

National Geography Bowl – Round 4 (ES)

First Quarter

(1) It's not in Michigan, but this city is home to the Catholic Marquette University. This city contains the headquarters of Harley-Davidson and is represented in the NBA by the Bucks. Roughly equidistant from Green Bay and Chicago, for ten points, what is the largest city in Wisconsin?

ANSWER: **Milwaukee**

(2) This mountain range is home to a peak with a namesake massif that includes Machapuchare, or the "fish tail" mountain. One mountain in this range is named for the Hindu goddess of food and was the first mountain over 8,000 meters to ever be summited. For ten points, name this mountain range that boasts peaks such as the deadly Annapurna.

ANSWER: **Himalayas**

(3) In 1963, Sabah and Sarawak became two examples of these entities on the island of Borneo, which maintain some control over immigration. Germany contains three "city" examples of these entities, the smallest being Bremen. For ten points, name these administrative subdivisions of a decentralized country, which include examples like Florida.

ANSWER: **state** (accept federated **state**, regional **state**, **kililoch**, **negeri**, or bundes**land**; prompt on "federalism;" do NOT accept "province" or "autonomous region")

(4) The world's only natural nuclear reactor, the Oklo site, is found in this uranium-rich country, home to Port-Gentil. This country's Mpassa Department is home to the city of Franceville, which features a statue of Omar Bongo. Sharing a border with the Republic of the Congo, for ten points, what African country is governed from Libreville?

ANSWER: **Gabon** (or **Gabonese** Republic)

(5) This type of structure gives its name to a national day of mourning in Brazil called the Maracanazo. Many people from Liverpool were involved in 1985 and 1989 disasters that occurred at examples of these places called Heysel in Brussels and Hillsborough in Sheffield. For ten points, name this type of sporting associated with organizations like La Liga and Serie A [["AH"]].

ANSWER: **soccer stadiums** (accept **football stadiums**; accept equivalents for **stadiums** like **arenas** or **fields**)

(6) Abdul Wahid al-Nur leads soldiers of the Fur ethnic group in a region of this country that has faced genocide. This country's largest city, Omdurman, has been fought over between its army and the Rapid Support Forces. For ten points, name this Arab country where Mohammed Dagalo controls land west of the Nile.

ANSWER: Republic of the **Sudan** (or Jumhūriyyat as-**Sūdān**; accept North **Sudan**; accept **Sudan** Bahri; do NOT accept "South Sudan")

(7) This city's Elephantine Island was settled by a "reverse exodus" of Judeans fleeing from Babylon. This city is situated near the world's largest embankment dam, which creates Lake Nasser, also known as Lake Nubia. For ten points, name this Egyptian city just south of a namesake "High Dam" which forced the relocation of the Abu Simbel Temples.

ANSWER: **Aswan** (accept **Aswan** High Dam)

(8) This city's Corporation Street was the site of an IRA bombing in 1996 which prompted the development of sites such as the Printworks district. One of this city's professional soccer clubs plays at Etihad Stadium, and this city is connected via canal to the Mersey Estuary. For ten points, name this third-most populous urban area of England after Birmingham and London.

ANSWER: **Manchester**

(9) Compared to other locations, a peak in this mountain range is the furthest away from the Earth's center. This mountain range contains one of the Seven Summits, Aconcagua, while its plateaus include cities like La Paz. For ten points, name this longest continental mountain range, which crosses South America.

ANSWER: **Andes** [[AN-deez]] Mountains (or **Andean** Mountain Range; accept First Polish **Andean** Expedition)

(10) Evidence of the use of a predecessor to this system was found in Yayoi on first-century CE inkstones, whose best raw materials were sourced from quarries on the Xijiang River. The old cedar tree Jōmon Sugi is located on the island of Yakushima and named for the word *sugi* as depicted in this system's Shōkei moji subset. For ten points, name this pictogram-based system used to write the Japanese language.

ANSWER: **Kanji** (prompt on "Hiragana" or "Katakana")

Second Quarter

(1) This city is the most populous Lusophone city in the Eastern Hemisphere. This city contains the headquarters of the petroleum company Sonangol Group, and it forms the largest urban area between South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The former capital of Portuguese West Africa is, for ten points, what capital city of Angola?

ANSWER: **Luanda**

BONUS: Angola's oil industry is concentrated in this exclave, between the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

ANSWER: **Cabinda** (prompt on "Portuguese Congo")

(2) This ethnic group speaks the only language isolate in Europe. Centers of this ethnic group in an autonomous region of one country include Vitoria-Gasteiz and Bilbao. For ten points, name this ethnic group whose original lands are in the Pyrenees, on the border between France and Spain.

