



UNITED STATES
GEOGRAPHY CHAMPIONSHIPS

2023 US Geography Championships
Multiple Choice Examination
5th and 6th Grade Division

Name _____

School _____

State _____ Grade _____

Instructions – This examination consists of 40 questions. You will receive two points for a correct answer. You will lose one point for an incorrect answer. Blank responses lose no points. Please fill in the bubbles completely on the answer sheet. You may write on the examination, but all responses must be bubbled on the answer sheet. All images are contained in the resource document. Diacritic marks such as accents may have been omitted from place names and other proper nouns. You have 35 minutes to complete this examination.

Questions 1-5 are about farming.

1. Which of these is NOT a common method of irrigation used in modern farming?

- A. sprinkler irrigation
- B. drip irrigation
- C. flood irrigation
- D. windmill irrigation

2. What is the term for the practice of changing the crops grown in a field from year to year to maintain soil fertility and prevent soil erosion?

- A. monoculture
- B. fertilization
- C. crop rotation
- D. extensive farming

3. Which of these is the name for the process of raising fish in tanks or ponds for food?

- A. aquaculture
- B. hydroponics
- C. pisciculture
- D. vermiculture

4. Which of these is NOT a factor that affects soil fertility?

- A. texture
- B. soil pH
- C. soil color
- D. moisture level

5. Which of the following is NOT a practice associated with organic farming?

- A. crop rotation
- B. genetic modification
- C. composting
- D. integrated pest management (IPM)

Questions 6-10 are about cities.

6. Both Copenhagen and Amsterdam have redesigned their urban cores to facilitate what mode of transportation?

- A. bicycles
- B. large trucks
- C. subway systems
- D. gas-powered cars

7. Cities that discourage the use of cars generally have less need for which of these?

- A. apartment houses
- B. parking spaces
- C. renewable energy sources
- D. grocery stores

8. Which of these is the term for people moving out of city centers and into more rural areas away from the city?

- A. urban renewal
- B. urban decay
- C. counterurbanization
- D. urban sprawl

9. Cities like Mecca, Saudi Arabia and Vatican City within Rome are examples of cities organized around what guiding principle?

- A. sustainable development
- B. religion
- C. population density
- D. social welfare

10. Which international body has established sustainable development goals that have been adopted by cities throughout the world?

- A. the European Union
- B. the Organization of American States
- C. ECOWAS
- D. the United Nations

Questions 11-15 are about coastal landforms.

11. Padre Island in Texas is the largest example in the world of what type of landform that forms parallel to the coast?

- A. estuary
- B. barrier island
- C. spit
- D. tombolo

12. A sea stack is formed when which of these other landforms collapses?

- A. natural arch
- B. cusped foreland
- C. strand plain
- D. surge channel

13. Which of these coastal landforms is NOT formed by erosion?

- A. sea caves
- B. stumps
- C. wave-cut platforms
- D. spits

14. Which of the following is a coastal landform formed by the accumulation of material offshore, parallel to the coastline?

- A. sea caves
- B. lagoon
- C. sandbar
- D. tombolo

15. Emergent coastlines are those which are experiencing which of these?

- A. falling sea levels
- B. rising sea levels
- C. increased hurricane activity
- D. higher maximum and minimum tides

Questions 16-20 refer to image 1 in the resource section.

16. The country at number 4 on the map shares a name with which of the African Great Lakes?

- A. Victoria
- B. Tanzania
- C. Chad
- D. Malawi

17. Which small, landlocked nation is at number 7 on the map?

- A. Burundi
- B. Uganda
- C. Kenya
- D. Tanzania

18. Number 5 on the map shows the estuary of what river of Madagascar?

- A. Morondava
- B. Mangoky
- C. Mangoro
- D. Betsiboka

19. King Mswati III rules what nation indicated by number 2 on the map?

- A. Lesotho
- B. Eswatini
- C. Zimbabwe
- D. Zambia

20. The country marked number 3 on the map is largely covered by the 'tree' and 'grass' varieties of what biome?

- A. shrubland
- B. steppe
- C. savanna
- D. desert

Questions 21-25 refer to image 2 in the resource section.

21. The volcanoes shown at Kilauea and Mauna Loa are located in which of these areas?

- A. Hawai'i
- B. Vanuatu
- C. Kiribati
- D. New Zealand

22. Which of these volcanoes, located in Washington, erupted in 1980 and killed 57 people?

- A. Pavlof
- B. Katmai
- C. Lassen
- D. St. Helens

23. Roughly what percentage of the world's earthquakes occur in the Ring of Fire?

- A. 10%
- B. 20%
- C. 90%
- D. this area has had no earthquakes in recorded history

24. One reason for the large number of volcanoes in this region is what process, where one tectonic plate is forced under another at a convergent boundary?

