2022 USGC Written Exam Key

Section 1 – MS / ES
1. 1. Hindi   2. Arabic   3. Portuguese   4. Bengali   5. Chinese
2. 1. India   2. Egypt.   3. Brazil   4. Bangladesh   5. China
3. 6. Canada   7. UK   8. Australia
4. 9. Mexico   10. Colombia   11. Spain
5. responses will vary but may include imperialism, trade, economic reasons, educational opportunities, immigration or other reasons (accept reasonable responses)

Section 2 – MS / ES
1. endorheic basin - a drainage basin that normally retains water and allows no outflow to other external bodies of water, such as rivers or oceans, but drainage converges instead into lakes or swamps, permanent or seasonal, that equilibrate through evaporation
2. Exoreic, or open lakes drain into a river, or other body of water that ultimately drains into the ocean. Endorheic basins fall into the category of endorheic or closed lakes, wherein waters do not drain into the ocean, but are reduced by evaporation, and/or drain into the ground
3. 2; 1; 5; 3; 4
4. 6 – Mediterranean; 7 – Gulf of Mexico; 8 – Pacific Ocean; 9 – Arctic Ocean; 10 – Atlantic Ocean
5. continental divide - a drainage divide on a continent such that the drainage basin on one side of the divide feeds into one ocean or sea, and the basin on the other side either feeds into a different ocean or sea, or else is endorheic, not connected to the open sea
6. by a grey line (also accept a color change within a continent)

Section 3 – MS / ES
1. suburb - an area outside of a principal city of a metropolitan area, which may include commercial and mixed-use, but is primarily a residential area (accept reasonable equivalents)
2. answers may vary – possible responses include less densely populated than inner city neighborhoods, residents routinely commute to city centers or business districts, more available land so larger houses and yards as compared to cities, economic factors including affordability, demographic differences including less diversity and more children in suburbs (accept any reasonable answer / explanation)
3. answers may vary – possible answers include mass production of cars, expansion of the highway system, the GI Bill, the Baby Boom, availability of cheap land outside cities (accept any reasonable answer or explanation, but DO NOT award points for the same answers / explanations used in number 2)
4. San Antonio – lower; New York City – higher; Chicago – higher; San Diego – lower; Phoenix – lower; Philadelphia – higher
5. Sun Belt (regions are also acceptable – e.g. south / southwest / west)
6. answers may vary – availability of cheap land, jobs / growing economy, climate, lower cost of living, lower taxes, political reasons (accept reasonable answers)

Section 4 – MS / ES
1. 1. Islamabad   2. New Delhi   3. Mumbai   4. Colombo   5. Kolkata (Calcutta)
2. 104 degrees (accept 102 to 106)
3. 1 billion
4. answers may vary - increasing local prices and lower supply, crops mature too quickly, crops die before harvest, lower yield per plant due to heat (accept reasonable answers)
5. heat would increase electricity demand due to increased use of air conditioning
6. extreme heat is causing accelerated melting of glaciers in the Himalayas, which causes a decrease in overall flow in rivers like the Ganges and Brahmaputra while also increasing the risk of localized flooding
7. higher nighttime temperatures mean higher daytime temperatures which increases danger to humans; sleep disruptions due to higher temperatures, which can cause accidents and health problems (other reasonable answers accepted)