

National Geography Bowl – Round 3 (ES)

First Quarter

(1) This country's largest protected area is Serranía de Chiribiquete. The oldest protected area in this country is home to caves formed by the Caquetá and Magdalena rivers. For ten points, name this only South American country with coasts on both the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

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

(2) Saint Mary's Island lies within this body of water and hosts the capital of this its eponymous country. Kunta Kinteh Island is located within this river, which is represented by a thick, blue vertical line on the flag of the smallest country on the African mainland. For ten points, name this river that runs through one country's capital city, Banjul.

ANSWER: **Gambia** River (or River **Gambra**; or Fleuve **Gambie**)

(3) Amelia Hyde Center created the first version of this flag for the 1893 Centennial Exposition. This flag was changed in 2024 to feature an eight-pointed North Star on a field of two shades of blue. For ten points, name this flag that represents a U.S. state governed from Minneapolis.

ANSWER: flag of **Minnesota**

(4) These coastal features are often formed when shallow, sheltered bodies of water are separated from the open ocean. Atolls are defined as ring-shaped coral reefs or islands that surround one of these features. For ten points, name these bodies of water that are separated from the sea by a narrow strip of land.

ANSWER: **lagoons** (accept **laguna**)

(5) Outside of the Low Countries, this city is the busiest port of Europe and the North Sea. This city is sandwiched between the states of Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony, near the mouth of the Elbe River. For ten points, give this largest port city of Germany, the namesake of a type of sandwich

ANSWER: **Hamburg** (or Free Hanseatic City of **Hamburg**; or **Hamburger**)

(6) Endangered species of these animals include many species of honeycreepers in Hawaii. Over 200 species of these animals can be found by enthusiasts in a single day in New Jersey during spring migration. For ten points, name these winged animals, which include parrots and flamingos.

ANSWER: **birds**

(7) This city is served by the secondary Orly Airport, and this city includes the Gare de Lyon and the Gare du Nord train stations. This city contains the busiest metro system within the European Union, with tunnels crossing the Seine River. For ten points, name this city served by Charles de Gaulle Airport.

ANSWER: **Paris**

(8) This country's namesake gulf forms the westernmost part of the Pacific Ocean and includes the resort of Koh Samui. This country's narrow Isthmus of Kra is located between that gulf and the Andaman Sea, and includes the island of Phuket [[poo-KEH]]. For ten points, name this country bordering Laos and Malaysia, formerly called Siam.

ANSWER: Kingdom of **Thailand** (or Ratcha Anachak **Thai**; or Prathet **Thai**; accept Gulf of **Thailand**; accept **Siam** until mentioned)

(9) This mountain includes peaks like Tudor and Saxon. This mountain lies within Kluane National Park in the Saint Elias Mountains, which are part of the Pacific Coast Ranges. For ten points, identify this mountain in the Yukon territory, the second-highest mountain in North America and the highest mountain in Canada.

ANSWER: Mount **Logan**

(10) The Moselle Valley includes the southeastern portion of this country, whose highest point is Kneiff, a hill in the Ardennes. The Court of Justice of the European Union is located in this banking hub, led by Grand Duke Henri. For ten points, name this small country bordering France, Germany, and Belgium.

ANSWER: Grand Duchy of **Luxembourg** (or Groussherzogtum **Lëtzebuerg**; or Grand-Duché de **Luxembourg**; or Großherzogtum **Luxemburg**)

Second Quarter

(1) This country's northeast contains the autonomous Rojava region, and western Neo-Aramaic remains spoken in three villages of this country, home to Idlib and Latakia. This country uses a flag with three red stars alongside green, white, and black stripes. For ten points, name this country, once ruled primarily by its Alawite minority from Damascus.

ANSWER: **Syria** (or **Syrian** Arab Republic; or Al Jumhuriyah al Arabiyah as **Suriyah**)

BONUS: Bashar al-Assad was recently overthrown as the president of Syria and granted asylum in this non-Syrian city, home to the Bolshoi Theatre.

ANSWER: **Moscow** (or **Moskva**)

(2) With the neighboring Banaba Island, this country's landscape has been decimated by strip mining. This country is the world's smallest by area which is not a European microstate. For ten points, name this single-island Oceanian country unofficially governed from Yaren, known for its former phosphate mining.

