## **Sample QUESTIONS for 2013 US Geography Olympiad Short Answer Exam**



Source: Wikimedia Commons

- 1) What feature is being shown and what two things does this separate? (3 pts)
- 2) The right side of the map is part of a large area known as the Great Basin. What trait of that area is responsible for its name? (1 pt)



Source: Wikimedia Commons

- 3) Above is a picture of Badwater Basin, located in Death Valley. What desert is Death Valley part of? (1 pt)
- 4) Death Valley is North America's lowest point. Match these lowest points with their continents. (4 pts)

Lake Assal	Australia
Dead Sea	Africa
Lake Eyre	South America
Laguna del Carbon	Asia





Source: Wikimedia Commons

5) Above left is a picture of an invasive buffalo herd on one of California's Channel Islands, above right. Name some other Pacific island(s) adversely affected by invasive species (3 pts):

A. Brown Tree Snakes, which have devastated the bird life of this southernmost of the Mariana Islands

B. The Hawaiian Island known as the Valley Isle, where pigs have eaten indigenous plants

C. The larger archipelago to which the Rat Islands belong, so named due to a Japanese shipwreck there in the 1700's that infested them. This archipelago also includes the Near Islands.

6) California's Channel Islands share their name with a European archipelago. Name the current predominant language in the (European) Channel Islands, the country on the continental mainland of Europe they are nearest to, and three of the islands that are part of the group (5 pts)