



UNITED STATES GEOGRAPHY CHAMPIONSHIPS

2023 US Geography Championships Multiple Choice Examination - Part 2

Name _____

School _____

Check here _____ if you were born **before** July 1, 2007

Check here _____ if you were born **on or after** July 1, 2007

Instructions – This portion of the multiple-choice examination consists of 40 questions. You will receive two points for a correct answer. You will lose one point for an incorrect answer. Blank responses lose no points. Please fill in the bubbles completely on the answer sheet. You may write on the examination, but all responses must be bubbled on the answer sheet. All images are contained in the resource document. Diacritic marks such as accents may have been omitted from place names and other proper nouns. You have one hour to complete both the written portion of the examination and this set of multiple-choice questions.

Questions 1-10 refer to the image in section 1 on the resource document.

1. Which of the following biomes is shown on the map?

- A. ice cap
- B. alpine tundra
- C. Arctic tundra
- D. Antarctic tundra

2. Which of these types of vegetation would NOT be typical of this biome?

- A. mosses
- B. sedges
- C. grasses
- D. conifers

3. Which of these is true of the summer experienced by the region shown on the map?

- A. average temperatures are below freezing, even during summer days
- B. daylight hours in the summer only exceed 12 hours for a few days a year
- C. there tends to be heavy precipitation in this region during the summer months
- D. much of this area is covered by bogs, marshes, and lakes during the summer months

4. Which of these is true of the biodiversity of the region shown on the map?

- A. there are fewer than 50 species of land mammals in this region
- B. most animal species have large populations
- C. there is virtually no bird migration in this region
- D. it is much more biodiverse than the taiga

5. Which of these is a defining characteristic of the area shown on the map?

- A. it is completely unpopulated by humans
- B. the subsoil is permafrost
- C. the landscape is frozen for the entire year
- D. there is almost no prevailing wind

6. The area shown on the map corresponds to which of the following on the Koppen climate classification system?

- A. Af
- B. BSk
- C. Dwd
- D. ET

7. All of these are risks of melting permafrost in the area shown on the map EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it poses a great risk to infrastructure built on top of the permafrost
- B. it significantly increases the risk of wildfires
- C. it can cause significant flooding
- D. it can radically change what species can survive in the area

8. All of these contribute to the positive climate change feedback loop caused by thawing permafrost EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. intensification of the water cycle, which results in more warm rain in the region
- B. increased human activity in this region greatly increases loss of permafrost
- C. increasing microbial respiration which increases greenhouse gas emissions
- D. activity of iron-reducing bacteria facilitate the release of carbon

9. Which of these is NOT a factor in determining the amount of carbon released from thawing permafrost?

- A. the latitude at which the thawing occurs
- B. depth of the thaw
- C. carbon content of the soil
- D. physical changes to the environment

10. Which of these is a major difference between the area shown on the map and the corresponding region of the Southern Hemisphere?

- A. the Antarctic region has fewer than 100 plant species
- B. the Antarctic region receives more rainfall
- C. the Antarctic region lacks large terrestrial mammals
- D. the Antarctic region is more biodiverse

Questions 11-20 refer to the image in section 2 on the resource document.

11. According to the map, which of these countries lost the highest number of high net worth individuals (HNWIs) in 2022?

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Mexico
- C. China
- D. Russia

12. Which of the following reasons likely accounts for this exodus of HNWIs from that country?

- A. famine
- B. war
- C. religious unrest
- D. acute economic crisis

13. Prior to 2022, affluent migrants tended to favor nations like the United States, Canada, Australia and the UK for which of these reasons?

- A. lack of income taxes
- B. affordable health care systems
- C. stable political and economic situations, along with economic opportunities
- D. amnesty policies for financial crimes committed in their home countries

14. In 2022, nations like Singapore, the UAE, and Switzerland saw an influx of affluent migrants partly due to which of these factors?