ANSWER: **Basque** (or **euskaldunak**; accept **vascos**)

BONUS: Basque derives from Spanish, just like Silbo Gomero, a whistle language used on this archipelago of the Atlantic Ocean, which is home to Mount Teide, the highest point of Spain.

ANSWER: **Canary** Islands (or **Canaries**)

(3) One body of water in this country has a name that means “descending dragon.” Hidden caves like Thien Cung and Sung Sot can be found in this country, where a body of water with a karst seascape includes thousands of limestone pillars. For ten points, identify this Asian country, the home of Ha Long Bay.

ANSWER: Socialist Republic of **Vietnam** (or Cong Hoa Xa Hoi Chu Nghia **Viet Nam**)

BONUS: Ha Long Bay opens into this gulf, which lies between Vietnam and China and is part of the South China Sea.

ANSWER: Gulf of **Tonkin**

(4) This resource is found within a series of mountain ranges such as the Vermilion Range and Mesabi Range. This resource, often exported via the port of Duluth from northeastern Minnesota, also powered the economy of Bessemer, which is a suburb of Birmingham. For ten points, name this metal which is associated with the city of Pittsburgh.

ANSWER: **iron** (or **Fe**; or element **28**)

BONUS: A canal in this U.S. state's city of Sault Ste. Marie enables iron mining in the Great Lakes. This state is partly defined by its Upper Peninsula and lies across the border from Ontario.

ANSWER: **Michigan**

(5) A South American example of this landform is called a *tepui*. In North America, one of these landforms in Colorado is the world's largest flat-topped mountain. For ten points, identify this type of elevated landform that takes its name from the Spanish word for "table."

ANSWER: **mesa** (prompt on "tepui" before mentioned; do NOT accept "plateau")

BONUS: One historically notable mesa is this rhomboid-shaped structure, which rises from the Judean Desert and overlooks the Dead Sea, where Jewish rebels held out following the destruction of Jerusalem.

ANSWER: **Masada**

(6) This island, whose "Four Moors" flag displays four black men's heads, contains cities such as Olbia and Sassari. This island, the second-largest in the Mediterranean Sea, has its capital at Cagliari. Bounding the western Tyrrhenian Sea, for ten points, what is this island situated south of Corsica and controlled by Italy?

ANSWER: Autonomous Region of **Sardinia** (accept Sea of **Sardinia**)

BONUS: Sardinia bounds the Tyrrhenian Sea along with this largest island of the Tuscan Archipelago, the site of Napoleon Bonaparte's first exile.

ANSWER: **Elba**

(7) Thanks to it changing hands between European powers, this country's official languages are French, English, and Bislama. This country is divided into six provinces, with the northernmost being Torba and the southernmost being Tafea, where Tanna Island honors an American-inspired deity. For ten points, name this diverse Melanesian country that has its capital at Port Vila.

ANSWER: Republic of **Vanuatu** (or Ripablik blong **Vanuatu**; or République de **Vanuatu**; prompt on "New Hebrides")

BONUS: While Vanuatu grants its provinces some measure of autonomy, this region of nearby Papua New Guinea, geographically closer to the Solomon Islands, has gone further, voting for independence in 2019.

ANSWER: Autonomous Region of **Bougainville** (or **Bogenvil**)

(8) One attraction in this U.S. state borders Pleasantville and is located on Absecon Island. A musician from this state made early recordings at Brick Township in Ocean County, and that musician titled his first album for Asbury Park on this state's namesake "Shore." For ten points, name this U.S. state home to the cities of Edison and Paterson.

ANSWER: **New Jersey** (prompt on "Jersey Shore")

BONUS: This largest city in New Jersey is also the seat of Essex County. The namesake bay of this city is located near an airport that experienced air traffic control outages in May of 2025.

ANSWER: **Newark** (accept **Newark** Bay; accept **Newark** Liberty International Airport)

Third Quarter

The categories are:

1. Alaska
2. European Places Named "Black"
3. Architecture of Asia
4. Beaches

Alaska

Concerning the geography of Alaska, name the...

- (1) Country on which it borders the Yukon Territory and British Columbia.

ANSWER: **Canada**

- (2) Landforms such as Shishaldin, including shield and cinder-cone types, often expelling lava.

ANSWER: **volcanoes**

- (3) City which is home to some 40 percent of the state's population.