ANSWER: Republic of **Nauru**

BONUS: The second-smallest country of Oceania is this nation, known for its two-letter internet domain, governed from Funafuti.

ANSWER: **Tuvalu** (accept **Ellice** Islands)

(3) A belt consisting of this biome is the West African Sudan region, where the *kob* are found migrating. This biome, the name for which is sometimes used interchangeably with "glades" and "barrens," is the largest biome in southern Africa. The Serengeti is a notable example of, for ten points, what biome characterized by open grasslands?

ANSWER: **savannas** (accept Nile Delta flooded **savanna**; prompt on "grassland" before read)

BONUS: This other biome, a form of shrubland, is found in the Cape region and described by the term *fynbos*. This biome is also found in parts of California and southern Oregon.

ANSWER: **chaparrals** (prompt on "shrubland" before mentioned; prompt on "Mediterranean")

(4) One "western" example of these features separates the Lofoten Archipelago from the rest of Nordland, and the cities of Stavanger and Bergen lie on these features. These features are responsible for giving a certain country the longest coastline in Europe. For ten points, name these features, narrow inlets carved by glaciers, which are common in Norway.

ANSWER: **fjords** (accept West**fjords**)

BONUS: Also lying on a fjord is this city on the eastern shore of the Labrador Sea, formerly known as Godthåb, which is geographically situated on the North American continent.

ANSWER: **Nuuk**

(5) This province includes the northern terminus of the Karakoram Highway, and it was the site of a terrorist attack perpetrated by the East Turkestan Islamic Movement. This region was historically divided into Dzungaria and the Tarim Basin. For ten points, name this region of northwestern China, home to the Uyghur [[WEE-goor]] people.

ANSWER: **Xinjiang** Uyghur Autonomous Region (or **XUAR**; accept **Chinese Turkestan**; accept **Eastern Turkestan**; prompt on “Uyghur Autonomous Region” alone until “Uyghur” is mentioned)

BONUS: Xinjiang was known as the site of these military events at Lop Nur, which have also been conducted in rural Nevada and the Marshall Islands.

ANSWER: **nuclear** tests (or clear-knowledge equivalents)

(6) A mountain range in this country known for its snow leopards names a krai governed from Barnaul. This country is also home to the Tuvans, and contains the headwaters of the Irtysh and Ob rivers in that mountain range. For ten points, name this country which shares the Altai Mountains with China, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia.

ANSWER: **Russian** Federation (or **Rossiyskaya** Federatsiya)

BONUS: This Russian republic, with its capital at Yakutsk, is the coldest inhabited place on Earth, where temperatures can drop as low as -76 degrees Fahrenheit.

ANSWER: **Sakha** Republic (accept **Yakutia**)

(7) Separatism in this province gave rise to the phrase “Wexit.” The 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire in this province interrupted operations in its Athabasca oil sands, and this province hosts an enormous rodeo called the “Stampede” in Calgary. For ten points, name this Canadian province governed from Edmonton.

ANSWER: **Alberta**

BONUS: This national park in the northern portion of the Canadian Rockies lies on the western border of Alberta.

ANSWER: **Jasper** National Park

(8) Two of the distinct parts of this natural landform are named their respective resemblances to a bridal veil and a horseshoe. The Welland Canal is used to bypass this system, which is located between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. For ten points, name this waterfall system on the U.S.-Canadian border between western New York and southern Ontario.

ANSWER: **Niagara** Falls

BONUS: This island, named for animals that were once herded there, separates the American Falls from the Horseshoe Falls.

ANSWER: **Goat** Island

Third Quarter

The categories are:

1. Washington, D.C.
2. Southern France
3. Asian Lakes
4. Transnational Cities

Washington, D.C.

Concerning the geography of Washington, D.C., name the...

(1) Building on Pennsylvania Avenue in which the U.S. president resides.

ANSWER: **White House**

(2) U.S. state governed from Annapolis, which includes the northern suburbs of D.C.

ANSWER: **Maryland**

(3) Memorial on the National Mall, featuring a Daniel Chester French statue of the 16th president.

