

National Geography Bowl – Round 7 (ES)

First Quarter

(1) According to Ferdowsi, a three-headed dragon and the tyrant Zakhāk are chained to a mountain in this country, which is central to Zoroastrian mythology. After Mount Everest, an extinct stratovolcano in this country's Mazandaran province is the highest volcano and second-most prominent mountain in Asia. For ten points, name this Middle Eastern country where the Alborz range hosts Mount Damavand.

ANSWER: Islamic Republic of **Iran** (or Jomhuri-ye Eslami-ye **Iran**)

(2) The world's largest Gothic castle, Malbork Castle, stands near this river's delta region, and this river passes through its namesake lagoon before emptying into the Baltic Sea. The confluence of this river with the Sola was the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp. For ten points, name this river which flows through Krakow and Warsaw, the longest river in Poland.

ANSWER: **Vistula** River (accept **Vistula** Lagoon)

(3) This Canadian national park protects the world's largest inland freshwater delta. This park lies within a region traditionally inhabited by the Cree and Dene First Nations and includes portions of the Athabasca and Peace Rivers. For ten points, name this largest national park in Canada, located in northeastern Alberta and southern Northwest Territories and named for a type of bison.

ANSWER: **Wood Buffalo** National Park

(4) Henry Pratt Fairchild closely associated this phenomenon with the American "melting pot" theory. One specific example of this general process occurred in the United States and Canada, where native communities were forced to send their children to boarding schools that promoted English language use. For ten points, name this demographic process in which a minority group comes to adopt the beliefs and values of that group.

ANSWER: cultural **assimilation** (accept forms of the word; prompt on synonyms like "blending in" or "integration")

(5) Under the umbrella of this term, Jeremiah Heaton tried to establish the Kingdom of North Sudan at Bir Tawil. This term, which has been used in a dispute over the Serbian and Croatian border, currently applies to the world's largest unclaimed territory, Marie Byrd Land. For ten points, identify this Latin term that translates to "nobody's land."

ANSWER: **terra nullius** (accept **nobody's land** or **no man's land** before "nobody's;" accept descriptive answers before "Latin" is mentioned; prompt on "unclaimed")

(6) This body of water connects to the Celtic Sea through St. George's Channel in the south. This body of water contains Anglesey Island and the Isle of Man, and this sea is crossed by numerous ferry routes connecting cities like Dublin and Liverpool. For ten points, name this body of water that separates Great Britain from a namesake emerald isle.

ANSWER: **Irish** Sea (or Muir **Éireann**; or Y Keayn **Yernagh**)

(7) Within this larger region, the western end of the Bureya Range includes the highest point of one subnational division, Mount Studencheskaya. That division in this large region is governed from Birobidzhan and separated from Khabarovsk Krai. The Jewish Autonomous Oblast can be found in, for ten points, what remote region of Russia, known for its extreme temperatures?

ANSWER: **Siberia** (prompt on "Jewish Autonomous Oblast;" prompt on "Russian Far East" or "Russia" before mentioned)

(8) Men play chess at one of these features called Széchenyi [[set-SHEN-ye]] in Budapest. In Japan, these features are called *onsen*, and are sometimes used by macaques. Bacteria cause the vivid colors of a "Grand Prismatic" example of, for ten points, what heated bodies of water which name an Arkansas national park?

ANSWER: **hot springs** (accept **geothermal vents**, **hydrothermal springs**, **thermal spas**, or other similar answers; prompt on "spas" or "springs" alone)

(9) This body of water, which hosts over 250 cichlid species, is drained by the Lukuga River. This body of water only trails Lake Baikal as the world's second-largest freshwater lake by volume, as well as the second-deepest lake. For ten points, name this African Great Lake whose majority is shared between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.

ANSWER: Lake **Tanganyika**

(10) This country's namesake river empties into the sea south of Murara. The Sultan Omar Saifuddien Bridge connects this country's Temburong District to the rest of it, even though the two parts are on the same landmass. The Limbang District divides this small Muslim country and was ceded to Sarawak, which is now a Malaysian State. For ten points, name this monarchy, the smallest country on Borneo.

ANSWER: **Brunei** Darussalam (or Negara **Brunei** Darussalam)

Second Quarter

(1) This mountain range contains the Afriski resort in the Maloti Mountains, as well as Tiffindell Ski Resort, the only two ski resorts in sub-Saharan Africa. This mountain range, the eastern portion of the Great Escarpment, bounds the Highveld and extends north into Limpopo, and it also is situated in Eastern Cape. For ten points, name this mountain range in Lesotho and South Africa.

