

U.S. Geography Bee – Final Round (EMS)

Regulation Tossups

(1) **This national park includes a mountain pass called Persimmon Gap, as well as an igneous intrusion called the Elephant Tusk. This national park contains a former resort called Langford Hot Springs, and one of the peaks in this park is Mount (+) Huffman, which is located in the Chisos Mountains. One of the landmarks of this park in Brewster County is Mule Ear Peaks. (*)** For the points, name this national park in Texas which contains protected regions of the Chihuahuan Desert and is named for a curve on the Rio Grande.

ANSWER: **Big Bend** National Park

(2) **This bay's Old Sow whirlpool is the largest in the Western Hemisphere and is situated near Moose Island, which is home to Eastport. This bay includes Campobello Island, a former vacation destination of Franklin Delano Roosevelt near the mouth of the (+) St. Croix River. This bay's northern inlet bounds the isthmus of Chignecto, and this bay, which includes the port of Saint John, is a northern arm of the Gulf of (*) Maine. For the points, name this bay, known for having the world's most extreme tides.**

ANSWER: Bay of **Fundy**

(3) **This mountain has a lodge built by the Works Progress Administration called the Silcox Hut. This mountain's Palmer Glacier serves as the headwaters of the Salmon River, while other glaciers on this mountain feed the Sandy River and the Zigzag River. (+) A towns at the base of this mountain is called Government Camp, and one of the faces of this mountain contains a skiing area with the Magic Mile chairlift, the Timberline Lodge ski area. (*)** For the points, name this active stratovolcano in the Cascade Range, the highest peak in Oregon.

ANSWER: Mount **Hood** (or **Wy'east**)

(4) **This mountain range contains a subrange called the Embarrass Mountains, and its town of Eveleth had a mine where the harassment lawsuit *Jenson v. Eveleth Taconite Company* originated. This mountain range, which the Merritt Brothers investigated, (+) contains the Hull-Rust-Mahoning Open Pit Iron Mine, which once produced one-fourth of the iron ore mined in the United States. Located alongside the Cuyuna, Gunflint, and (*) Vermilion ranges, for the points, which range is the largest of the four major iron ranges of Minnesota?**

ANSWER: **Mesabi** Range (or **Mesabi** Iron Range; or **Misaabe**-wajiw; or **Mesaba**; or **Missabe**)

(5) **One of this city's historic landmarks is the Enterprise Mill, while another of its downtown landmarks is the Old Richmond County Courthouse, which was built in 1801. The United States Army Cyber Command is located at this city's Fort (+) Gordon base. This city in the Fall Line Region was founded by James Oglethorpe, is the third-most populous city in (*) Georgia after Atlanta and Columbus, and lies on the Savannah River. For the points, name this city where a "National Golf Club" hosts the Masters Tournament.**

ANSWER: **Augusta** (accept **Augusta** National Golf Club; accept **Augusta** National)

(6) **This island is home to a single unmanned airport named after its former owner, Henry Ernest Cooper. This island was removed from Hawaii's jurisdiction once it was annexed as a state. This island is the only incorporated and (+) unorganized territory in the United States, and it is also the southernmost incorporated territory. In 2000, nearly all of this island was purchased by The Nature Conservancy. (*) For the points, name this atoll that, along with Jarvis Island and Kingman Reef, is an American territory located in the Northern Line Islands.**

ANSWER: **Palmyra** Atoll (or **Palmyra** Island)

(7) **In this city, the sculpture *Shipment to China* features bronze boxes on a train car. A sculpture in this city called *Welcome Figure* shows a Salish woman at Tollefson Plaza. This city and one of its ports are separated by the Thea Foss Waterway, an inlet of Commencement Bay. (+) This city in Pierce County took its name from Mount Rainier and it is linked to the Kitsap Peninsula via a pair of suspension bridges which cross a (*) "narrows" strait. For the points, name this city on the Puget Sound, the third-most populous city in Washington state.**

ANSWER: **Tacoma** (accept Port of **Tacoma**; accept **Tacoma** Narrows Bridge)

(8) **This city, the first to receive power from the Tennessee Valley Authority, is home to the headquarters of the North Mississippi Medical Center, one of the largest rural hospitals in the United States. This city lies near the divide between the Tombigbee and (+) Tennessee River watersheds and is located on the Natchez Trace Parkway in northeastern Mississippi. The site of a noted "shotgun house" on the Mississippi Blues Trail, (*) for the points, what is this city, the birthplace of Elvis Presley?**