- A. sanctions on wealthy Russians due to the war in Ukraine
- B. offers of free or cheap land to wealthy migrants
- C. recently liberalized immigration laws for all migrants
- D. the creation of tax havens for wealthy individuals and families

15. All of these factors have contributed to an increase in the migration of high net worth individuals in recent years EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. an increase in the number of millionaires in the world
- B. global political and economic turbulence
- C. the Covid-19 pandemic
- D. the increasing number of investor migration or 'golden passport' schemes in countries throughout the world

16. So called 'golden visa' or 'golden passport' programs in certain nations grant special immigration status to affluent migrants who promise which of these to their destination country?

- A. sponsorship of other immigrants
- B. large investments
- C. improved relations with their former country
- D. that they will purchase land or homes but not actually migrate

17. All of these factors have made London less attractive for high net worth individuals in recent years EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Brexit
- B. economic instability
- C. tax increases on new arrivals
- D. an unstable real estate market in the city

18. Which of these is NOT true of 'birth tourism'?

- A. birthright citizenship laws in almost every country prohibit birth tourism
- B. it is often done by wealthy individuals seeking better medical care
- C. Chinese citizens often travel to Hong Kong for birth tourism
- D. the United States is often a destination for birth tourism

19. Which of these countries does not guarantee birthright citizenship?

- A. the United States
- B. Canada
- C. Mexico
- D. India

20. Which of these is true of the migration of high net worth individuals as compared to the migration of other people throughout the world?

- A. high net worth individuals are generally not affected by push factors that cause other migrants to leave their home countries
- B. the push and pull factors that influence other migrants like war, economic distress, and stability in the destination country also influence high net worth individuals
- C. pull factors like economic or educational opportunity are not important to most high net worth individuals
- D. high net worth individuals are not influenced at all by normal push and pull factors

Questions 21-30 refer to the following passage.

If there were the slightest vestige of truth in the random charge that poor, helpless, displaced persons met ruthless public works dictators who sadistically scattered them to the worst rookeries, why do not Caro and his publisher offer some plausible evidence? Ninety-eight percent of the ghetto folks we moved were given immeasurably better living places at unprecedented cost. Usually a month after the last relocation not a letter of complaint was received...

There is no reliable evidence to be obtained from a few landowner malcontents who profited less than they expected from our improvements. To find out whether there were any sizable numbers of families displaced to accommodate parks, parkways, bridges, tunnels, power developments and suchlike, it would be necessary to make a thorough impartial

canvass, not to interview a few bellyachers at street corners or disgruntled truck farmers on the edge of the City about to make hundreds of thousands of dollars from proximity to new roads...

Anyone in public works is bound to be a target for charges of arbitrary administration and power broking leveled by critics who never had responsibility for building anything. I raise my stein to the builder who can remove ghettos without moving people as I hail the chef who can make omelets without breaking eggs.

Robert Moses responding to the publication of *The Power Broker*, a biography about him by Robert Caro, 1974

21. Moses was an influential figure in the development of which of these cities in the twentieth century?

- A. Chicago
- B. Philadelphia
- C. Washington, DC
- D. New York City

22. Based on the passage, which of these best characterizes Moses's vision for urban development?

- A. the protection and preservation of existing neighborhoods, sometimes at the cost of future development
- B. the widespread expansion of public transportation to support residents of all income levels
- C. the construction of large-scale infrastructure projects, often resulting in the destruction of existing neighborhoods
- D. the development, extension, and preservation of urban green space

23. Moses was a proponent of which of these types of urban development programs?

- A. land-use planning
- B. systems theory
- C. incrementalism
- D. urban renewal

24. Which of these resulted from the clearance of tenement housing by Robert Moses in order to build projects like the Triborough Bridge?

- A. rapid redevelopment of neighborhoods with high-income housing and retail
- B. the construction of housing projects, often with fewer units than had been demolished
- C. new urban parks and mixed-use developments near the new highways
- D. the rebuilding of similar tenement housing in adjacent neighborhoods

25. Jane Jacobs, a vocal critic of Robert Moses, is best known for which of these seminal works on urban planning?

- A. *The City of Tomorrow and Its Planning*
- B. *The City in History*
- C. *The Collapse of Urban Renewal*

D. *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

26. Jacobs was a strong proponent of which of these types of development in order to promote strong neighborhoods and public safety?