ANSWER: **Drakensberge** Mountains (or **Maluti** Mountains; accept **uKhahlamba**)

BONUS: The Drakensberg Mountains also dominate this state which has a hyphenated name and its capital at Pietermaritzburg

ANSWER: **KwaZulu-Natal**

(2) The Saltoro Mountains are situated to the southwest of this geographic feature, which begins at the Indira Col and is disputed between Gilgit Baltistan and Ladakh. This second-longest non-polar glacier in the world lies in the eastern part of the Karakoram Mountains, and it marks the western end of the Line of Control. For ten points, name this glacier disputed between India and Pakistan in the Kashmir Region.

ANSWER: **Siachen** Glacier

BONUS: The world's longest non-polar glacier is the Vanch-Yakh Glacier, which lies in the eastern part of this Tajik mountain range, nicknamed the "Roof of the World."

ANSWER: **Pamir** Mountains

(3) One entity created as the result of this activity is located just outside the Twelve Mile Circle and was contested until 1921. The Delaware Wedge was created by this activity, which also erroneously added 942 square miles to Texas. For ten points, identify this activity which determines distances between land points for purposes of government, maps, and dispute resolution.

ANSWER: land **surveying**

BONUS: In 1925, the U.S. Supreme Court had settled a conflict caused by a surveying error which put this landmark in the Southwestern U.S. 1,821 feet away from the actual site it is supposed to define.

ANSWER: **Four Corners** Monument

(4) One city on this river is Khujand and was founded by Alexander the Great near the northeastern limit of his conquests. This river passes south of Tashkent before entering southern Kazakhstan, where it empties into an endorheic lake. For ten points, name this northerly of the two rivers that feed the Aral Sea, the other being the Amu.

ANSWER: **Syr** Darya (accept **Jaxartes**)

BONUS: The Syr Darya originates in this fertile valley which crosses Uzbekistan, southern Kyrgyzstan, and northern Tajikistan and once served as a trade route between Greece and China.

ANSWER: **Fergana** Valley

(5) BYD Auto is set to build the world's largest EV factory on this river, and a city on this river forms the Central Plain Economic Zone with nearby Kaifeng. Mount Song overlooks a city on this river, which contains the world's largest cellphone manufacturing plant, nicknamed "Foxconn City." Zhengzhou is the largest city on, for ten points, what second-largest river of China?

ANSWER: **Yellow** River (or **Huanghe**)

BONUS: Foxconn attracted controversy for the high rate of suicides in this prefecture-level city in Guangdong, home to the headquarters of DJI and the Ping An Finance Centre.

ANSWER: **Shenzhen**

(6) This country is home to Moçâmedes Desert, and it is one of two countries in which the gargantuan *welwitschia* plant is endemic. This country is bounded by the Cunene River and contains the northern part of Southern Africa's only true desert. For ten points, name this oil rich country whose far south-west contains the northernmost extent of the Namib Desert.

ANSWER: Republic of **Angola** (or República de **Angola**)

BONUS: The region between the Namib Desert and the Kaokoveld to the north is roughly at the latitude of this bay and its namesake city, the second-largest city in Namibia.

ANSWER: **Walvis** Bay

(7) The world's second-tallest building, the Merdeka 118, was completed in this country in 2023. A flight from this country disappeared in the southern Indian Ocean in 2014, and, in the late 1990s, this country relocated its federal government to a city in the southern Klang Valley. For ten points, name this Southeast Asian country home to the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur.

ANSWER: **Malaysia**

BONUS: This Malaysian city of over 500,000 people shares its name with a strait between Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula.

ANSWER: **Malacca** (accept **Malacca** Strait)

(8) This city, named after a nearby, much larger city, contains the world's highest concentration of Art Deco buildings. This city is connected to the mainland via the MacArthur Causeway and the Venetian Causeway, which cross Biscayne Bay. For ten points, name this resort city situated on a barrier island across from the largest city in South Florida.

ANSWER: **Miami Beach** (prompt on "Miami")

BONUS: Biscayne Bay contains one of three national parks in Florida, alongside Everglades and this isolated national park west of the Florida Keys.

ANSWER: **Dry Tortugas** National Park

Third Quarter

The categories are:

1. U.S. Deserts
2. European Lakes
3. South Asia
4. The Poles

U.S. Deserts

Concerning desert regions of the United States, name the...

- (1) Long, slithery reptiles that name a river flowing through the Oregon high desert.

ANSWER: **snake** (accept **Snake** River)

- (2) Type of plant, common in southwestern deserts, including the organ pipe and the prickly pear.

ANSWER: **cactus**

- (3) Major mountain range extending from Canada to New Mexico and creating a rain shadow that helps form the Great Basin Desert.

