

United States Geography Challenge
A Set Qualifying Exam – 2019-2020

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Email address _____

Instructions - Circle the correct answer or leave it blank.
Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are
worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

Questions 1-3 refer to image 1 in the resource section of the examination.

1. Which of the following types of geographic regions is illustrated by Major League Baseball fandom?
 - A. formal
 - B. uniform
 - C. vernacular
 - D. functional
 - E. nodal
2. Which of the following might account for the large number of New York Yankees fans in areas outside of New York City?
 - A. many New York Yankees games being broadcast on national television and available online
 - B. the historical success of the Yankees teams
 - C. the absence of another professional baseball team in geographic areas where the Yankees are popular
 - D. the migration of New Yorkers to other parts of the United States
 - E. all of these might account for the popularity of the Yankees outside of New York City
3. All of the following might account for the increased popularity of the Houston Astros in Louisiana since 2015 EXCEPT which of the following?
 - A. Tobler's law
 - B. central place theory
 - C. inter-cultural diffusion
 - D. the gravity model
 - E. the relative distance of Texas and Louisiana

Questions 4-8 refer to image 2 in the resource section of the examination.

4. Which of the following best characterizes Monaco (6 on the map)?
 - A. it is the oldest country outside of Africa
 - B. it is the youngest country in Europe
 - C. it is one of three countries in Europe with a median age under 35
 - D. it is the oldest country in the world
 - E. none of these characterizes Monaco in an accurate way

5. Which of these numbers identifies the country that is the youngest outside of Africa?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6
- E. 7

6. Which of these numbers represents the oldest country in the Americas?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4
- E. 5

7. Which of the following best characterizes Japan (8 on the map)?

- A. it is the oldest country in the world
- B. it is significantly older than the rest of the countries in Asia
- C. its median age is rapidly declining
- D. its birth rate is projected to increase drastically over the next 50 years
- E. it is one of three countries in Asia with a median age under 30

8. Which of the following can be determined from the information in the chart at the bottom of the map?

- A. the birth rate in North America will increase by 2100
- B. population growth in Asia will remain steady between 2020 and 2100
- C. many countries in Europe will have declining populations by 2100
- D. roughly half of the children under the age of 4 will live in Africa by 2100
- E. none of these can be determined from the information in the chart

Questions 9-12 refer to image 3 in the resource section of the examination.

9. For what reason would the North Carolina legislature draw legislative districts like the First and Twelfth districts shown on this map?

- A. to gain a partisan advantage in elections for the House of Representatives
- B. to create districts with equal population
- C. to make election results easier to tabulate and report
- D. to adjust to changing voting demographics by grouping similar voters into small, geographically meaningful districts
- E. none of these is a reasonable explanation for the construction of these districts

10. The practice of concentrating the power of the opposing party's voters into a few districts to reduce their power in others is known by which of the following terms?

- A. kidnapping
- B. packing
- C. cracking
- D. majority-minority districting
- E. hijacking

11. The technique of homogenization in drawing district boundaries involves which of the following?

- A. drawing districts to ensure that all districts in the state have uniform demographics and population
- B. accounting for potential population changes in given districts between decennial United States censuses
- C. drawing districts to take away House seats from sitting members
- D. the party in power drawing districts in such a way that the minority party cannot win a majority in any given election
- E. splitting districts to make their shapes more uniform

12. Districts like the First and Twelfth pictured in the image would likely result in which of the following?

- A. much higher voter turnout than surrounding districts
- B. much more competitive elections than surrounding districts
- C. a large number of wasted votes
- D. a very low partisan voter index
- E. none of these are likely to happen in these two districts

Questions 13-18 refer to image 4 in the resource section of the examination.

