

**2015 UNITED STATES GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD  
ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP  
TEST A: GEOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES**

**You will be awarded two points for a correct answer. You will not lose any points for a blank response. You will lose one point for any incorrect answers. Please answer the 50 multiple-choice questions on the answer sheet. Then answer the 10 tiebreaker questions on the last page, separate it, and hand it to the proctor. Tiebreaker questions will only be used to determine medal placement.**

- 1) Founded in 1610, what city in New Mexico is the oldest state capital in the United States?  
a) Albuquerque                      b) Santa Fe                      c) El Paso                      d) Las Cruces



- 2) Shown here is the New River Gorge Bridge, the third-highest bridge of the United States and a significant landmark in which state?  
a) South Carolina  
b) New Hampshire  
c) West Virginia  
d) Maryland

- 3) Which of the following states is divided into parishes instead of counties?  
a) Louisiana                      b) North Carolina                      c) Rhode Island                      d) Alaska



- 4) While the Amish are most associated with Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, this image was taken southwest of Canton in Holmes County in what state, home to the most Amish people?  
a) California  
b) Ohio  
c) Illinois  
d) Georgia



5) Shown above is Mount Katahdin. It marks one end of what trail?

- a) Oregon Trail      b) Chisolm Trail      c) Yukon Trail      d) Appalachian Trail



6) The headquarters of Comcast and a historic city hall topped with a statue of William Penn help populate the skyline of what city, seen here?

- a) Chicago  
b) New York  
c) Phoenix  
d) Philadelphia

7) Part of the Everglades is actually a slow-moving river draining what body of water?

- a) Lake Okeechobee      b) Mississippi River      c) Okefenokee Swamp      d) Biscayne Bay

8) The Lower Peninsula of Michigan borders Ohio and which other state?

- a) Illinois      b) Indiana      c) Wisconsin      d) Florida



9) Red, open-air bus-like vehicles called jammers are a popular way to tour which national park, along the U.S.-Canada border?

- a) Glacier
- b) Yellowstone
- c) Rocky Mountain
- d) Mesa Verde



10) The Willamette River valley is located in which state?

- a) Washington
- b) Oregon
- c) Idaho
- d) Montana

11) Guam and Saipan are part of what archipelago?

- a) Samoa
- b) Aleutians
- c) Fiji
- d) Mariana Islands

12) The Chesapeake Bay is NOT a good place to find which of the following marine items?

- a) Blue crab
- b) Oysters
- c) Manatees
- d) Rockfish



13) Shown here are sunflowers, the state flower of what state?

- a) Maine
- b) California
- c) Wisconsin
- d) Kansas

14) Urbana/Champaign and Bloomington/Normal are sets of adjacent cities in what state?

- a) Indiana
- b) Illinois
- c) Wisconsin
- d) Rhode Island

15) Which of the following Arizona cities is the closest to Mexico?

- a) Tucson
- b) Phoenix
- c) Flagstaff
- d) Tempe



16) St. Anthony Falls along the Mississippi River was the focal point of industrialization in what is now what city?

- a) New Orleans
- b) Louisville
- c) Memphis
- d) Minneapolis

17) Amarillo is the largest city in what region?

- a) Texas Panhandle
- b) Oklahoma Panhandle
- c) Baja California
- d) Big Bend National Park

18) Telegraph, Nob, and Russian are all what?

- a) Freeways in Los Angeles
- b) Hills in San Francisco
- c) Counties in California
- d) Trails used by Gold Rushers in 1849



19) Shown here is President Jimmy Carter attempting to fend off a giant swimming rabbit in an incident that took place in April 1979 near his home about 80 miles southwest of Macon in which state?

- a) Alaska
- b) Minnesota
- c) Maryland
- d) Georgia

20) Which state does not border Iowa?

- a) Kansas
- b) South Dakota
- c) Wisconsin
- d) Nebraska



21) Despite not being anywhere near an ocean, the Sandhills region covers about one quarter of what state?

- a) Nebraska
- b) New Mexico
- c) West Virginia
- d) Arkansas



22) The Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline ends in what city, located on Prince William Sound?