ANSWER: **Rocky** Mountains (or the **Rockies**)

- (4) Largest saltwater lake in the Western Hemisphere, which names a desert region near the remains of Lake Bonneville.

ANSWER: **Great Salt** Lake

- (5) U.S. state that is home to both the Carson Desert and the Black Rock Desert.

ANSWER: **Nevada**

- (6) Driest and smallest of the U.S.'s four main deserts.

ANSWER: **Mojave** Desert

- (7) Desert named for a Mexican state, the only place where the saguaro [[sah-WAH-roh]] cactus is found.

ANSWER: **Sonoran** Desert (prompt on "Sonora")

- (8) Range that traverse the eastern side of the Great Basin Desert, the name of which means "mountain pass" in the Ute language.

ANSWER: **Wasatch** Range

European Lakes

Concerning lakes in Europe, name the...

- (1) Alcoholic drink made from fermented grapes, the white Chasselas [[SHAHS-lah]] variety of which is made near Lake Geneva.

ANSWER: wine

- (2) Enlarged "sea" on the Dnipro River, which shares its name with Ukraine's capital.

ANSWER: Kyiv Sea (or Kyiv Reservoir; accept Kiev in place of Kyiv)

- (3) Scottish word for "lake," examples of which include Lomond and Ness.

ANSWER: loch (accept Loch Lomond; accept Loch Ness)

- (4) Swedish city spanning fourteen islands, where Lake Mälaren [[MEL-ah-ren]] connects to the Baltic Sea.

ANSWER: Stockholm

- (5) Baltic country that shares Lake Peipus [[PAY-pooss]] with Russia and borders Latvia to the north.

ANSWER: Republic of Estonia (or Eesti Vabariik)

- (6) Largest lake entirely within Europe, the second-largest in Russia after Lake Baikal.

ANSWER: Lake Ladoga

- (7) Lake which the Rhine River flows through, shared between western Austria, Germany, and Switzerland.

ANSWER: Lake Constance (accept Bodensee)

- (6) Largest lake in the European Union, which is located in southwestern Sweden near Gothenburg

ANSWER: Lake Vänern

South Asia

Concerning the geography of South Asia, name the...

- (1) Bovine animal that is sacred throughout India but kept for its milk.

ANSWER: **cow** (or **cattle**)

- (2) Majority religion of India and Nepal, major gods of which include Shiva and Vishnu.

ANSWER: **Hinduism**

- (3) Capital of the Indian state of Maharashtra, home to the Bombay Stock Exchange.

ANSWER: **Mumbai**

- (4) South Asian country governed from Dhaka, the only country in which Bengali is the official language.

ANSWER: People's Republic of **Bangladesh** (or Gana Prajatantri **Bangladesh**)

- (5) Archipelagic nation southwest of Sri Lanka, the smallest country in Asia.

ANSWER: The **Maldives** (or Republic of **Maldives**; or **Dhivehi Raajjeyge Jumhooriyyaa**)

- (6) Largest city in Punjab province, bordered to the north by the Ravi River, a trans-boundary river with India.

ANSWER: **Lahore**

- (7) State in northeast India, governed from Dispur and known for its namesake tea and silk.

ANSWER: **Assam** (accept **Assam** tea; accept **Assam** silk)

- (8) Pakistani province on the Arabian Sea, bordering the Indian states of Gujarat and Rajasthan.

ANSWER: **Sindh** (prompt on "SD")

The Poles

Concerning Earth's polar regions, name the...

- (1) Group of flightless birds found across Antarctica, known for their black and white feathers.

ANSWER: **penguin**

- (2) Object with a namesake "field," which names the "north pole" to which compasses point.

ANSWER: **magnet** (accept north **magnetic** pole or **magnetic** north pole)

- (3) Country that established the first North Pole ice station in 1937, a mission led by Order of Lenin recipient Ivan Papanin.

ANSWER: **Soviet Union** (or **USSR**; or **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**; prompt on "Russia")

- (4) Country that, along with neighboring Chile, claims the Antarctic Peninsula, while also claiming Britain's Falkland Islands.

ANSWER: **Argentina** (or **Argentine Republic**; or Republica **Argentina**)

- (5) Canadian territory that absorbed some of the Arctic Archipelago when it was created in 1999.

ANSWER: **Nunavut**

- (6) Massif that includes a namesake mountain, the highest in Antarctica.

ANSWER: **Vinson** Massif (accept Mount **Vinson**)

- (7) Research station that is the southernmost point under U.S. control, named for a pair of explorers.

ANSWER: **Amundsen-Scott** South Pole Station (do NOT accept answers in reverse order)

- (8) Northernmost portion of Greenland, a peninsular region named for an American explorer who claimed to reach the North Pole.