13. These images show the land use model advanced by which of the following?

- A. Homer Hoyt
- B. Walter Christaller
- C. Johann von Thunen
- D. Alfred Weber
- E. David Ricardo

14. All of the following would be considered 'intensive farming' for the purposes of this model EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. grain crops
- B. dairy farming
- C. medicinal crops
- D. market gardening
- E. herbs

15. Which of the following numbers represents where intensive farming is expected to take place in this model?

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 4
- D. 5
- E. 6

16. Which of the following is true about the model illustrated here?

- A. it accounts for land use in the industrial era
- B. it places labor-extensive crops in several different areas of the model
- C. it accounts for robust trade with other areas
- D. it is a type of central place model
- E. it accounts for factors like topography

17. The ring marked 3 on the model is predicted to be what type of activity?

- A. the town, village or city
- B. forestry or fuel wood
- C. pastureland
- D. undeveloped
- E. none of these activities would be in area 3

18. In this model, farms utilizing the three-field system would be located in which of the following areas?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4
- E. 5

19. All of the following are likely causes of internal migration EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. warfare or revolution
- B. civil unrest or disturbance
- C. economic opportunity
- D. educational opportunity
- E. natural disaster

20. Which of the following is true of Canada's population and economy?

- A. it has very high levels of poverty in French-speaking areas
- B. roughly 90% of its wealth and population is located within 100 miles of its southern border
- C. areas with large indigenous populations are its most diverse and economically prosperous
- D. nearly all of its population centers and its largest ports are along its west coast
- E. none of these is true of Canada's population and economy

21. Which of these language families has the largest number of current speakers?
- Japonic
 - Turkic
 - Austronesian
 - Dravidian
 - Koreanic
22. Which of the following best describes NATO?
- an international agreement to reduce trade barriers among member countries
 - a cartel concerned with setting world oil production levels and prices
 - an international organization concerned with providing low-cost loans to developing countries
 - a supranational organization concerned with governance of a certain continent
 - a supranational organization concerned with military cooperation and security in a certain area of the world
23. All of these were factors in the Green Revolution EXCEPT which of the following?
- a widespread decrease in the use of pesticides across the world
 - the expansion of irrigation infrastructure
 - the spread of synthetic fertilizer use, especially in the Third World
 - the widespread distribution of hybridized seeds
 - the introduction on dwarf varieties of certain crops, including wheat
24. A country with a very rapidly growing population would have a population pyramid in which of the following shapes?
- rectangle
 - diamond
 - pentagon
 - triangle
 - none of these would represent a rapidly growing population
25. Which of the following best describes how the gravity model is calculated between two locations?
- the sum of the populations of both locations divided by the distance between them
 - the product of the populations of both locations minus the distance between them
 - the difference of the populations of the two locations divided by the distance between them
 - the product of the populations of the two locations divided by the square of the distance between them
 - the sum of the populations of the two locations minus the distance between them
26. Which of the following is most likely to have a negative rate of natural increase?
- a country in sub-Saharan Africa
 - a south Asian country
 - a Central American country
 - a west African country
 - a northern European country
27. Druze and Sikhism are examples of which of the following?
- syncretic religions
 - Abrahamic religions
 - animist religions
 - polytheistic religions
 - shamanistic religions
28. Reliance of a country on agriculture for a majority of its employment and economic productivity is tied to which of the following stages of the demographic transition model?
- stage one
 - stage two
 - stage three
 - stage four
 - stage five
29. The multiple-nuclei model of urban structure advanced by Harris and Ullman was the first to consider which of the following?
- topography
 - industrialization
 - suburban business districts
 - the existence of transport nodes
 - the gravity model
30. Cabinda is which of the following in relation to Angola?
- a colony
 - an exclave
 - an enclave
 - its primate city
 - a planned capital
31. Which of the following best characterizes the Human Development Index?
- a method to measure the purchasing power of a country's currency as compared to others
 - a method to measure the level of income inequality in a given country
 - a measurement for the development of countries based on both economic and social indicators
 - a system by which entities like the World Bank and IMF determine countries that are worthy of development loans and investment
 - none of these describes the Human Development Index

