1. A species of tiger named for this body of water was overhunted for Roman gladiatorial games and declared extinct in 2003. In Arabic sources, this body of water is sometimes named for the (+) Khazar people, who inhabited its basin in the middle ages. A brackish lagoon on this body of water is known as the Karabogazkol and contains a port named for (*) Sapurmanat Niyazov. The sultanate of Tabarestan was located on the South end of this body of water. For the point, name this saline body of water in Central Asia, the largest lake on earth.
ANSWER: Caspian Sea

2. The “Little sisters” are a sub-chain of this island group. This group’s islands include Jost Van (+) Dyke and one named for it followed by the word “Gorda”. Major cities in this island chain include Road Town and (*) Charlotte Amalie, and part of this island chain was a Danish possession until it was sold in 1917. For the point, name this island chain that includes St. John, St. Thomas, and St. Croix, and is split between American and British territories.
ANSWER: Virgin Islands [accept British Virgin Islands before “Charlotte Amalie;” prompt on Lesser Antilles]

3. This city’s Meskel Square hosts an annual religious festival. This city is served by Bole International Airport, and its recently opened (+) metro, constructed with Chinese funding, is the first on its continent. This city contains St. George’s (*) Cathedral, named for its country’s patron saint. This city, whose name means “new star”, was founded as a capital by Empress Taytu. The African Union is based in this city. For the point, name this capital of Ethiopia.
ANSWER: Addis Ababa

4. The island of Palisadoes in this country’s capital’s harbor was a base of (+) Captain Henry Morgan, and was the site of Emperor Haile Selassie’s arrival in this non-African country. That arrival is a holiday in a (*) religion from this country that worships Jah and uses ganja, or marijuana, in its rituals. For the point, name this Caribbean country where Rastafarianism developed in the capital, Kingston.
ANSWER: Jamaica
5. Along this river, a skull often used to support theories that Europeans arrived in the Americas before Native Americans was found at the town of Kennewick. (+) This river’s gorge overlooks Mt. Hamilton and Mt. (*) Hood. The Grand Coulee Dam is the largest on this river, and this river has tributes including the Snake. For the point, name this river that forms part of the border between Washington and Oregon, the largest in the Pacific Northwest.
ANSWER: Columbia River

6. A hamlet near this lake was originally called Laggan and includes a main community known as The Village. The wooden Rattenbury wing of a hotel on the bank of this lake was destroyed in 1924 and replaced by the (+) Barrot wing. The aforementioned hotel beside this lake is one of Canada's grand railway hotels and is currently operated by (*) Fairmont. This lake was named after the wife of John Campbell and 4th daughter of Queen Victoria. For the point, name this lake located within Banff National Park in Alberta.
ANSWER: Lake Louise

7. The Krimchak language was spoken historically in this region, where the Kingdom of Theodoro was established by remnants of the (+) Gothic people. This region’s Tatars make up most of its Muslim minority, and this region is located South of the Isthmus of (*) Perekop. This region is located east of the Gulf of Kerch, and west of the Sea of Azov. This region contains the naval bases of Simferopol and Sebastopol. For the point, name this region, a peninsula annexed by Russia from Ukraine in 2014.
ANSWER: Crimea (accept Krim)

8. The Goro mine is located in one of this country’s territories, which produces 10% of the world’s nickel. (+) The Kanak people inhabit one of this country’s Pacific territories, and another of this country’s territories is divided into archipelagos including the Tuamotu, Society, and (*) Marquesas. For the point, name this country where a “no” vote in an independence referendum in New Caledonia was urged by the President, Emmanuel Macron.
ANSWER: France

9. One skyscraper in this city had its design inspired by a Bai (+) Juyi poem describing the sound of the pipa as “like pearls”. This city draws its water supply from the Huangpu River. The (*) Wu dialect is mostly spoken around this city. This city is divided into Pudong and Puxi districts. For the point, name this city in the Yangtze River delta, once China’s largest.
ANSWER: Shanghai

10. This city’s Residenz Museum was formerly the treasury of one of its royal palaces, which include (+) Nymphenburg and the Maximilianeum. The Dachau concentration camp was located to the northwest of this city, which is bisected by the Isar River. This city’s (*) Thereseinwiese hosts the oldest Oktoberfest celebration. For the point, name this German city, the capital of Bavaria, in which the 1972 Olympics were held.
ANSWER: Munich [accept Munchen]
11. The Grand Union Canal begins on the north shore of this body of water. A (+) flood barrier was installed on this body of water in 1984 two miles east of the Isle of Dogs. This river, which begins near Cirencester, flows past Reading, (*) Oxford, and Windsor. Crossings of this river include the Millennium Footbridge and the famous Tower Bridge. For the point, name this English river that flows through London.

ANSWER: River Thames

12. During a jihadist occupation, librarians in this city would hide scrolls in traditional robes called grand boubou. A picture of a king holding a (+) golden orb appears on the Catalan Atlas on top of this city. The Djinguerber madrasa was part of a university complex in this city, (*) Sankore. Ansar Dine briefly occupied this ancient city in the mid-2010s. This city was the capital of rulers called mansas. For the point, name this Malian city, once the capital of the Mali Empire.

ANSWER: Timbuktu [accept Tombouctou]

13. One of these structures commemorates the Indian judge Radhabinod Pal. One of these structures is split into two halves that are each torn down and (+) rebuilt every 20 years. A visit by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to one of these structures caused a diplomatic incident with China in 2007. That structure is located at (*) Yasukuni, and the Ise Grand is the most important of these structures. For the point, name these structures where torii gates are often found and which are used for the worship of kami.