- a) Anchorage
- b) Valdez
- c) Fairbanks
- d) Juneau



23) Shown here is what lake, the second deepest in the United State, shared by two states, and drained by the Truckee River?

- a) Pyramid Lake
- b) Lake of the Woods
- c) Lake Tahoe
- d) Crater Lake

24) Which of the following mountain ranges cannot be found in Idaho?

- a) Sawtooth
- b) Lost River
- c) Bitterroot
- d) Wasatch

25) An intrusion of igneous rock is believed to have created what Wyoming landmark?

- a) Old Faithful
- b) Stone Mountain
- c) Chimney Rock
- d) Devils Tower

26) The "Research Triangle" is a name given to a trio of cities containing its state's two largest public university and a prestigious private university in which state?

- a) California
- b) North Carolina
- c) Tennessee
- d) Delaware

27) Arlington County and the City of Alexandria are directly across a river from what city?

- a) Dallas
- b) Atlanta
- c) Washington, DC
- d) Philadelphia

28) What, approximately, is the population of the United States?

- a) 210 million                      b) 290 million                      c) 320 million                      d) 380 million

29) The outline in this map outlines what hydrographic region which dominates Nevada and western Utah, where no water flows eventually to neither the Pacific nor the Gulf of Mexico?

- a) Great Basin  
b) Deseret  
c) The Snakehole  
d) The Great Western Sink



30) The Breakers, seen here, is a seaside mansion once belonging to the Vanderbilt family in Newport in what state?

- a) Oregon  
b) New Hampshire  
c) North Carolina  
d) Rhode Island

also the most populous city in its state?

- a) Little Rock, AR                      b) Jefferson City, MO                      c) Springfield, IL                      d) Madison, WI

32) The state flag of South Carolina features what type of tree?

- a) Palmetto                      b) Pine                      c) Mangrove                      d) Fir

33) The Green Mountains are in what state?

- a) New York                      b) Vermont                      c) Maine                      d) California



34) Which of the following bridges does not connect two of New York City's boroughs?

- a) George Washington Bridge
- b) Brooklyn Bridge
- c) Verrazano-Narrows Bridge
- d) Queensboro Bridge



35) The Mississippi-Louisiana border is formed by the Mississippi River, a straight east-west line, and what other river, circled on this map?

- a) Pascagoula
- b) Alabama
- c) Pearl
- d) Jackson

36) Boston and Cambridge lie on which river?

- a) Charles
- b) James
- c) Crosby
- d) Green

37) Shown here is a barrier island impacted by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. This storm most directly impacted which vacation destination?

- a) Miami Beach
- b) The Jersey Shore
- c) New Orleans
- d) Cape Cod



38) What state not only is split between multiple time zones, but also has had a contentious debate over whether or not to observe Daylight Savings Time?

- a) Arizona
- b) Maine
- c) Indiana
- d) Ohio

39) The city of Mobile is one of the few maritime cities in what state?

- a) Mississippi
- b) New Hampshire
- c) Delaware
- d) Alabama

- 40) The Mile High City is a nickname of what major city?  
a) Salt Lake City      b) Denver      c) Albuquerque      d) Phoenix

41) Today (May 22, 2015) is the four-year anniversary of a natural disaster of what type devastating Joplin, Missouri? (Aftermath shown here)



- a) Ice storm  
b) Hail storm  
c) Tornado  
d) Wildfire

42) The controversial practice of fracking has helped North Dakota attain what distinction?

- a) Most oil production of any state  
b) Lowest unemployment rate in the United States  
c) Most polluted state in the country  
d) Most houses with broadband internet

43) Due to the large military presence during World War II, dishes like the one pictured here using the processed meat product known as "Spam" became especially popular in which state, the largest consumer of Spam?