32. Which of the following best describes primary production?
- transportation, wholesaling and retailing of goods
 - the assembly of finished goods in factories
 - processing of raw materials and transportation of those materials to other places
 - the fabrication of components for later assembly
 - activities that involve extraction of natural resources
33. Which of the following diffusion patterns is most closely tied to immigration from one place to another?
- stimulus
 - relocation
 - hierarchical
 - stimulus
 - contagious
34. All of these are examples of stateless nations EXCEPT which of the following?
- Kurds
 - Basques
 - Slovenes
 - Occitans
 - Uyghurs
35. In poverty-stricken countries, approximately what percentage of freshwater is used in irrigation?
- 5%
 - 10%
 - 50%
 - 70%
 - 90%
36. Which of the following is an example of a primate city?
- Chicago, Illinois
 - Lisbon, Portugal
 - Belo Horizonte, Brazil
 - Perth, Australia
 - Kyoto, Japan
37. Which of the following could reasonably prevent a country that reaches stage five of the demographic transition model from experiencing shrinking population?
- a drastic change in form of government
 - voluntarily giving up territory to neighboring countries
 - economic incentives to help achieve a positive net migration rate
 - health care advances that dramatically increase life expectancy
 - there are no currently existing methods by which this could be accomplished
38. Which of the following describes total fertility rate?
- a measure of the number of daughters a woman is expected to have in her lifetime
 - the annual number of births per thousand population
 - a projection of the average number of children a woman would have during her childbearing years
 - a set of factors that determine the number of children a woman will have
 - none of these describe the total fertility rate
39. All of these are examples of microstates EXCEPT which of the following?
- Andorra
 - Liechtenstein
 - Luxembourg
 - Denmark
 - Palau
40. The GNI PPP measures which of the following?
- all of the goods and services produced in a nation's economy
 - goods and services produced in a nation's economy plus the value of exports minus imports divided by the total population
 - the value of exports minus the value of imports in a nation's economy, while also considering the cost of living in the country
 - goods and services produced in a nation's economy plus the value of exports minus imports divided by the total population, while also considering the cost of living in the country
 - all of the goods and services produced in a nation's economy divided by the total population
41. The combination of Native American, Mexican, and modern American cultural influences, including those of various immigrant groups and recent transplants, on a city like Austin, Texas can be explained through which of the following concepts?
- sequent occupancy
 - Tobler's Law
 - physiologic density
 - arithmetic density
 - central place theory
42. All of these are characteristics of Newly Industrialized Countries EXCEPT which of the following?
- fairly rapid and constant building of infrastructure
 - advanced stages of demographic transition, either late stage three or early stage four
 - rapid rural to urban migration
 - acceptance of foreign aid, often in the form of development loans
 - decreasing focus on agriculture

43. The process of changing the character of a neighborhood through the influx of more affluent residents and businesses is known by which of the following terms?

- A. lateral commuting
- B. the garden city movement
- C. land invasion
- D. 'white flight'
- E. gentrification

44. The practice of planting fast-growing crops alongside slow-growing crops is known by which of the following terms?

- A. monoculture
- B. crop rotation
- C. inter-planting
- D. swidden
- E. food preservation

45. All of these are purposes of the European Union EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. providing a unified system of law enforcement and trying criminal cases across nations
- B. free trade across national borders
- C. open borders and freedom of movement for EU citizens
- D. providing a monetary union with a common currency for member nations except the UK
- E. creating a supranational legislature and regulatory bodies

46. Jordan and Turkey are examples of which of the following?

- A. theocratic states
- B. states governed by Sharia law
- C. secular Christian states
- D. secular Islamic states
- E. secular Jewish states

47. Former French North American colonies like Quebec and Louisiana are surveyed using which of the following patterns, usually with a frontage road or waterway on one side?