ANSWER: **Lincoln** Memorial

(4) Building on the National Mall that houses the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

ANSWER: National **Archives** Building (or **Archives** One)

(5) Private Jesuit university in western D.C., whose teams are called the Hoyas.

ANSWER: **Georgetown** University

(6) Informal name for a section of Massachusetts Avenue, which includes the majority of diplomatic missions to the U.S.

ANSWER: **Embassy Row** (prompt on answers involving "embassies")

(7) Private, historically black university in D.C., situated in the northwestern portion of the city.

ANSWER: **Howard** University

(8) River that flows into D.C. from Prince George's County, naming a neighborhood known for its swampy "Flats."

ANSWER: **Anacostia** River (accept **Anacostia** Flats)

Southern France

Concerning the geography of Southern France, name the...

- (1) Ocean it borders to the south, which also borders Spain and Portugal.

ANSWER: **Atlantic** Ocean

- (2) Food product, whose Roquefort variety is produced in Southern France using sheep's milk.

ANSWER: **cheese**

- (3) Mountain range that extends into Switzerland and Italy and includes Mont Blanc.

ANSWER: Western **Alps** (accept French **Alps**)

- (4) Country's second-most populous city, which names the French national anthem.

ANSWER: **Marseille** [[mahr-SEH]] (accept phonetic pronunciations; anti-prompt on "La Marseillaise")

- (5) Territorial collectivity, the fourth-largest island in the Mediterranean, and birthplace of Napoleon.

ANSWER: **Corsica** (or **Corse**)

- (6) Major city on the Garonne River which also names a popular type of wine.

ANSWER: **Bordeaux**

- (7) River that divides into its Great and Little divisions at Arles [[AHRL]].

ANSWER: **Rhône** River (accept Great **Rhône** or Little **Rhône**)

- (8) Historical duchy of Southwestern France that was also called Guyenne and was once ruled by Eleanor.

ANSWER: **Aquitaine** (accept Eleanor of **Aquitaine**)

Asian Lakes

Concerning lakes in Asia, name the...

(1) Mineral consisting mostly of sodium chloride and found in the Dead Sea, which makes its water more saline than ocean water.

ANSWER: **salt**

(2) Pinniped relative of sea lions and walruses, the only exclusively freshwater example of which lives in Lake Baikal.

ANSWER: **seal**

(3) Largest lake in the world, located between Iran and Russia and named a "Sea."

ANSWER: **Caspian** Sea

(4) Rapidly drying Central Asian lake on the border of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

ANSWER: **Aral** Sea

(5) Plateau outside of Lhasa, which is home to sacred lakes including Yamdrok Tso.

ANSWER: Qinghai-**Tibetan** Plateau (or **Qing-Zang** Plateau)

(6) Lake near Skardu, Pakistan, which shares its common name with a legendary Himalayan paradise.

ANSWER: **Shangrila** Lake (or **Lower Kachura** Lake)

(7) Largest freshwater lake in Japan, named for its resemblance to a plucked string instrument.

ANSWER: Lake **Biwa**-ko

(8) Largest lake in Indonesia, found in the caldera of its eponymous super-volcano in northern Sumatra.

ANSWER: Lake **Toba**

Transnational Cities

Concerning cities and metropolitan areas that span multiple countries, name the...

(1) Country containing the cities of Juarez and Tijuana [[tee-HWAH-nah]], along the southern border of the United States.

ANSWER: **Mexico** (or **United Mexican States**; or **Estados Unidos Mexicanos**)

(2) City lying across from Windsor, Canada, the largest city in Michigan.

ANSWER: **Detroit**

(3) Independent city-state with a metro area covering much of southern Malaysia.

ANSWER: Republic of **Singapore**

(4) African river that separates Kinshasa and Brazzaville, the capitals of two countries named for this river.

ANSWER: **Congo** River (accept Democratic Republic of the **Congo**; accept Republic of the **Congo**; do NOT accept "Zaire")

(5) Largest city in Nigeria, with a megalopolis spanning four countries.

ANSWER: **Lagos**

(6) Second-largest city in Italy, the suburbs of which spill into the Swiss canton of Ticino [[tih-CHEE-noh]].