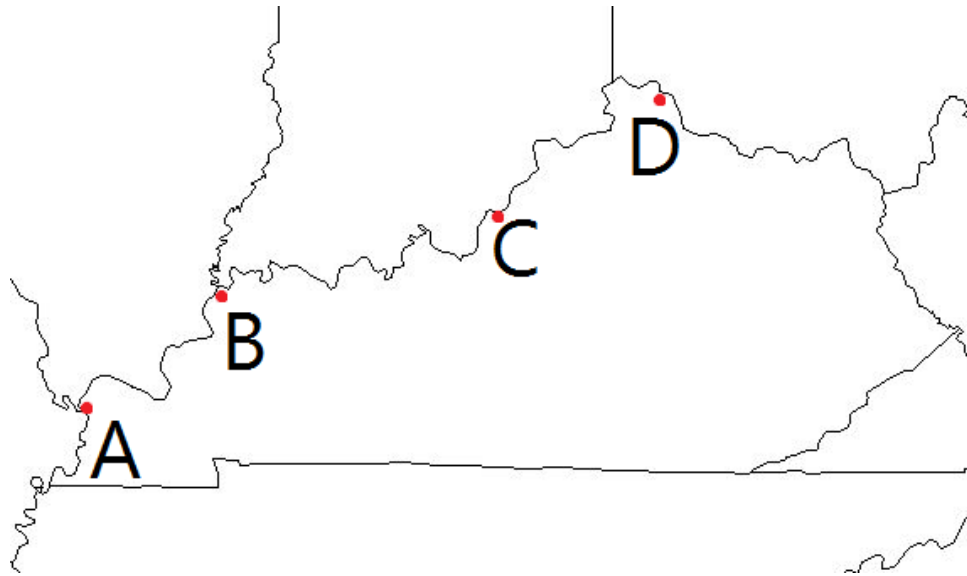
- a) Florida  
b) Alaska  
c) Hawaii  
d) California

44) Mount Olympus names the home of the Greek gods as well as a mountain at the center of the Olympic Peninsula in what state?

- a) Washington      b) Oregon      c) Alaska      d) New York



45) If you're taking this test at the 2015 Elementary and Middle School National Championships, which of the dots on the below map best correspond to your current location? Use the letters on the map



46) Despite its name, the Canadian River is an important river in what state, where it flows through the state capital?

- a) Arkansas                      b) Nebraska                      c) North Dakota                      d) Oklahoma



47) The arrow on this map points to what colorfully-named bay?

- a) Black Bay  
b) Green Bay  
c) Red Bay  
d) Grey Bay

48) Which of the following Interstate highways passes through the fewest states?

- a) Interstate 5
- b) Interstate 70
- c) Interstate 80
- d) Interstate 95



49) Shown here is the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. It is bounded on the east by a lake formed by damming the Cumberland River. Which two states share the recreation area?

- a) South Carolina and Georgia
- b) Kentucky and Tennessee
- c) Louisiana and Arkansas
- d) Tennessee and Alabama

50) Bexar, Harris, and Tarrant are three of the most populous counties in what state?

- a) California
- b) Louisiana
- c) New York
- d) Texas

## **STOP.**

**The main part of the test is complete. These are tiebreaker questions that will ONLY BE USED TO BREAK TIES TO DECIDE THE TOP THREE POSITIONS IN EACH DIVISION. They will be graded in order.**

**SEPARATE THIS PAGE AND HAND IT TO THE TEST PROCTOR, EVEN IF YOU LEAVE IT BLANK**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Fill in the blank.**

- 1) Indianapolis is located in \_\_\_\_\_ County.
- 2) Eppley Airfield is the primary airport of \_\_\_\_\_. (Name the city.)
- 3) The Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers flow into \_\_\_\_\_ Bay before entering San Francisco Bay.
- 4) Tahlequah is the capital city of the \_\_\_\_\_ Nation.
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ is the second-largest city in New England.
- 6) The \_\_\_\_\_ separates Ocracoke Island and the southern Outer Banks from the rest of North Carolina.
- 7) The Twelve Mile Circle forms the northern border of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) Antelope Island is the largest island in \_\_\_\_\_. (Name the lake.)
- 9) Elko and Winnemucca are cities in \_\_\_\_\_. (Name the state.)
- 10) The \_\_\_\_\_ River gives its name to a type of river that runs parallel to the river it flows to for an extended period and joins the Mississippi River at Vicksburg.