- A. metes and bounds
- B. long lot
- C. township and range
- D. scattered
- E. grid system

48. Simplified forms of a language that use limited vocabulary and grammar are referred to by which of the following terms?

- A. creole
- B. slang
- C. pidgin
- D. patois
- E. dialect

49. Cyclic or periodic movement is exhibited by people who migrate for which of the following reasons?

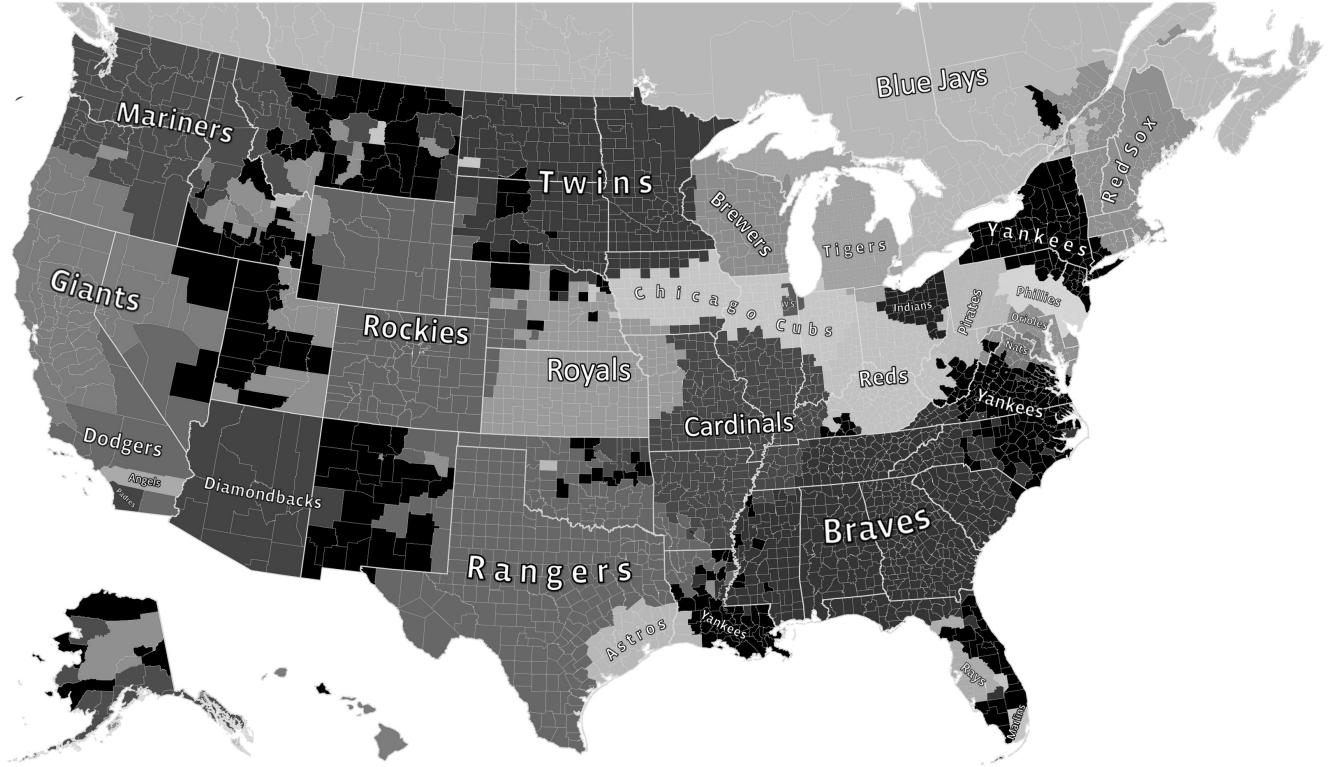
- A. seeking asylum
- B. seeking employment with the intent of returning to their home countries
- C. fleeing war or conflict
- D. people responding to life-course changes
- E. to retire in a more favorable location

50. Which of the following did Thomas Malthus NOT account for in developing his theories outlined in An Essay on the Principle of Population?

