**2022 United States Geography Championships - Written Examination (Middle School)**

Student Name _____    School _____

**General instructions -** Respond to each of examination questions in the space provided on the answer document.  Only answers written in the appropriate space on the answer document will be marked.  Where appropriate, you should write sentences or phrases instead of single words.  If a question or section asks for a specific number of reasons or answers, give only the number of answers specified.  Please write clearly and legibly.

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**Section 1 - [25 points]**

Use the graphic and map in section 1 to complete the following.  This graphic shows world languages by native speakers in 2015 and a color-coded map.

1. Identify the commonly spoken LANGUAGES represented by numbers 1-5. [5 points]

2. Identify the COUNTRIES in which languages 1-5 have the largest number of native speakers. [10 points]

3. Identify the English-speaking countries represented by numbers 6-8.  These are the three countries with the most native English speakers after the United States. [3 points]

4. Identify the Spanish-speaking countries represented by numbers 9-11.  These are the three countries with the most native Spanish speakers. [3 points]

5. Briefly explain why languages like English and Spanish are so commonly spoken, both as a native language and a second language, in so many parts of the world. Provide at least TWO reasons in your explanation. [4 points]

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**Section 2 - [25 points]**

Use the map in section 2 to complete the following. This map shows ocean drainage patterns.

1. Numbers 1-5 on the map (along with the other areas in dark grey) indicate endorheic basins.  Define the term endorheic basin. [3 points]

2. Briefly explain how an endorheic lake differs from an exoreic lake. [2 points]

3. Identify by number the approximate location of each of the following – the Okavango Delta, the Great Basin, the Caspian Sea, the Lake Eyre basin, the Tarim Basin [10 points]

4. Into what sea or ocean would a river from each of the areas numbered 6-10 empty? [5 points]

5. Define the term continental divide. [3 points]

6. How are continental divides shown on this map? [2 points]

**Section 3 - [25 points]**

Use the map in section 3 to complete the following.

1. Define the term suburb. [2 points]

2. Identify and briefly explain four differences between urban areas and suburbs. [8 points]

3. Identify and briefly explain three reasons why suburbs have grown so rapidly in the US since 1950. [6 points]

4. Given the information in the map, identify whether the following cities have a HIGHER or LOWER percentage of urban area than Los Angeles – San Antonio, New York City, Chicago, San Diego, Phoenix, Philadelphia [6 points]

5. In what area or areas of the country are the fastest growing cities in the US? [1 point]

6. Identify and briefly explain two reasons why the fastest growing cities are located in the area or areas you chose. [2 points]

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**Section 4 - [25 points]**

Use the map in section 4 to complete the following.  This map shows land surface temperatures on April 29, 2022.

1. Identify the cities at numbers 1-5 on the map. [10 points]

2. This map shows land surface temperature in degrees Celsius.  How many degrees Fahrenheit is 40° C? [2 points]

3. Roughly how many people were in an area with a temperature over 40° C on April 29? [1 point]

(1 million, 100 million, 500 million, 1 billion)

4. Briefly explain two ways this extreme heat would affect farming in this region. [4 points]

5. Briefly explain the effect of extreme heat on electricity demand in this region. [2 points]

6. Briefly explain the effect of extreme heat on glaciers in this region. How will changes in glaciers affect rivers like the Ganges and Brahmaputra? [4 points]

7. One of the most dangerous aspects of extreme heat waves is the spike in nighttime temperatures.  Briefly explain one reason why higher nighttime temperatures are so dangerous to humans. [2 points]