



International
Geography Bee

2019 International Geography Bee

Asian Championships

Preliminary Round 3

1. These structures were built on the original site of the Selangor Turf Club. These structures were designed by Cesar Pelli to serve as the headquarters of its country's state oil company. The use of a decorative spire controversially elevated these structures above the Willis Tower in Chicago, making them briefly the tallest in the world. For the point, name these twin structures in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

ANSWER: **Petronas** Towers

2. The Shirvan Shahdom was based in this modern country. The first offshore oil platform in the world was controlled by this country near Neft Daslari, or Oil Rocks. Zaha Hadid designed a curved-roofed "center" named for this country's first president, Heydar Aliyev, which is located in this country's capital on the Absheron Peninsula. This country controls the exclave of Naxcivan (**nock-CHAY-vahn**) and fights with its western neighbor for control of Nagorno-Karabakh. For the point, name this Caucasian country with its capital at Baku.

ANSWER: **Azerbaijan**

3. The Bogong Moth seasonally travels to and from a range with this name to avoid high temperatures and predators like the Mountain Pygmy Possum. Another range with this name is home to Fiordland National Park near the city of Queenstown. The original range with this name was home to the iron working Hallstatt culture and is now home to the resorts of St. Moritz and Chamonix (**pr. shah-moe-NEE**). For the point, give this name of largest mountain ranges in New Zealand and Australia, as well as one in Europe of which Mont Blanc is a member.

ANSWER: **Alps** [Accept **Australian Alps** or **Southern Alps**]

4. The *USS Pueblo* environmental research ship is on display in this city, having been captured for "spying" near Ryo Island. This city's Arch of Triumph, ten meters taller than the French Arc de Triomphe, is located near Moran Hill. The fall of the USSR made it financial impossible for this city's national government to finish the Ryugyong Hotel, making it the tallest unoccupied hotel in the world. For the point, name this city with multiple monuments depicting Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong-Il, the capital of North Korea.

ANSWER: **Pyongyang**

5. This country's Prime Minister was once a nationally ranked competitor in its "Bokh" wrestling tradition. This country's Turquoise Hill is the site of a massive copper mine. In this country, harsh winters are known as *dzud*. This country's capital suffers from pollution due to the prolific use of *ger* tents in its slums, and this country's language has a Khalkha dialect. For the point, name this Central Asian country between China and Russia with its capital at Ulaanbaatar.

ANSWER: **Mongolia**

6. A megacity called NEOM is currently being built near this country's capital. Religious militias called the Ikhwan were active in this modern country. This country's mountainous Nejd region was the original home of its ruling dynasty, who later captured the region of Hejaz. For the point, name this country where Muslims perform the *hegira* pilgrimage to Medina and the *hajj* pilgrimage to Mecca.

ANSWER: Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia**

7. A replica of this building in a US city's Centennial Park was designed by Confederate veteran William Crawford Smith. An expedition led by Francesco Morosini fired artillery rounds at this building from the Hill of Philopappos, damaging this edifice in the 17th century. At the behest of Culture Minister Melina Mercouri, this building's nation has asked for the return of sculptures made by Phidias that reside in the British Museum — the so-called Elgin Marbles. For the point, name this temple dedicated to Athena that sits on the Acropolis.

ANSWER: **Parthenon**

8. One chicken dish prepared in this city is named for a slang term for a male virgin. 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**

9. 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**

10. The US Congress officially declared the “Home of the Blues” to be in this city where a funeral procession for B.B. King took place on Beale Street. This city is the site of both the National Civil Rights Museum, which was built around the Lorraine Hotel where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, and Elvis’s mansion Graceland. For the point, name this city in west Tennessee that is named for an ancient Egyptian capital.

ANSWER: **Memphis**

11. In the extreme south of this nation one can find Charyn Canyon, which was formed by a river that originated from the Tian Shan mountains. At a 2012 shooting tournament in Kuwait, an incorrect version of this country’s national anthem was played that had originally been composed for the Sasha Baron Cohen movie featuring Borat. This largest landlocked nation by area recently changed its capital’s name to honor its former President Nazarbayev. For the point, name this former Soviet Republic with the cities of Almaty and, Nursultan, formerly known as Astana.