- A. medical advances to dramatically increase life expectancy
- B. medical advances to dramatically decrease infant mortality
- C. economic developments that altered birth rate in wealthy countries
- D. colonialism in Africa and Asia
- E. technological innovations that greatly increased food supply

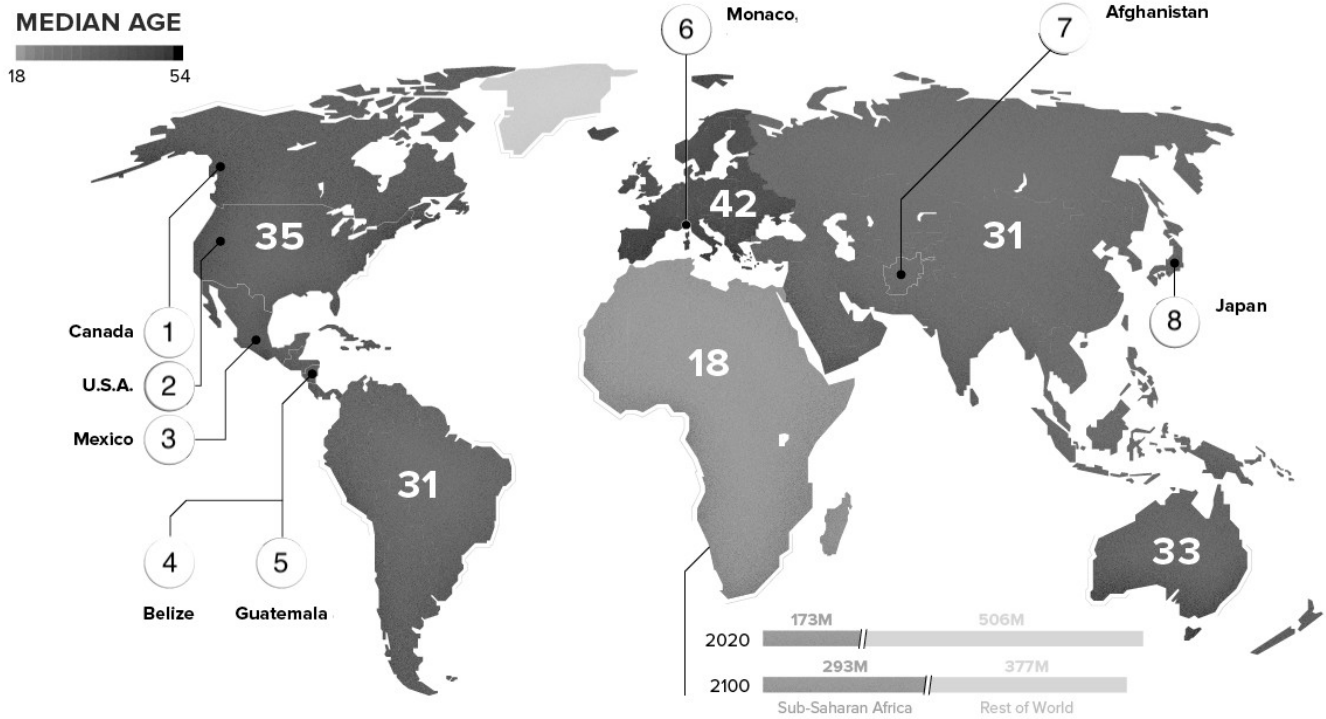
Resource Section

Questions 1-3 refer to the following image [Image 1]



