistan
 - d) Peru
- 45) Which city is an Alpha World City?
- a) Vilnius
 - b) Vientiane
 - c) Vienna
 - d) Varna
- 46) Which of the following is not part of the reason why Silicon Valley has been economically successful?
- a) Proximity to major research universities at Stanford and Berkeley
 - b) Network effects of companies wanting to be near each other
 - c) California has the lowest personal and corporate taxes of any US state
 - d) A favorable climate and proximity to San Francisco have helped attract workers
- 47) The trade route known as the Silk Road passed through which of the following countries?
- a) Burkina Faso
 - b) East Timor
 - c) Uzbekistan
 - d) Grenada
- 48) In 2017, which of the following most exemplifies the geopolitical concept of a "failed state"?
- a) Algeria
 - b) Somalia
 - c) Uruguay
 - d) Wyoming

- 49) Which phrase was often added to Renaissance Era maps to indicate that a region's land features were unknown?
- a) Terra incognita
 - b) Terra nullius
 - c) Terra firma
 - d) Terra nova
- 50) In developing countries, as education of girls spreads and improves, what is a typical demographic consequence?
- a) Fertility rates increase
 - b) Fertility rates decrease
 - c) Per capita GDP falls
 - d) Overall Immigration rates increase