ANSWER: Shinto Shrines

14. Korean fried chicken is served with this food at a Philadelphia restaurant named for “Federal” this food. This food may have been invented when the sea captain (+) Hanson Gregory stored a snack he was eating on a prong of his ship’s rudder. The chef Dominique Ansel invented a dish that fuses this food with a (*) croissant. This food traditionally comes in a denser “cake” variant. For the point, name this food that can be served “glazed” and names a restaurant chain frequently abbreviated “dunkin”.

ANSWER: donut

15. This location is home to the Dr. Neil Trivett Global Atmosphere Watch Observatory and a (+) Canadian Armed Forces facility. This location is named after a British ship which wintered near this location at Cape Sheridan. The entire population of the (*) Baffin, Unorganized census subdivision can be found at this location which is part of the Qikiqtaaluk region of Nunavut. For the point, name this northernmost permanently inhabited place in the world.

ANSWER: Alert

16. The first of these places is widely held to have been the Parian district of (+) Manila. These places are the namesake of a low-cost bus service in New York. Gathering places called tong were frequently built in these locations. One of these places in San (*) Francisco was located near Angel Island, where many of the immigrants who settled in them were processed. For the point, name these places where immigrants from cities such as Beijing and Shanghai settle.

ANSWER: Chinatowns
17. An upscale business district in this city is centered on Tehran Street. A set of eight gates in this city’s wall were built in wood in the (+) 14th century; only one of those gates, the “Great Southern Gate”, remains. An elite university in this city, Ehwa, only admits women. A 1960s economic miracle is named for the (*) Han River that passes through this city. A 2012 viral song by PSY is named for this city’s district of Gangnam. For the point, name this capital of South Korea.

ANSWER: Seoul

18. The Torre de la (+) Inglaterra in this city commemorates English help in its country’s war of independence, and the Mothers of the Plaza (*) de Mayo are a protest group active in this city that opposes government actions taken in the “Dirty War”. This city’s Boca Juniors is its most popular soccer club. For the point, name this city on the Rio de la Plata, the capital of Argentina.

ANSWER: Buenos Aires

19. In 1908, Prince George dedicated the establishment of a park at this location. This location was named after a fisherman and river pilot who was nicknamed "the Scot". The (+) 78th Fraser Highlanders suffered heavy casualties during a battle at this location. An attacking army climbed steep slopes to reach this location prior to a (*) battle that led to the deaths of both Montcalm and his British opponent. For the point, name this battlefield outside Quebec where General Wolfe was killed.

ANSWER: Plains of Abraham (Do not accept “Quebec”)

20. The Splendid Palace Hotel is on the Big Island of Princes archipelago in this city. This city’s Karakoy neighborhood is home to the Camondo Stairs and the medieval (+) Galata Tower. This city’s Gezi Park was the site of protests when its demolition was threatened in 2013 near (*) Taksim Square. This city’s Topkapi Palace lies on the south side of the Golden Horn inlet, overlooking the Bosporus Strait. For the point, name this city that straddles the Europe-Asia border, the most populous in Turkey.

ANSWER: Istanbul

21. The Cliff of Angavo runs down much of this country’s Western coast and was home to its precolonial Betsimaraka kingdom. This country controls Juan de (+) Nova Island, and its Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park contains a forest of stone needles. This country’s inhabitants speak the Westernmost Malayo-(* ) Polynesian language, and this country is the world’s largest producer of vanilla. This island is home to animals such as the fossa and the ring-tailed lemur. For the point, name this island country with its capital at Antananarivo.

ANSWER: Madagascar

22. One group of these in the Middle East is partially owned by Pamela Anderson, and a major world power is looking to create more of these near the Nine-Dashed Line. (+) China has attempted to turn places such as Fiery Cross Reef into areas that meet international maritime law’s definition of these places, and a sluggish real estate development of this type is shaped like the (*) continents of the World. For the point, name these structures including the Palm Jumeirah and Palm Jebel Ali, which were built in Dubai by pouring sand into water until it rose above the surface.

ANSWER: artificial islands
23. The Ninnis Glacier is named for a lieutenant who died on this country’s namesake Antarctic expedition. That expedition was led by Douglas (+) Mawson, who names one of this country’s Antarctic research stations. The territory of Terre Adelie separates the two sections of this country’s Antarctic Territory, and this country controls (*) McDonald and Heard Islands off the Antarctic coast. For the point, name this country with the largest Antarctic territorial claim, based partially on frontage from its state of Victoria.

ANSWER: Australia

24. Settlers from the city of Placentia played a role in exterminating this island’s native Beothuk people. This island’s Long Range Mountains stretch into its Northern Peninsula, and the (+) Strait of Belle Isle separates this island from the mainland. The French territory of (*) St. Pierre and Miquelon lies off the coast of this island, and this island contains its province’s capital at St. John’s. For the point, name this island paired with the mainland region of Labrador in a Canadian maritime province.

ANSWER: Newfoundland

25. This country’s cities include San (+) Miguel and Santa Ana. St. Oscar Romero was a canonized bishop from this country’s capital. In the late 1960s, this country fought the (*) “soccer war” with its northern neighbor. Besides Belize, this country is the only one in its region not to border both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. For the point, name this Central American country with its capital at San Salvador.

ANSWER: El Salvador

Tiebreak # 1

26. One of this religion’s temples at Nankana was the target of a massacre in 1919. The region of Ramgarhia is centered on a city named for one of this religion’s leaders. This religion’s adherents have attempted to (+) secede and form the Republic of Khalistan, and this religion’s most holy site was the target of Operation (*) Blue Star; that site is the Golden Temple in Amritsar. For the point, name this religion whose founder, Guru Nanak, lived in Punjab.

ANSWER: Sikhism