- A. explosion
- B. subduction
- C. seafloor spreading
- D. the whirlpool effect

25. The convergent plate boundaries in this region also create what deep depressions on the ocean floor?

- A. oceanic trenches
- B. islands
- C. jetties
- D. mid-ocean ridges

Questions 26-30 refer to image 3 in the resource section.

26. Which of these is true of the population of this country based on the population pyramid shown here?

- A. it is shrinking rapidly
- B. it is shrinking slowly
- C. it is at basically zero population growth
- D. it is growing rapidly

27. Given the shape of this pyramid and the other demographic information, in what region of the world is this country most likely located?

- A. Eastern Europe
- B. West Africa
- C. North America
- D. East Asia

28. Given the information here, this pyramid most likely represents the 2023 population of which of these nations?

- A. Russia
- B. Angola
- C. Canada
- D. Japan

29. In countries with a population pyramid that looks like this one, which of these might be a major economic and social problem?

- A. too many old people for the population to care for
- B. not enough places for elderly people to live
- C. not enough schools or day care for young children
- D. not enough babies being born

30. In a country with a shrinking population, which of these things would be different about the population pyramid?

- A. the base would be much larger but the rest would be similar
- B. the middle would be larger but the base would still be very large
- C. there would be almost no people above 65 years old so the top would be flat
- D. it would be rectangular or mushroom shaped with a much smaller base than this one

Questions 31-35 are about forests.

31. The forests found between 50° and 70°N latitude are generally which of these types?

- A. temperate rainforest
- B. tropical rainforest
- C. boreal forest
- D. subtropical dry forest

32. Of the approximately 3 trillion trees in the world, roughly what percentage are located in the Amazon Rainforest?

- A. 1%
- B. 12%
- C. 75%
- D. 97%

33. Which of these is NOT a major cause of deforestation in the world?

- A. palm oil production
- B. raising cattle and other livestock
- C. logging
- D. creation of protected national parks

34. All of these are benefits of forest coverage EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. converting carbon dioxide into oxygen
- B. regulating the water cycle and helping to induce rainfall
- C. helping to prevent forest fires
- D. helping to prevent floods and landslides

35. A forest that has developed over a long period of time without disturbance is known by what term?

- A. old-growth forest
- B. pioneer forest
- C. opportunistic forest
- D. grassland forest

2024 United States Geography Championships
Multiple Choice Resource Document

Image 1 (Questions 16-20)

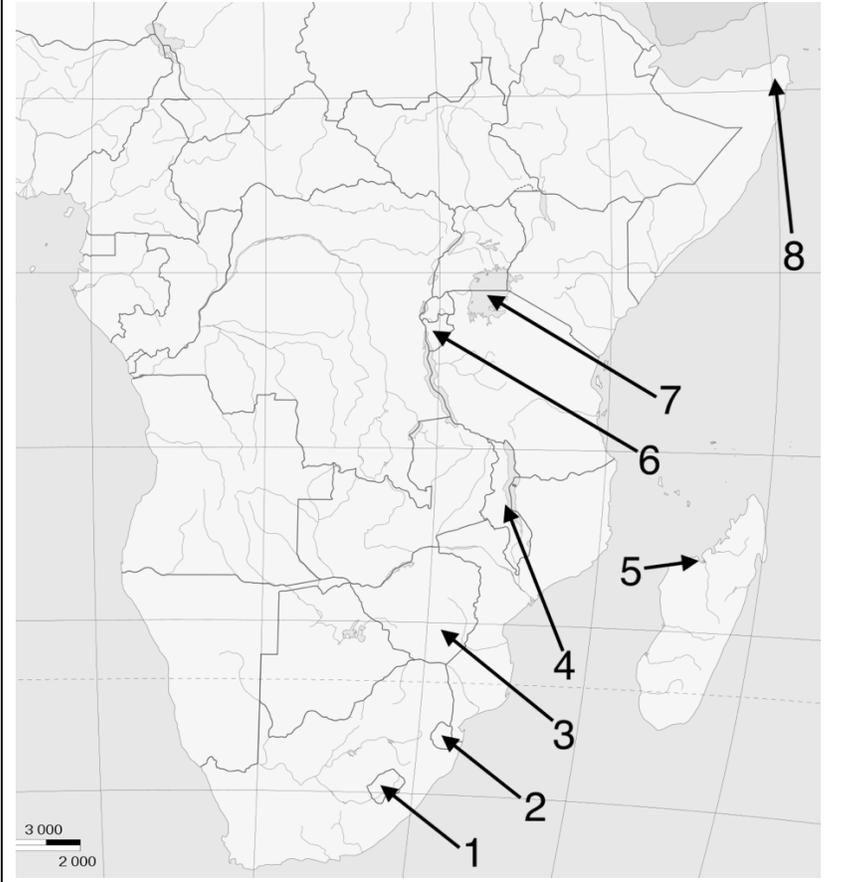


Image 2 (Questions 21-25)



Image 3 (Questions 26-30)