ANSWER: Republic of **Kazakhstan**

12. Sergeant Shoichi Yokoi was found living in Talofofa Cave of this island in the early 1970s, and returned to Japan soon after. His superior, Lt. Gen. Hideyoshi Obata, committed seppuku at this island’s Mount Mataguac after failing to hold it. This island’s motto is “Land of the Chamorros,” in reference to the dominant Austronesian group that still inhabit the island. For the point, name this territory in Micronesia ceded to the US along with the Philippines and Puerto Rico at the end of the Spanish-American War.

ANSWER: **Guam**

13. Francistown, a former gold mine town and this nation’s second largest city, lies near the Shashe River, a tributary of the Limpopo. This nation’s currency, the Pula, literally means “rain” and replaced the South African Rand in the mid 1970s. This country was known as Bechuanaland in colonial times and has recently been developing its ecotourism sector in the Okavango Delta near the Kalahari Desert. For the point, name this former English colony in southern Africa with capital at Gaborone.

ANSWER: Republic of **Botswana**

14. A 2000 meeting in this Asian city resulted in a namesake multilateral currency swap arrangement among the ASEAN+3 countries. Each February, this city’s Suan Buak Haad public park hosts this city’s namesake Flower Festival. This city on the Ping River includes numerous religious sites such as Wat Phra Sing and a temple called Doi Suthep. This city was founded by Mangrai, the first king of the Lanna kingdom. For the point, name this largest city in Northern Thailand, not to be confused with the similarly named Chiang Rai.

ANSWER: **Chiang Mai**

15. Reporter Marjory Stoneman Douglas was known as the “Grand Dame” of this national park after writing a 1947 book about it. This park’s ecosystem has been greatly degraded through the introduction of the Burmese Python. Much of the Biscayne Aquifer is recharged by the grasslands of this national park, which is crossed by a highway nicknamed “Alligator Alley.” For the point, name this national park and refuge of the Florida Panther.

ANSWER: **Everglades** National Park

16. A January 2019 study showed that this animal switched to its characteristic diet 5000 years ago, likely in response to human pressures. This animal’s habitat is protected by the Wolong Nature Reserve. The city of Chengdu, located near its primary habitat, is the location of an annual festival dedicated to this animal. This animal serves as the logo of the World Wildlife Federation. For the point, name this large bamboo-eating ailuropod native to China.

ANSWER: **giant panda** [prompt on **panda**]

17. This language’s “Tale of an Anklet”, written by its prince Ilango Adigal, is one of its Five Great Epics. This language’s film industry produced stars who later became politicians such as Vijayakanth and Jayaram Jayalalithaa. One guerrilla group aimed to create a homeland called “Eelam” for speakers of this language. Speakers of this language established the Chera and Chola empires. For the point, name this language spoken in a Southern Indian state with its capital at Chennai.

ANSWER: **Tamil**

18. This city’s Chinatown is located in its district of Cho Lon. The tunnels of Cu Chi are located outside this city. This city was evacuated when the song “White Christmas” was played over its radio stations in Operation Frequent Wind, and it served as the capital of a state led by Ngo Dinh Diem. For the point, name this city that was known as Saigon until it was renamed to honor a revolutionary leader, the largest in Vietnam.

ANSWER: **Ho Chi Minh** City [accept **Thanh Pho Ho Chi Minh**, **Saigon** until mention]

19. This island’s regional variety of fried breadcrumb balls stuffed with rice named Arancini are conical to represent a nearby mountain. Directly north of this island are the islands of Lipari and Salina, which are two islands in an archipelago named for the wind god Aeolus. The real life mobster Bernardo Provenzano was born in the town of Corleone (**pr. cor-lay-OH-nay**) on this island, just like several characters from *The Godfather*. The philosopher Empedocles attempted to prove he was a god by jumping into this island’s volcano, Mt. Etna. For the point, name this island with cities like Palermo and Syracuse, south of mainland Italy.

ANSWER: **Sicily**

20. Though not the Himalayas, nine hikers died in this mountain range in 1959 in a still-unsolved incident often cited as evidence for the existence of the Yeti. A city whose name translates as “magnetic mountain city” was built in this mountain range in the 1930s. It’s not the Altai Mountains, but Udmurt, Mari, Finnish, and Hungarian are all members of a language family named for this mountain range. This mountain range was the site of a notorious Soviet labor camp complex at Vorkuta. For the point, name this mountain range in Russia, frequently used as a dividing line between Europe and Asia.

ANSWER: **Ural** Mountains

21. This peninsula’s region of Kedah changed hands during the Second World War and was renamed Syburi. The narrowest part of this peninsula is the Kra Isthmus. The Straits of Johor separate this peninsula a city led by Prime Minister Lee Hsien (**pr. SHEN**) Loong. For the point, name this peninsula that is largely occupied by Thailand and its namesake nation.

