

National U.S. Geography Bee – Finals (6th-8th)

Regulation Tossups

(1) **This geographic feature is located near the community of Burnsville in Yancey County. This tallest peak in Pisgah National Forest (+) is named after a flagship university professor who fell to his death while summiting it in 1857. This peak is the namesake of the first state park in the American Southeast, as well as the first in (*) North Carolina. For the points, identify this highest peak in the United States located east of the Mississippi.**

ANSWER: Mount **Mitchell**

(2) **Withdrawals from this feature led to the cancellation of the artificial Optima Lake along the Beaver River in Oklahoma. Center pivot irrigation (+) from this feature, which is in eight states, led to the revitalization of agriculture in one region in the decades (*) following the Dust Bowl. For the points, name this major source of groundwater for much of the Great Plains.**

ANSWER: **Ogallala** Aquifer (accept **Ogallala** Formation)

(3) **The absence of a direct route between Hyde County and this island requires a two-to-three-hour commute around a network of lagoons, including Core Sound. The town of Buxton on (+) this island houses the tallest lighthouse in the United States. Abutting the Atlantic Ocean, (*) for the points, what North Carolina island was historically known as Croatoan Island and names a well-known cape?**

ANSWER: **Hatteras** Island (accept Cape **Hatteras**; accept **Croatoan** Island before mentioned)

(4) **This geographic feature, which was formed from the outburst flooding of Lake Bonneville, marked the upper extent of salmon migration on a certain tributary of the Columbia River. (+) This waterfall, termed the "Niagara of the West," lies near the city of Twin Falls and is situated on the (*) Snake River. For the points, name this waterfall in southern Idaho, which takes its name from a Native American tribe.**

ANSWER: **Shoshone** Falls

(5) **This facility is surrounded by a "Cactus Curtain" of prickly pears, and this facility is surrounded by the largest minefield in the Western Hemisphere. This facility's (+) Camp Delta is used as a detention center, and this facility is nicknamed (*) "Gitmo." For the points, name this American military base situated in southeastern Cuba.**

ANSWER: **Guantanamo** Bay (accept **Gitmo** until mentioned)

(6) **A complex called The Strong in this city houses the National Museum of Play and the National Toy Hall of Fame. This city's George Eastman Museum contains the world's oldest photo collection and was named for (+) Kodak's founder. Xerox was founded in this city, which shares its name with a Minnesota city home to the (*) Mayo Clinic.** For the points, name this city in upstate New York, west of Syracuse and east of Buffalo.

ANSWER: **Rochester**

(7) **This feature, with similar features called Explorer and Gorda, is one of the remnants of an ancient formation called Farallon. This feature runs between the Blanco fracture zone (+) and the Nootka Fault, and it is the smallest of Earth's major tectonic plates. This feature is responsible for the creation of the (*) Cascadia subduction zone.** For the points, name this small oceanic tectonic plate between the Pacific and North American plates, which shares its name with a strait between Washington and Canada.

ANSWER: **Juan de Fuca** Plate (accept Strait of **Juan de Fuca**)

(8) **This landmark in Morrill County contains the Ethel and Christopher J. Abbot Visitor Center. This landmark in the American West, which is composed mostly of Brule clay (+) and Arikaree sandstone, was a key stop on the Oregon Trail. Overlooking the Platte River, (*)** for the points, what is this tall rock formation in western Nebraska?

ANSWER: **Chimney Rock** National Historical Site

(9) **This landform includes subpeaks such as The Chin, The Nose, and The Adam's Apple. This mountain can be viewed from the nearby Camel's Hump, and the eastern slopes of this mountain drain toward the Lamoille (+) River. A ridge trail across this mountain serves as the highest point on one state's section (*)** of the Long Trail. For the points, name this glaciated mountain located near Stowe, the tallest mountain in Vermont.

ANSWER: Mount **Mansfield**

(10) **The largest city inhabited predominantly by this ethnic group is Bethel, which lies on the lower portion of the Kuskokwim River. This ethnic group, which also inhabits areas around (+) Kodiak and the Yukon Delta, forms a major grouping of the Eskaleut languages with the (*) Inuit.** For the points, name this largest ethnic group of Alaska Natives, which inhabit the state's southwest.