ANSWER: **Anchorage**

- (4) National park and preserve, the name of which comes from the Koyukon name for the highest peak in North America.

ANSWER: **Denali** National Park and Reserve (accept Mount **McKinley** National Park and Reserve)

- (5) Chain of 14 islands off of southwest Alaska, which include Unimak and Adak.

ANSWER: **Aleutian** Islands (or **Aleutic** Islands; or **Unangam** Tanangin)

- (6) Largest city in Alaska's interior region, named for a U.S. vice president.

ANSWER: **Fairbanks** (accept Charles W(arren) **Fairbanks**)

- (7) Marginal sea, northwest of Alaska, which shares its name with a Siberian peninsula.

ANSWER: **Chukchi** Sea (or **Chuuk** Sea; or **Chukotsk** Sea)

- (8) Bay lying north of the Alaska Peninsula and known for its extremely high tides.

ANSWER: **Bristol** Bay (or **Iilgayak**)

European Places Named "Black"

Concerning places in Europe with names including the word "Black," name the...

- (1) Ecosystem of dense trees, a "Black" example of which is in southwest Germany.

ANSWER: **forest** (accept Black **Forest**)

- (2) Country, officially known as the Swiss Confederation, that is home to multiple "Black Lakes."

ANSWER: **Switzerland**

- (3) Country, governed from Podgorica [[POD-goh-reet-sah]], the name of which comes from a phrase meaning "Black Mountain."

ANSWER: **Montenegro** (or **Crna Gora**)

- (4) Country, governed from Skopje [[SKAHP-yeh]], which is traversed by the Black Drin River.

ANSWER: Republic of **North Macedonia** (or Republika **Severna Makedonija**; do NOT accept "Macedonia")

- (5) Country in which the Black Mountain range is located near the city of Košice [[KOH-sheet-seh]], near the northern border of Hungary.

ANSWER: **Slovakia** (or **Slovak** Republic; or **Slovenska** republika; or **Slovensko**)

- (6) Ukrainian port city on the Black Sea, which is home to the Potemkin Stairs.

ANSWER: **Odesa**

- (7) English county that is home to Blackpool, Blackburn, and its largest city, Preston.

ANSWER: **Lancashire**

- (8) Irish county which shares its name with its largest city and the bay to its south, which borders County Mayo across the Black River.

ANSWER: County **Galway** (accept **Galway Bay**)

Architecture of Asia

Concerning the architecture of Asia, name the...

- (1) Term for tall, high-rise buildings, which include the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur.

ANSWER: **skyscrapers**

- (2) Religion that houses relics of Siddhartha Gautama at traditional buildings called stupas.

ANSWER: **Buddhism** (accept word forms; prompt on "Buddha")

- (3) City, 200 miles from Nagasaki, in which a Peace Memorial known as the A-Bomb Dome reminds visitors of the tragedy of war.

ANSWER: **Hiroshima** (accept **Hiroshima** Peace Memorial)

- (4) Massive Mughal-era mausoleum, built by Shah Jahan and located in Agra, India.

ANSWER: **Taj Mahal**

- (5) City that is home to a namesake "101" [[ONE-OH-ONE]] building, once the tallest in the world.

ANSWER: **Taipei** City (accept **Taipei** 101)

- (6) Tiered, religious towers, which include the gold-plated Shwedagon in Myanmar.

ANSWER: **pagodas** (accept Shwedagon **Pagoda**, Golden Dagon **Pagoda**, or Great Dagon **Pagoda**)

- (7) City in southeast Uzbekistan, in which the Bibi-Khanym Mosque was built by Timur in the 15th century.

ANSWER: **Samarkand**

- (8) Three-towered resort in Singapore, including an infinity pool on top of the world's largest public cantilevered platform.

ANSWER: **Marina Bay Sands** (prompt on partial answers)

Beaches

Concerning beaches around the world, name the...

- (1) Aquatic animal, the carbonate shells of which can break down to form pink sands and which construct namesake reefs.

ANSWER: **coral** (accept **coral** reef)

- (2) Country that is home to the beaches of Santorini and is governed from Athens.

ANSWER: **Greece** (or **Hellenic** Republic; or **Elliniki** Dimokratia; or **Ellada**; or **Ellas**)

- (3) Southern U.S. state that is home to popular beaches near Galveston and Corpus Christi.

ANSWER: **Texas**

- (4) Object produced by mollusks, which names a Chinese river delta known for its beaches near Guangzhou [[GWAHNG-ZHOH]].

