

National U.S. Geography Bee – Round 1 (6th-8th)

Regulation Tossups

(1) This city's tallest building is the JPMorgan Chase Tower, the 21st tallest building in the United States. This city was ravaged by Category Four Hurricane Harvey in September of 2017, and it hosts NASA's Johnson Space Center, which is home to the U.S. Astronaut Corps and International Space Station operations. For the point, identify this most populous city in Texas, named for the first president of the Republic of Texas.

ANSWER: **Houston**

(2) Industrial pollution in this river, known by the indigenous name *Quinobequin*, was referenced in the Standells song "Dirty Water," which is often played after home team victories at Fenway Park. The John W. Weeks Bridge spans this waterway, connecting one city to Harvard University. For the point, name this main river of Boston, which is named for an English king who was beheaded.

ANSWER: **Charles** River (accept **Charles** the First)

(3) This range, which is home to peaks such as the Three Sisters, Mount Jefferson, and Mount Adams, is separated by the Fraser River from the Coast Mountains. This mountain range names a hypothetical independent state that would display a Douglas fir on its flag. For the point, name this mountain range, which is divided by the Columbia River Gorge and dominates Oregon and Washington.

ANSWER: **Cascade** Range (or the **Cascades**; accept **Cascadia**)

(4) One river of this name, which bounds the Historic Triangle alongside the James River, flows north of Williamsburg. This name is used by a Pennsylvania city that forms a metropolitan area with Hanover and briefly held the national capital of the United States after Lancaster. For the point, identify this name borne by a town where the final battle of the Revolutionary War took place.

ANSWER: **York** (accept **York** River; accept **Yorktown**)

(5) One polity administered by this ethnic group contains the furthest point in the U.S. from an ocean, and that polity is called Pine Ridge. This ethnic group names a city at the furthest navigational point of the Missouri River, and that city is the largest of northwestern Iowa. The Standing Rock Reservation is inhabited by, for the point, what Native American tribe including the Lakota and Dakota subsets?

ANSWER: **Sioux** [[SOO]] (or **Oceti Sakowin**; accept **Sioux** City)

(6) One body of water named for this island is separated by Orient Point from a similar body of water named for Block Island. Pelham Bay and Little Neck Bay are inlets of a body of water named for this island, and that sound named for this island includes ports such as New Rochelle and Bridgeport, and merges with the East River. For the point, identify this island, most-populous in the contiguous United States.

ANSWER: **Long** Island (accept **Long** Island Sound)

(7) One river that flows through this national park has tributaries that include the Tongue River and the Powder River. That river named for this national park flows past Billings and the city of Custer. The longest tributary of the Missouri River shares its name with, for the point, what national park of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho?

ANSWER: **Yellowstone** National Park (accept **Yellowstone** River)

(8) This southern region, home to the Boston Mountains, is the most extensive highland region between the Rockies and Appalachians. This region, whose highest peak is Wahzhazhe Summit, includes the cities of Bentonville and Branson. For the point, name this highland region in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas.

ANSWER: **Ozark** Mountains (or **Ozark** Plateau; prompt on "Arkansas" before "Branson" is mentioned)

(9) This archipelago's dual islands of Ofu-Olosega can be traversed on foot at low tide. This archipelago's unpopulated Motu O Manu, or Rose Atoll, is the southernmost piece of land controlled by the United States. This archipelago's main islands include Tutuila, Upolu, and Savaii. For the point, name this Polynesian archipelago east of Fiji, which is home to Apia.

ANSWER: **Samoa**n Islands (accept American **Samoa**)

(10) This region's southern section was formerly occupied by Tulare Lake. This valley, home to Chico and Yuba City, has its largest cities at Bakersfield and Fresno. This valley, which encompasses 18 counties such as Merced and San Joaquin [[WAH-keen]] counties, produces more than half the fruits and vegetables in the United States. For the point, name this valley of California between the Pacific coast and Sierra Nevada.