ANSWER: **Tupelo** [[TOO-peh-loh]] (accept phonetic pronunciations)

(9) **A pillar in this valley can be reached via a route called "Never Never Land," and that spire is called the Totem Pole. This valley contains a formation called Hunts Mesa, which, like the Mystery Valley, can only be visited with a Navajo guide. (+) This valley includes a stone structure called the "Eye of the Sun," as well as Merrick Butte [[BYOOT]]. (*) For the points, name this valley which contains the West and East Mitten Buttes near the Arizona-Utah border and is known for its depiction in Western films made by John Ford.**

ANSWER: **Monument** Valley (or **Tsé Bii' Ndzisgaii**; accept **Monument** Valley Navajo Tribal Park)

(10) This city is home to a baseball team called the SouthShore RailCats, which plays at the U.S. Steel Yard. One-hundred-sixty-fifth Street is a road connecting this city to its neighbor Hammond, but that road has been blocked off due to toxic flooding. This city was the childhood home of the musical (+) Jackson family. Once home to the largest steel mill complex in the world, (*) for the points, what Rust Belt city in Indiana is located in the Chicago metropolitan area and has suffered a major population decline?

ANSWER: Gary (accept Gary SouthShore RailCats; accept Gary Works)

(11) This territory's Eastern Island was the home of the Naval Security Group Activity. This insular area was where a dental officer carved the Gooney monument, which was later replaced with a fake egg. Henderson Field (+) is located on this territory's Sand Island, where planes can only arrive and depart at night during seasons when albatrosses are present. The only island in the Hawaiian Archipelago that is not part of Hawaii, (*) for the points, what territory in the Pacific Ocean was the site of a 1942 American victory over Japan?

ANSWER: Midway Atoll (or Midway Islands; or Kuaihelani; or Pihemanu; accept Battle of Midway)

(12) This city's MLS team was founded in 2018, but moved in 2021 following the construction of the Q2 Stadium. In 2026, the tallest building in the Southern United States, Waterline, opened in this city. The term "Silicon Hills" (+) is used to describe an emerging technology industry in this city, where the suburb of Round Rock hosts Dell's headquarters. Elon Musk relocated Tesla's headquarters to this city, which hosts the (*) South by Southwest Festival. For the points, name this city that forms a metro region with San Antonio.

ANSWER: Austin

(13) The area straddles the border between Ulster and Delaware Counties, and is the smaller of two regions delineated by a "Blue Line." This nature preserve, whose namesake mountains form part of the Appalachian Plateau, is made up of a patchwork of public and private land, including the township of (+) Woodstock. This park contains the Rondout and Ashokan Reservoirs, which supply New York City's aqueducts. (*) For the points, name this protected area in New York State, a smaller counterpart to the Adirondack Park.

ANSWER: Catskill Park (accept Catskills Mountains)

(14) Robidoux Pass crosses this state's Wildcat Hills, the fringes of which were where a rock formation called Chimney Rock served as a landmark for travelers on the California Trail. The Loup [[LUP]] River flows through this state, (+) which contains a region of prairie atop the Ogallala Aquifer called the Sandhills, and a landmark names this state's city of Scottsbluff. (*) For the points, name this state where Salt Creek runs near its capital, Lincoln.

ANSWER: Nebraska

(15) **This city's northern suburb of Orono contains its state's flagship university, and this city was the former headquarters of a railroad company offering service to Aroostook County. (+)** This city's William Arnold House, built in 1856, is planned to be converted into an archive of author Stephen King, and this non-Minnesota city, overlooked by a statue of Paul Bunyan, is situated on the (*) Penobscot River. For the points, name this city in northern Maine, the hub of its second largest urban area.

ANSWER: **Bangor**, Maine

(16) **This city's Nalukataq festival involves a "blanket toss" in the third week of June. Though not in Oklahoma, this city's airport is named for Wiley Post and Will Rogers, who died in a plane crash near it. The National Petroleum Reserve (+)** surrounds this city, which was recently re-named in its Iñupiaq language, and this city, which is the seat of the North Slope Borough, lies where the Beaufort **[[BOH-furt]]** and (*) Chukchi seas meet. For the points, name this northernmost city of Alaska and the United States.