ANSWER: **Yupik** people (do NOT accept "Inuit")

(11) **This mountain range is part of an outcropping of Precambrian formations which also includes the Vermillion Range, and this mountain range, split between Saint Louis and Itasca (+) counties, includes Hibbing, the hometown of Bob Dylan. Virginia is the largest city of this mountain range, whose resources are exported from (*) Duluth.** For the points, name this mountain range in northeastern Minnesota known for its iron reserves.

ANSWER: **Mesabi** Range

(12) **Pulitzer Prize-winning author John McPhee wrote a 1967 ecological and historical book about this region, whose highest point is Apple Pie Hill. This region includes the Bass River (+) State Forrest, as well as the Wharton State Forrest. (*)** For the points, name this sparsely populated, forested region of southern New Jersey, whose relative isolation gave rise to several folk legends, including that of the Jersey Devil.

ANSWER: **Pine Barrens** (or **Pinelands**; or **Pineys**; prompt on New Jersey until mentioned)

(13) **These events affected settlements like Cape Girardeau near a region now called the "Bootheel" of its state. Alongside the Great Comet of 1811, these events were interpreted by many (+) tribes as proof that Tecumseh should be supported. The Mississippi River reversed course due to, (*)** for the points, what historical earthquakes in present-day Missouri, the most powerful to occur east of the Rockies?

ANSWER: 1811–1812 **New Madrid** earthquakes (prompt on "earthquakes")

(14) **The Hundred-Mile Wilderness is located near this landform, which is known as "Great Mountain" to the Penobscot. This mountain is the northernmost mountain in the (+) eastern U.S. to stand over 4,000 feet tall. The New England-Acadian forests ecoregion contains, (*)** for the points, what highest mountain in Maine, the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail?

ANSWER: Mount **Katahdin** (accept **Baxter** Peak before mentioned)

(15) **Blount Island is located on this river, which is fed by its largest tributary, the Ocklawaha River. The source of this river is Lake Hell 'n Blazes, and the middle basin of this river contains (+) Lake Jesup. This river flows past cities such as Deltona and Sanford and has its source near (*)** Vero Beach. For the points, identify this longest river in Florida.

ANSWER: **St. Johns** River (or Río **San Juan** [[WAN]])

(16) **Two campers were killed by bears in separate incidents in this national park's "Night of the Grizzlies." Hidden Lake can be accessed from this park's Logan Pass, which is the highest point of (+) Going-to-the-Sun Road. An International Peace Park is formed by this park and Alberta's Waterton Lakes National Park. (*)** For the points, identify this national park in Montana whose namesake landforms are gradually retreating.

ANSWER: **Glacier** National Park

(17) **Brandywine Creek is a tributary of this river in Summit County within a namesake national park. This river's mouth empties at Whiskey Island near Edgewater Park, (+) and the cities of Kent and Akron are located along this river, which caught fire over (*)** 13 times, most infamously in 1969. For the points, name this river which flows through Cleveland and empties into Lake Erie.

ANSWER: **Cuyahoga** [[KY-uh-HOH-guh]] River

(18) **This bay extends to the city of Fall River, which lies on an arm known as Mount Hope Bay, across from the city of Bristol. This bay lies to the north of Block (+) Island, and this bay's dominance of its state's geography has led that state to be nicknamed the "Ocean State."** (*) Warwick and Newport are on the shores of, for the points, what major bay of Rhode Island?

ANSWER: **Narragansett** Bay

(19) **This mountain range's sparse villages are inhabited by the Gwich'in and Inupiaq people, and this range's Atigun Pass carries traffic on the Dalton (+) Highway. This mountain range contains the two least-visited national parks in the United States:** (*) Kobuk Valley and Gates of the Arctic. For the points, name this mountain range in northern Alaska.

ANSWER: **Brooks** Range

(20) **This county is home to The Breakers, a historic hotel established by Henry Flagler. Jupiter is situated in this county, and Boca Raton lies on its border with Broward (+) County. This county is home to a residence nicknamed the "Winter White House,"** (*) Mar-a-Lago. For the points, name this northernmost county in the Miami metropolitan area, the wealthiest county in Florida, named for a type of tree.

ANSWER: **Palm Beach** County

(21) **The Chisos Mountains can be found entirely within this national park, which takes up a significant portion of Brewster County. Santa Elena (+) is among the canyons which form the border of this national park, which also borders the Maderas del Carmen in a non-U.S. country. Found entirely within Texas,** (*) for the points, what is this national park that is named for a feature of the Rio Grande?