ANSWER: **Central** Valley (anti-prompt on "San Joaquin Valley" until "Chico" is mentioned; prompt on "California" before mentioned)

(11) One river with this name merges into the Shiawassee River, which later forms the Saginaw River and bisects the original assembly plant of Chevrolet. The lead-contaminated waters of a river with this name led to a state of emergency for Genesee County. For the point, identify this name for the river that was the source of a "water crisis" for a city in Michigan.

ANSWER: **Flint** River (accept **Flint** Water Crisis)

(12) This neighborhood's St. Nicholas Park contains the restored home of Alexander Hamilton. This neighborhood, named after the capital of North Holland, is the site where the jazz song "Stompin' at the Savoy" originated. Malcolm X Boulevard meets 125th Street in this neighborhood, which is home to the Apollo Theatre. For the point, name this neighborhood in Upper Manhattan, the site of a 1920s "Renaissance."

ANSWER: **Harlem** (accept **Harlem** Renaissance)

(13) A meatless variety of this dish known as its version “of greens” is popular during Lent. This dish features celery, onions, and bell peppers, which make up the “Holy Trinity” of Creole cooking, as well as shellfish or another type of meat. Thought to have obtained its name from an African word for okra, for the point, what stew is the state dish of Louisiana?

ANSWER: **gumbo** (accept **gumbo** of greens)

(14) A holy site that is sacred to members of this religious group called Temple Lot is situated in the city of Independence, Missouri. A beehive on one state's flag represents members of this religious group, which inspired the name of the proposed State of Deseret. For the point, name this religious group that is most predominant in Utah.

ANSWER: **Mormons** (or The Church of Jesus Christ of **Latter-day Saints**; or **LDS**)

(15) This desert includes a subsection known as the Lechuguilla Desert, which is almost entirely contained within the Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range. This desert, which houses the organ pipe cactus is the only desert in North America to border an ocean. This desert names a state that borders Chihuahua and Baja California. For the point, name this desert split between northwestern Mexico and Arizona.

ANSWER: **Sonoran** Desert (accept **Sonoran** Desert toad)

(16) The Owens-Thomas House is part of this city's Telfair Museums, the oldest public art museum in the South. This city hosted sailing competitions in the nearby Wassaw Sound during the 1996 Summer Olympics, which were based in another city in the same state. The Ogeechee River forms the southern limit of, for the point, what coastal Georgia city separated from South Carolina by a same-named river?

ANSWER: **Savannah** (accept **Savannah** River)

(17) This river's tributaries include the Big Lost and Little Lost rivers, which feed an underground aquifer near the Salmon-Challis National Forest. This river's mouth lies at the "Tri-Cities" metropolitan area, which includes Kennewick. This river in the northwestern U.S. flows through Grand Teton National Park. Forming the eastern boundaries of Oregon and Washington, for the point, what is this river with a reptilian name?

ANSWER: **Snake** River

(18) This city's Elmwood Village borders its Burchfield Penney Art Center, dedicated to painter Charles E. Burchfield. This city, whose suburbs include Tonawanda and West Seneca, houses Louis Sullivan's Guaranty Building and the McKinley Monument near the site of William McKinley's assassination. Located on the eastern end of Lake Erie, for the point, what city at the head of the Niagara River is the largest in western New York?

ANSWER: **Buffalo**

(19) Within this region, the namesake "castle" of one institution controls the world's largest museum complex. A space now occupied by the world's tallest obelisk was planned as the western terminus of this region by Pierre Charles L'Enfant. This region includes The Ellipse and the Federal Triangle. For the point, name this region that is home to the Lincoln Memorial and the U.S. Capitol.

ANSWER: Washington, **D.C.** (or **District of Columbia**; prompt on "Washington")

(20) This city's Southbank neighborhood contains the octopus-like Treaty Oak. This city, which is the largest city proper in the Southeastern United States, houses the TIAA Bank Field, which hosts the annual Gator Bowl game. This city, located in its state's far northeast, is located north of Saint Augustine and east of Tallahassee. For the point, name this most-populous city in Florida.