ANSWER: **Utqiagvik**, Alaska (or **Barrow**; accept Point **Barrow** or **Nuvuk** though that site is technically nine miles northeast)

(17) **Water from the Tchefuncte [[chuh-FUNK-tuh]] River flows into this body of water, and floodwater is sent into this body of water via the Bonnet [[BOH-nee]] Carré Spillway. This body of water is linked to Lake Borgne [[BORN]] via (+) Chef Menteur Pass, and it is crossed by the world's longest continuous bridge over water, which carries a causeway between Mandeville and Metairie. Linked via the Rigolets to the Gulf of (*) Mexico, for the points, what oval-shaped, lake-like estuary is located north of New Orleans?**

ANSWER: Lake **Pontchartrain** **[[PON-chuh-trayn]]** (or Lac **Pontchartrain**; accept Lake **Pontchartrain** Causeway; accept Chaussée du lac **Pontchartrain**)

(18) **George Hopkins parachuted onto this landmark but was stranded there for six days when his rope and sledgehammer fell off. Harrison Butterworth helped develop a means to ascend this landmark known as the Durrance Route, (+)** which was created after Fritz Wiessner climbed this landmark. Declared the first United States national monument, (*) for the points, name this site, a laccolithic butte **[[BYUTTE]]** rising over one thousand feet above the Belle Fourche River in Wyoming.

ANSWER: **Devils Tower** (or **Mathó Thípila**; or **Bear Lodge**; or **Bear's House**; or **Bear's Tipi**; or **Home of the Bear**; or **Bear's Lair**; or **Daxpitcheeasáao**; or **Home of Bears**; or **Aloft on a Rock**; or **Tree Rock**; or **Great Gray Horn**; or **Brown Buffalo Horn**; or **Ptehé Gi**, accept **Devils Tower** National Monument)

(19) **Henry Minton designed a skyscraper in this city that was home to an early branch of what became Bank of America. The Bank of Italy Building can be found in this city, whose mayor, Matt Mahan, formerly served as a councilmember representing (+) Almaden Valley. A widow of a firearms magnate is the namesake of the Winchester Mystery House in this city, which Tom McEnery referred to as "The Capital of (*) Silicon Valley."** For the points, name this most-populous city of northern California.

ANSWER: **San Jose**

(20) **This island, which includes Glory Beach, contains a tabby house called Horton House, and it is separated from Little Cumberland Island by St. Andrew Sound. A monument built in 2008 on this island commemorates survivors of the second-to-last recorded (+) slave ship traveling from Africa to the U.S, the *Wanderer*. This island is the home of an animal rehabilitation facility called the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. (*)** For the points, name this member of the Sea Islands in the Golden Isles of Georgia.

ANSWER: **Jekyll** Island (accept **Jekyll** Island Club)

(21) **Insurance agent Jack Lee Harelson looted a site in this desert at Elephant Mountain Cave. Near Gerlach, this desert contains works like "Imagination Station - Desert Broadcasting System" at Dooby Lane. The ghost town of Hardin City was founded in this desert as a (+) silver mining town. This desert, which lies on the site of Lake Lahontan, is the site of an event founded by Larry Harvey and the Cacophony Society in which a wooden (*) effigy is lit on fire. For the points, name this desert in the Great Basin of Nevada which hosts the Burning Man event.**

ANSWER: **Black Rock** Desert (accept **Black Rock** City)

(22) **One writer who lived on the shores of this lake opposed the construction of the Fitchburg Line, which passes by its western shore. Musician Don Henley was involved in efforts to prevent development around this lake in (+) Middlesex County. This lake, which is situated near the southern border of Concord, was formerly the site of a cabin owned by Ralph Waldo Emerson. (*)** For the points, name this lake in Massachusetts, the subject of a transcendentalist text by Henry David Thoreau.

ANSWER: **Walden** Pond

(23) **This facility was created after an attempt to create a similar one in Bayview-Hunters Point fell through, and Bill Walsh Way provides access to it. The Valley Transportation Authority serves this facility in a station named for the adjoining non-Chicago (+) Six Flags Great America. Lying in the city of Santa Clara, this facility is sometimes nicknamed the "Field of Jeans." (*)** For the points, name this stadium that hosted Super Bowl 60, home to the San Francisco 49ers.