ANSWER: **Malay** Peninsula

22. This city’s St Pauli district is home to the nightlife district of the Reeperbahn, where the Beatles honed their craft in the early 1960s. This city, whose official name still contains the word “Hanseatic,” is bordered by the federal states of Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony. For the point, name this port city and second largest in Germany that names a type of sandwich.

ANSWER: **Hamburg**

23. James Cook’s first voyage sought to observe Venus from a specific part of the world, leading him to set up an observatory on this island near Matavai Bay. This island’s people pose in paintings such as *Are you Jealous?* and *Spirit of the Dead Watching* by Paul Gauguin. This largest of French Polynesia’s Windward Islands was once known as Otaheite, which translates to “Obsolete.” For the point, name this island in the South Pacific whose largest city is Papeete.

ANSWER: **Tahiti**

24. Rem Koolhaas and Fernando Donis designed a site in this city called “Waterfront City” that features a Death Star-like building near a dredged creek. Maktoum bin Hasher Al Maktoum is responsible for this city’s growth in the 20th century after he made it a free port. Just off the coast of this city is “The World,” an artificial archipelago in the Persian Gulf roughly in the shape of the world map. For the point, name this site of Burj Khalifa and largest city in the United Arab Emirates.

ANSWER: **Dubai** [Accept **Dubay**]

25. Along the Menwin River in Myanmar, visitors can see two statues of this man, one reclining and one standing upwards, in the Po Kuang Hills. The largest statues of this man is carved into stone in China’s Sichuan province, and is named the “Leshan Giant.” For the point, name this man who is depicted in numerous statues, the founder of an Asian religion.

ANSWER: **Buddha**

26. The River Couesnon (**pr. coo-ay-NOH**) forms this region's historical border with a western neighbor known as Breizh in its native tongue. The reporter Ernie Pyle and the baseball player Yogi Berra came ashore 75 years ago this year in this region where Utah and Omaha Beach were taken by US troops. For the point, name this site of the D-Day invasion in 1944, a region in northern France.

ANSWER: **Normandy**

27. River tubing is a common recreation activity along this river near Luang Prabang. tributary of this river named the Ruak is in the middle of what the CIA calls "The Golden Triangle," an economic zone known for its illicit opium production. This river experiences seasonal "flow reversal," leading to flooding at the Tonle Sap lake. This river that begins in the Tibetan Basin has a namesake "Commission" made up of Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam. For the point, name this longest Southeast Asian river.

ANSWER: **Mekong** River

28. Fort Peck Dam was built during the Second World War in this state, forming a reservoir from the Missouri River. One of the smallest National History Bee Regional Finals tournaments this year took place in this state's university town of Bozeman. Visitors to this home state of Glacier National Park can see the statue *Our Lady of the Rockies* near this state's town of Butte. For the point, name this US state known as "Big Sky Country" and governed from Helena.

ANSWER: **Montana**

29. A 1692 earthquake formed the small island of Palisadoes in this country, which contains Norman Manley International Airport and the burial site of Captain Morgan. This country's flag is the only national flag in the world with none of the colors of red, white, or blue, as it is green, yellow, and black. For the point, name this island nation in the Caribbean where Rastafarianism started, with its capital at Kingston

ANSWER: **Jamaica**

30. Due to its resemblance to a short-necked lute, the largest freshwater lake on this island is named after the Biwa. This island's town of Beppu is famous for the monkeys that hang out in its hot springs. Forty percent of the population of this island can be found in its Kanto Plain. For the point, name this East Asian island with cities like Osaka and Tokyo.

ANSWER: **Honshu**

Extra Questions – Only Use as Backups

31. This city's old district was burned down by the marauding forces of Captain Henry Morgan in the 17th century, leading to the building of the Casco Viejo walled city. Many neighborhoods caught fire during George H.W. Bush's invasion of this city to oust dictator Manuel Noriega. For the point, name this capital city of a Central American nation known for a US-built canal.

ANSWER: **Panama City** [Accept **Ciudad de Panamá**]

32. About half of the economic activity of this territory is generated by the presence of a spaceport in Kourou, the main launch point of the European Space Agency. Cayenne is the capital and largest city in this territory, which is the only mainland region in the Western Hemisphere still controlled by a European power. For the point, name this French Overseas territory located in South America.

ANSWER: **French Guiana**