ANSWER: **Big Bend** National Park

(22) **This ethnic group is known for its red rice produced from the seeds of the achiote tree, and they inhabit islands such as Rota and Tinian. This ethnic group inhabits an archipelago (+) termed the "Islands of Thieves" by the Spanish, and they form the largest Micronesian ethnic group in the** (*) United States. For the points, name this ethnic group which inhabits Guam and the Mariana Islands.

ANSWER: **Chamorro** people (or **Chamoru**)

(23) **This highway, which largely follows the route of the Lincoln Highway, parallels the Platte River, and part of it is nicknamed the Keystone (+) Shortway. This highway traverses Nevada, Utah, and Nebraska.** (*) For the points, name this cross-country highway running from San Francisco to New Jersey, the second-northernmost and second-longest transcontinental interstate behind I-90.

ANSWER: Interstate **80** (or I-**80**)

(24) **This system's Embarcadero station is its busiest, which it shares with the (+) Muni Metro. This system set a one-day ridership record of over 500,000 on Halloween of 2012 due in part to a World Series championship parade for the (*) Giants.** For the points, name this main public transportation system of a metropolitan region which includes Oakland, San Jose, and San Francisco.

ANSWER: **BART** (or **Bay Area Rapid Transit**)

(25) **The Corrotoman River is a tributary of this river, which passes near the Civil War battle sites of Chancellorsville (+) and Fredericksburg. Ferry Farm, the childhood home of George Washington, overlooks this river, which an apocryphal legend says Washington threw a silver dollar across. (*)** For the points, name this river, which separates Virginia's Middle Peninsula from the Northern Neck.

ANSWER: **Rappahannock** River

(26) **This feature includes the notorious 40 Mile Desert in its Lahontan Valley as part of the Humboldt Sink, and its southernmost extent is Laguna Salada. (+) Mexico's lowest point. Tribes such as the Ute [[YOOT]] and Mono inhabit this feature, with borders formed by the Columbia and (*) Colorado catchment areas.** For the points, name this largest endorheic watershed in North America, which includes the Great Salt Lake.

ANSWER: **Great Basin** (or **Gran Cuenca**)

(27) **This city hosts the shareholder meetings of the world's largest company by revenue, and it forms an urban area with Rogers and Springdale. This city contains the Donald W. Reynolds (+) Razorback Stadium, as well as the Bud Walton Arena, and this city is the largest city on the southern side of the Ozarks. (*)** For the points, name this second-largest city of Arkansas, which is home to its flagship university in the northwestern portion of the state.

ANSWER: **Fayetteville**

(28) **This waterway is impounded by the Kinzua Dam, which forms a reservoir known as Lake Perfidy to the Seneca. At Point State Park, within the largest city in Appalachia, (+) this waterway meets another, nicknamed "the Mon," and both merge with the (*) Ohio River.** For the points, identify this waterway which, alongside the Monongahela and Ohio, inspired the name of the former Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh.

ANSWER: **Allegheny** River

(29) **This city's Sheppard Air Force Base hosts a joint U.S. Air Force and NATO pilot training program. This city's Newby-McMahon Building (+) is referred to as the "world's littlest skyscraper," at 480 inches tall, and this city, which hosts Midwestern State University, is situated just south of the (*) Oklahoma border.** For the points, name this city in north-central Texas which shares part of its name with a city in Kansas.

ANSWER: **Wichita Falls**

(30) **This town, home to Snow King Mountain, is known for its arches made of elk antlers. This town's namesake resort includes the notorious Corbet's Couloir, and this town is a gateway to Grand (+) Targhee Resort. This town of just under 10,000 is served by the only commercial airport in a national park, on the opposite side of its state from (*) Cheyenne.** For the points, name this ski resort and gateway to Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

ANSWER: **Jackson Hole**

Extra Questions

(1) **This university is home to the oldest academic building in the United States, the Christopher Wren Building. This university's central quad is called the Sunken Gardens, (+) and that feature was installed at this university by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression. (*)** For the points, identify this second-oldest American college, which is located next to Colonial Williamsburg in southeastern Virginia.

ANSWER: College of **William & Mary**

(2) **This river, which flows through Lake Balboa, is known for its extensive concrete channelization, carrying it as it flows through Glendale, Burbank, (+) and Compton. The boundary of Griffith Park is formed by this river, which has its mouth at (*) Long Beach.** For the points, name this river which flows through an eponymous city in Southern California.

ANSWER: **Los Angeles** River (or **Paayme Paxaayt**)