ANSWER: **Levi's** Stadium (prompt on "Field of Jeans" before mentioned)

(24) **This peninsula's Breezy Point neighborhood was nicknamed the "Irish Riviera" and is the site of Fort Tilden. With the Jacob Riis [[REESS]] Park, this peninsula forms a portion of the Gateway National Recreation Area. This peninsula's far east contains the terminus of the (+) "A" train at Mott Avenue, on its border with Nassau County. This peninsula, which bounds Jamaica Bay, is spanned by boardwalk that was heavily damaged by Hurricane (*) Sandy. For the points, name this peninsula in Queens, which forms the southernmost extent of Long Island.**

ANSWER: **Rockaway** Peninsula (or the **Rockaways**)

(25) **This body of water includes the submerged Gregory Natural Bridge and Padre Bay, which is named for those who used the Crossing of the Fathers. Entrada sandstone comprises an island on this body of water called Gunsight Butte [[BYOOT]].** (+) This body of water covers a site called the Cathedral in the Desert, which was visible as a result of the Southwestern North American megadrought. (*) For the points, name this reservoir which is created by the Glen Canyon Dam on the Colorado River.

ANSWER: Lake **Powell**

(26) **The seat of Richland County is located at the source of this river, where the Otter Tail and Bois de Sioux Rivers meet. A 1950 flood occurred when this river reached its highest historic levels at Winnipeg. This river's tributaries include the** (+) Sheyenne River and the Pembina River, and it runs through both Moorhead and (*) Fargo. For the points, name this river along the Minnesota-North Dakota border, whose name distinguishes it from a southern counterpart.

ANSWER: **Red River of the North** (accept **Rivière Rouge du Nord**; prompt on "Red River")

(27) **On this peninsula, the Doo Wop Motel District is known for its Googie-era architecture within a community known as the Wildwoods, and it contains the oldest resort town in the United States, as well as a non-Maryland** (+) Ocean City. The Great Egg Harbor Bridge provides road access to this peninsula from Atlantic County, and this peninsula contains the southern terminus of the (*) Garden State Parkway. For the points, name this peninsula, which forms the southernmost part of New Jersey.

ANSWER: **Cape May** Peninsula

(28) **A member of the Cherokee Nation named David Bogle founded this city's Museum of Native American History. This city includes the Hotel Massey and a building that was once owned by the world's largest company by revenue, the** (+) Terry Block Building. This city's Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art features pavilions designed by Moshe Safdie, includes Ozark forest land, and was founded by Alice (*) Walton. For the points, name this Arkansas city, home to the headquarters of Walmart.

ANSWER: **Bentonville**

(29) **A land trail along this river runs through areas such as Manayunk and Mont Clare. Canoeing and kayaking are popular activities done on this river's section near the Flat Rock Dam, and this river also hosts the annual Dad Vail Regatta.** (+) The Strawberry Mansion Bridge was constructed over Fairmount Park in this river, where Fairmount Dam has served as a popular venue for rowers. (*) For the points, name this tributary of the Delaware River that flows through cities like Norristown and Philadelphia.

ANSWER: **Schuylkill** [[SKOOL-kill]] River

(30) **A university in this city is home to the Chester Fritz Auditorium. Ralph Engelstad financed an indoor arena in this city that is colloquially known as the Betty. The Alerus Center stadium and Ralph Engelstad Arena in this city are home to a college team that uses the (+) Fighting Hawks as its mascot. An obelisk in this city is a memorial to rescue workers for the 1997 floods of a river flowing from Wahpeton to Lake Winnipeg. (*)** For the points, name this city, which is home to the University of North Dakota.

ANSWER: **Grand Forks**

Extra Questions

(1) **This city is served by an airport named for former Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge. Situated on Presque Isle Bay, this city contains a statue of Commodore Oliver (+) Hazard Perry, whose flagship, the USS *Niagara*, is docked in its harbor. This city is situated roughly halfway between Cleveland and (*) Buffalo.** For the points, name this largest city of northwestern Pennsylvania, sharing its name with the Great Lake it lies on.

ANSWER: **Erie**, Pennsylvania

(2) **Apartment complexes in this city make a horseshoe shape around the Thirsty Beaver Saloon. Interstate 85 intersects Interstate 77 near this city's University and Northlake regions. This city is home to its state's tallest building, the 871-foot (+) Bank of America Corporate Tower, and this city is located in the south-central Piedmont region. Closely associated with surrounding (*) Mecklenburg Country,** for the points, what city is the most populous in North Carolina?

ANSWER: **Charlotte**