- A. high-rise urban buildings
- B. mixed-use, mixed-income urban housing
- C. single-family homes
- D. commuter suburbs

27. Oscar Newman expressed similar ideas in his 1972 book *Defensible Space*, which argued which of the following?

- A. that building layout, site plan, and density are all key to promoting safer neighborhoods
- B. that high-rise buildings insulated residents from crime
- C. that only the presence of services like police and fire protection in close proximity to residences would allow residents to feel safe in their homes
- D. that larger buildings and housing developments promoted a sense of territoriality among residents

28. Which of these, in which more affluent residents displace the original residents of neighborhoods, is one unintended consequence of the methods advocated by Jacobs?

- A. redlining
- B. residential polarization
- C. gentrification
- D. deindustrialization

29. Which of these best defines the term new urbanism?

- A. the transition from single-family homes to higher-density residential construction to promote affordable housing
- B. the redesign of urban cores to increase available parking and public transportation hubs
- C. an urban design movement that incorporates walkable neighborhoods containing a wide range of housing and job types
- D. the construction of new commuter suburbs that are purpose-built for the use of automobiles

30. Which of these schools of urban planning was developed partly in response to the noise and squalor of late nineteenth century London?

- A. the Garden City movement
- B. towers in the park
- C. decentralized planning
- D. blueprint planning

Questions 31-40 refer to the image in section 4 on the resource document.

31. Given the information on the map, which of these is true of tidal ranges?

- A. tidal range on the open ocean is normally 2 meters or more
- B. tidal ranges are greater in bodies of water like the Mediterranean and the Gulf of Mexico
- C. tidal ranges are independent of volume of water near the coast
- D. larger bodies of water have higher tidal ranges

32. Based on the map, which of these locations has the highest tidal ranges?

- A. Ungava Bay in northern Quebec
- B. San Francisco Bay
- C. Lima, Peru
- D. Tokyo, Japan

33. Which of these best defines the term amphidromic point?

- A. it is a place where syzygy has virtually no effect on tidal range
- B. it is a place where differences between neap and spring tides are greater than the surrounding areas
- C. it is a geographical location which has zero tidal amplitude for one harmonic constituent of the tide
- D. it is a coastal area with more than 1 meter of tidal range even during neap tides

34. Which of these is NOT true of tidal power generation?

- A. it is more predictable than wind and solar energy
- B. generation costs are similar to that of wind and solar
- C. there are a limited number of sites in the world with sufficient tidal range for power generation
- D. technological improvements have increased the total availability of tidal power

35. Based on the map, which of these places has the best potential for tidal power generation?

- A. off the Eritrean coast on the Red Sea
- B. the Gulf Coast of Texas
- C. off the coast of Colombo, Sri Lanka
- D. off the coast of South Korea in the Yellow Sea

36. Which of these best defines the term head of tide?

- A. it is the place in a river where the tidal fluctuation is the greatest
- B. it is the farthest point upstream where a river is affected by tidal fluctuations
- C. it is the point in a river system where freshwater overtakes brackish water
- D. it is a swamp or marshland type attached to certain types of rivers

37. Which of these locations would be the head of tide for a major US river?

- A. New Orleans, LA
- B. Vicksburg, MS
- C. Memphis, TN
- D. St. Louis, MO

38. Which of these is NOT true of oceanic tidelines?

- A. they are generally places where two ocean currents converge
- B. they may be found where rivers enter the ocean
- C. they may form along the margins of back-eddies
- D. they are closely associated with oceanic tides

39. Which of these would likely happen at tidelines?

- A. fish and other marine animals would be attracted to the area
- B. there would be massive die-offs of marine plant life
- C. flotsam and jetsam and other debris would accumulate
- D. there would be a disproportionate number of shipwrecks

40. Beginning in 1992, oceanographer Curtis Ebbesmeyer famously started using which of these, which had fallen off the ship Ever Laurel, to track the movement of ocean currents?

- A. 28,800 plastic bath toys called Friendly Floatees
- B. 61,000 Nike running shoes
- C. a cargo container loaded with car parts
- D. thousands of red drift bottles