ANSWER: **Peary** Land (or Robert **Peary**)

Fourth Quarter

(1) **A miniature version of this country's flag was displayed on the flag of the New Hebrides, and this country's flag is also displayed on the canton of Wallis and Futuna. The flag of Iowa (+) was inspired by the flag of this country, which is also used in the flag of (*) Acadia and replaced a flag with the fleurs-de-lis. For ten points, name this country known for its tricolor blue, white, and red flag, which is governed from Paris.**

ANSWER: **France** (accept **French Republic**; or **Republique Francaise**)

(2) **This city is overlooked by the Milad Tower, and this city is served by the largest metro system in the Middle East. This city's four-legged Azadi Tower was constructed to celebrate the 2,500-year anniversary of the (+) Achaemenid Empire's founding. This city was the site of Masoud Pezeshkian's inauguration, after which Ismail Haniyeh, the political leader of (*) Hamas, was killed there. For ten points, name this capital city of Iran.**

ANSWER: **Tehran**

(3) **These institutions historically offered numbered accounts and were known for client confidentiality, a policy weakened by the U.S. Foreign Account Tax (+) Compliance Act and a 2009 IRS probe. These institutions were central to investigations into dormant Holocaust-era accounts in the 1990s. (*) EFG and Vontobel are examples of, for ten points, what financial institutions based in a neutral Alpine country?**

ANSWER: **Swiss banks** (prompt on "banks")

(4) **This state contains a historic luxury resort called The Greenbrier. The oldest personal rapid transit exists in this state's flagship university campus, lying in a college town bisected by the (+) Monongahela River. This state's largest cities include Huntington and Morgantown, and it is nicknamed the (*) "Mountain State." For ten points, name this Appalachian state known for its coal industry, governed from Charleston.**

ANSWER: **West Virginia**

(5) **The Platte is one of these features, since it is broad, shallow, flows through constantly eroding sandbars, and (+) lacks a single clear meander. These types of rivers, many of which originate near mountains and widen past foothills, deposit large amounts of sediment as they move downstream. (*) For ten points, name this type of river with a stream bed that includes numerous small, often temporary islands.**

ANSWER: **braided** river

(6) **The city of Halabja lies in a region of this ethnic group, and that region's three largest provinces are (+) Dohuk, Erbil, and Sulaymaniyah. That region of this ethnic group is located north of Mosul and was established to represent this Indo-European (*) minority.** For ten points, identify this ethnic group that inhabits an autonomous region of Iraq and also resides in Syria, Turkey, and Iran.

ANSWER: **Kurds** (or **Kurdish people**; accept Iraqi **Kurdistan** Region, Southern **Kurdistan**, Bashure **Kurdistane**, Herema **Kurdistan**, or Iqlim **Kurdistan**)

(7) **A river in this province is joined by the Nechako and parallels Provincial Highway 97. That river in this province turns west at the town of Hope at the southern end of its canyon. South of Coquitlam (+) in this province, the Pitt River joins the Fraser River, which runs through the (*) Rocky Mountains.** For ten points, name this Canadian province that has its capital at Victoria.

ANSWER: **British Columbia**

(8) **This body of water's northwestern coast features the city of Mariupol. This sea is only seven meters deep on average and has historically supported sturgeon fisheries. (+) This sea is bordered to the west by the Crimean (*) Peninsula and is separated from a larger sea by a strait spanned by a controversial 19-kilometer bridge completed in 2018.** For ten points, name this sea connected to the Black Sea by the Kerch Strait.

ANSWER: Sea of **Azov**

Extra Questions

(1) **In the town of Boone, this state contains the highest elevation university east of the Mississippi. This state is home to the town of Wake Forest, sharing its name with a university which has moved to (+) Winston-Salem. This state contains Durham and its flagship university within the "Research Triangle," which includes (*) Chapel Hill.** FTP, name this state home to Duke University and Charlotte.

ANSWER: **North Carolina**

BONUS: This term is used to refer to Australia and various Pacific Island regions such as Polynesia and Micronesia.

ANSWER: **Oceania**

(2) **This island's largest port city on the open Pacific Ocean is Hualien, and its capital is served by Keelung. (+) This country's city of Hsinchu is known for its semiconductor manufacturing by TSMC, lying on the Formosa Strait which separates it from Fujian, and it also contains the (*) Taipei 101.** FTP, name this Asian island claimed by the People's Republic of China.

ANSWER: **Taiwan**

BONUS: This salt sea at the mouth of the Jordan River is the world's deepest hypersaline lake and has the lowest land-based elevation on earth.

ANSWER: **Dead** Sea (or al-Baḥr al-**Mayyit**; or Yam ham**Melah**)