ANSWER: **Pearl** (accept **Pearl** River Delta)

- (5) British Overseas Territory in the Caribbean, a popular beach tourist destination named for a certain reptile.

ANSWER: **Cayman Islands** (prompt on partial answers)

- (6) African city that is home to the Camps Bay Beach, overlooked by Table Mountain.

ANSWER: **Cape Town**

- (7) Central African nation that is home to popular beaches on the island of Bioko, as well as the native Ndowe, or "Beach People."

ANSWER: Republic of **Equatorial Guinea** (or República de **Guinea Ecuatorial**; or République de **Guinée équatoriale**)

- (8) Beach in suburban Sydney, the most-visited beach in Australia.

ANSWER: **Bondi** Beach

Fourth Quarter

(1) **This region's Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center is located near the border with Gansu and was the launch site of the Shenzhou Program. This region, whose major cities are Baotou (+) and Hohhot, is dominated by the (*) Gobi Desert.** For ten points, name this autonomous region of China, contrasted with an "outer" region governed from Ulaanbaatar.

ANSWER: **Inner Mongolia** Autonomous Region (or **Nèi Měnggǔ** Zìzhìqū; or **Öbhör Mongoliin** Öörtöö Jasakh Oron; prompt on "Mongolia" alone)

(2) **The city of Constantine lies in this mountain range's Tell subrange. Major cities in the foothills of this range include Marrakesh (+) and Fez, and this range is separated by the Sebou River (*) from the Rif Region.** For ten points, name this principal mountain range of northwest Africa.

ANSWER: **Atlas** Mountains (or **Adrar**; or **Adras**)

(3) **A famous ancient example of this type of land feature was located between the Saronic Gulf and the Gulf of Corinth. Examples of (+) this feature include the Kra and Panama. Seattle is situated on, (*)** for ten points, what type of land feature that functions by joining two notably larger land masses?

ANSWER: **isthmus** (accept **Isthmus** of Corinth, **Isthmus** of Kra, or **Isthmus** of Panama)

(4) **This city is an enclave of Oromia, though various Semitic groups such as Amharas make up the majority. To the south of this city emerges the Awash River, which runs through the (+) Afar Region to its northeast, and an international railroad connects this city to the (*) coast at Djibouti.** For ten points, name this capital city of Ethiopia.

ANSWER: **Addis Ababa** (accept **Finfinnee**)

(5) **This climate typically begins in Kerala around early June and progresses northward, and it is critical to the growth and harvesting of crops like rice and (+) tea. The Cherrapunji region, one of the wettest places on Earth, (*)** owes its extreme precipitation to this climate. For ten points, name this seasonal climate pattern that dominates India's weather from June to September.

ANSWER: **monsoon** climate

(6) **The Stradun serves as this city's main thoroughfare, running through limestone paved streets. This city on the Adriatic Sea is close to an archipelago called the Elaphites, (+) which includes islands such as Koločep and Lokrum. Once known as (*) Ragusa,** for ten points, what is this coastal city in southern Croatia, whose medieval fortifications were featured in *Game of Thrones*?

ANSWER: **Dubrovnik** (accept **Ragusa** before read)

(7) **This country's northern border follows the Cuareim River, while the Yí River is an important tributary of its major waterway. This country's coastline includes the resort city of Punta del Este, (+) which lies on the Atlantic near the mouth of the Río de la (*) Plata.** For ten points, name this country governed from Montevideo.

ANSWER: Oriental Republic of **Uruguay** (or República Oriental del **Uruguay**)

(8) **The lower reaches of this mountain contain the city of Moshi. The first European to climb this mountain was Hans Meyer. (+) and this mountain was where the Chagga Kingdoms were located. With its highest point at (*) Uhuru Peak, for ten points, what is this tallest mountain in Africa?**

ANSWER: Mount **Kilimanjaro**

Extra Question

(1) **The Río Hondo partially forms this country's southern border, as well as the border of Quintana (+) Roo. This country's capital was built atop the former Lake Texcoco, and it includes (*) Cozumel and Tulum on its Caribbean coastline. For ten points, name this country which lies directly south of the United States.**

ANSWER: **Mexico** (or Estados Unidos **Mexicanos**; or United **Mexican** States)

BONUS: This country, which spans Eastern Europe and Northern Asia, is the largest in the world in terms of square miles.

ANSWER: **Russian** Federation (or **Rossiyskaya** Federatsiya; or **Rossiya**)