ANSWER: **Milan**

(7) National capital often considered part of a "Twin City" metro area with Vienna, some 35 miles to its west.

ANSWER: **Bratislava** (accept Vienna-**Bratislava** metropolitan area in either order)

(8) City in the smallest Swiss canton, the metro area of which includes Alsace in France and Baden-Württemberg in Germany.

ANSWER: **Basel**

Fourth Quarter

(1) **Gwadar is located near the entrance to this gulf, which also contains the shoreline of Fujairah (+) and Balochistan. Oil tankers have suffered from naval attacks in this gulf, which is bounded by the Musandam Peninsula. (*)** For ten points, name this gulf which contains the port of Muscat in a namesake country.

ANSWER: Gulf of **Oman** (accept Gulf of **Makran** until mentioned)

(2) **The Cumberland Sound indents this island's southeastern coast, while the Foxe Basin separates it from the mainland to the west. This landmass is home to Auyuittuq (+) National Park and Iqaluit, the capital of its (*) territory.** For ten points, name this largest island in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago and the fifth-largest island in the world.

ANSWER: **Baffin** Island (or **Qikiqtaaluk**)

(3) **One of these facilities is located near Kourou in French Guiana and transported a machine named for James Webb on an Ariane Five. Baikonur is one of these facilities located in (+) Kazakhstan, and the U.S. has several of these facilities, including one at (*) Cape Canaveral.** For ten points, give the general term for these facilities where rockets are launched into space.

ANSWER: **spaceports** (or **cosmodromes**; accept descriptive answers about facilities for **launching** rockets into **space** before mentioned)

(4) **A stadium in this city nicknamed "The Calabash" for its resemblance to a gourd is the largest in Africa and hosted the final of the 2010 World Cup. The (+) Tutu House and Mandela House are located in this city's Soweto Township. Located in Witwatersrand Hills, the capital of (*) Gauteng Province is, for ten points, what most populous city of South Africa?**

ANSWER: **Johannesburg**

(5) **These entities often have flanks built by pāhoehoe and a'ā lava flows, and tend to have summit calderas formed by the collapse of emptied magma chambers. Unlike the differing "strato-" version, these entities are very rarely explosive in nature. (*)** Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa are examples of, for ten points, what massive, gently sloping volcanoes that resemble large armor implements?

ANSWER: **shield** volcanoes (prompt on "volcanoes" or "mountains")

(6) **One town in this region is Urgell, where the Prince-Bishop of neighboring Andorra resides. This (+) Iberian region is divided into four provinces, among them Girona and Tarragona, while its largest province is governed from a city that is home to (*) Parc Güell.** For ten points, name this autonomous Spanish region on the Mediterranean coast.

ANSWER: **Catalonia** (or **Catalunya**; or **Cataluna**; or **Catalonha**)

(7) **The largest sports stadium in the Southern Hemisphere is found in this city's neighborhood of Yarra Park. A key feature of this city's geographical location is its proximity to the Bass (+) Strait, which lies across from the city's southeastern coastline. Geelong, Carlton, and (*) Richmond are all suburbs of, for ten points, what city which replaced Sydney as its country's largest in population in 2022?**

ANSWER: **Melbourne**

(8) **This feature supports nomadic pastoralism and species like the Bactrian camel and Przewalski's horse. (+) the world's smallest horse. The name of this feature means "waterless place" in one language, and this feature stretches across parts of Inner (*) Mongolia. For ten points, name this vast, cold desert located in northern China.**

ANSWER: **Gobi** Desert

Extra Question

(1) **These animals were blamed for causing the extinction of the Lyall's wren on New Zealand's Stephens Island. One breed of these animals originating from the Isle of (+) Man are known for their lack of a tail, and Turkish breeds of them include the Angora and Van examples. Exemplified by the (*) Siamese and Persian breeds are, for ten points, what domesticated, feline animals?**

ANSWER: **cats** (or *Felis catus*)

BONUS: This series of fortifications once protected the northern border of Imperial China, and, while it can't be seen by the naked eye from the moon, it has been photographed from the International Space Station.

ANSWER: **Great Wall** of China