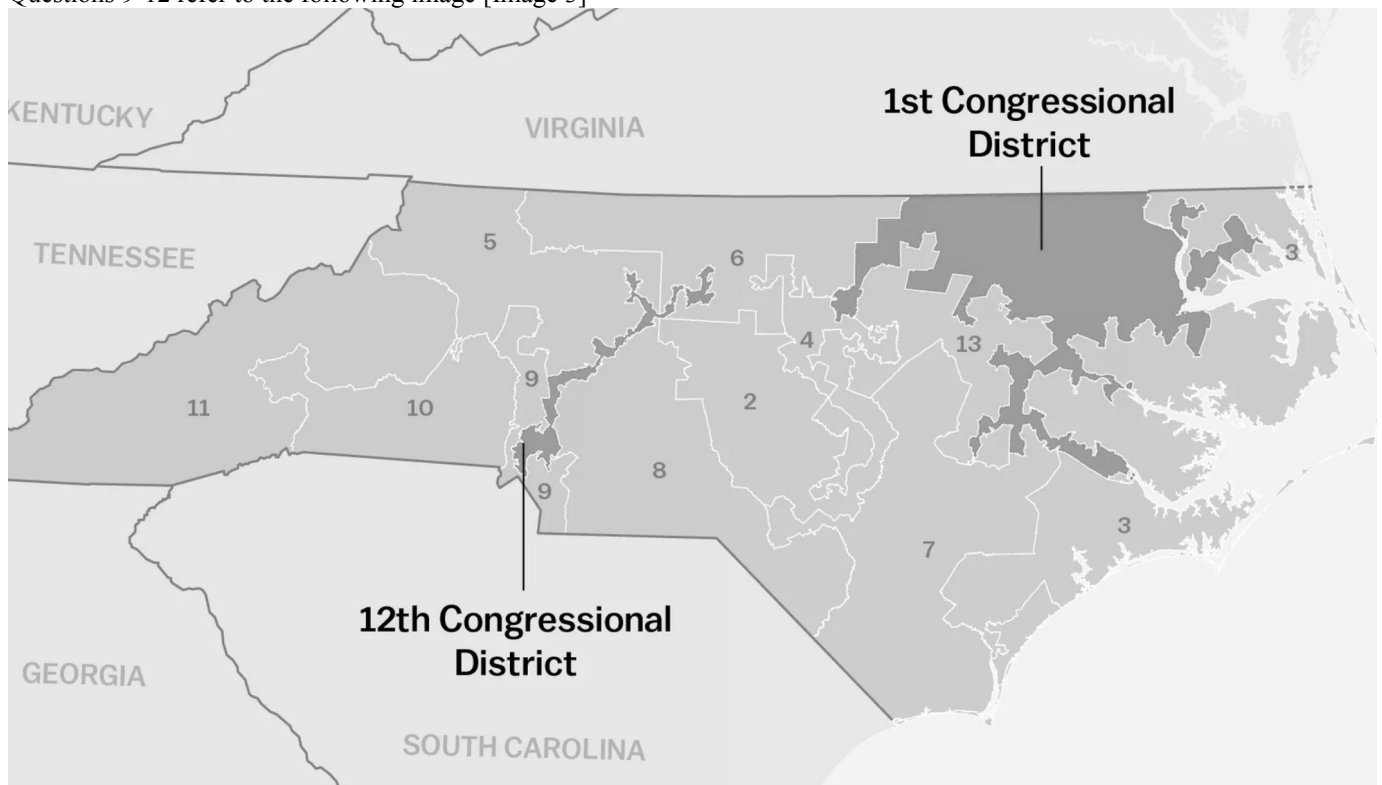
This map shows Major League Baseball fandom by county in 2015 measured by Facebook likes of each team’s official Facebook page.

Questions 4-8 refer to the following image [Image 2]



This map shows world median age by continent. Certain countries are marked with numbers and will appear in the question set. The chart at the bottom represents children in the world under the age of 4.

Questions 9-12 refer to the following image [Image 3]



Map showing the congressional districts for the US House of Representatives in North Carolina. Districts 1 and 12 are in darker grey.

Questions 13-18 refer to the following image [Image 4]