ANSWER: **Jacksonville**

(21) Rachel is the closest town to this facility, which is officially known as Homey Airport, or Groom Lake. This remote facility, the subject of a viral Facebook event where it was "raided" in 2019, is accessible via the Extraterrestrial Highway. For the point, name this secretive facility of the United States Air Force in rural Nevada, known for its UFO sightings.

ANSWER: **Area 51** (accept **Homey Airport** or **Groom Lake** before mentioned)

(22) This city was the site of a 1981 walkway collapse at its Hyatt Regency at a site that now serves as Headquarters of Hallmark Cards. This city's Egyptian Revival Liberty Tower overlooks the National World War One Museum. This city's State Line Road notably runs through the border between Jackson and Johnson Counties, each in separate states. For the point, name this most-populous city in Missouri.

ANSWER: **Kansas City** (or **KC**)

(23) A national park named for this landform's "verde," or "green" examples, contains many cliff-dwellings in southwestern Colorado. These landforms, found on the Llano Estacado, take their name from a Spanish word meaning "table." For the point, identify these flat-topped mountains which are common in deserts, and which name the second-largest city of the Phoenix metro area.

ANSWER: **mesas** (accept **Mesa** Verde National Park; accept **Mesa**, Arizona)

(24) Features on this state's namesake river are separated by the Kilbourn Dam and include Witches Gulch. This state's namesake "Dells" were left unscathed by a glaciation that once covered North America, and this state's Lake Winnebago is partly fed by the Fox River. Racine and Waukesha are the largest counties of, for the point, what U.S. state that has its capital at Madison?

ANSWER: **Wisconsin**

(25) A two-story example of these locations in Chicago was named for the rock and roll memorabilia on its walls. The largest of these locations is found off International Drive in Orlando. Downey, California contains the oldest of these locations still in operation, while the first of these locations was in San Bernardino. For the point, name these fast-food restaurants that are known worldwide for their golden arches.

ANSWER: **McDonald's**

(26) A strike in this state ended with the death of Tom Manning. In 1917, this state was the site of a catastrophe that killed 168 miners when a shaft was accidentally lit on fire in the Speculator Mine disaster. This state contained a former mine operated by Anaconda Copper called the Berkeley Pit. For the point, name this Big Sky state that contains cities like Butte [[BYOOT]] and Helena.

ANSWER: **Montana**

(27) This city, the seat of Mercer County, contains the Old Barracks Museum, which was built in 1758 and used to house members of the British Army during the French and Indian War. One suburb of this city was where Hessian Troops were defeated by George Washington after he crossed into Pennsylvania. For the point, name this former capital city of the United States, currently the capital of New Jersey.

ANSWER: **Trenton**

(28) This state's southern portion includes cities such as Carbondale and Cairo [[KAY-roh]] at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. This state's Cook County is the U.S.' second-most populous and is home to the "Magnificent Mile" on Michigan Avenue. This state's most populous city shares its name with a river that is notably dyed green every St. Patrick's Day. For the point, name this state that is home to Chicago.

ANSWER: **Illinois**

(29) This national park contains summits called the Sundial and the Altar of Sacrifice, as well as the Three Patriarchs, both of which overlook the Virgin River. This national park, which is accessible from the city of St. George, is situated west of Bryce Canyon and north of the Grand Canyon. For the point, identify this biblically named canyon and national park in southwestern Utah.

ANSWER: **Zion** National Park (or **Zion** Canyon)

(30) This state's town of Dixville Notch is usually the first place in the U.S. to report results of the presidential election. This state's ocean coastline stretches from Seabrook to Portsmouth and is the shortest of any state. This state's population is concentrated in the Merrimack Valley, in cities such as Franklin and Manchester. For the point, name this state in New England which is located directly east of Vermont.

ANSWER: **New Hampshire**

Extra Question

(1) TSMC recently built the largest chip fabrication plant in the United States in this county, where "Squaw Peak" was renamed Piestewa Peak after an Iraq War veteran. This county was the most populous in the U.S. to vote for Donald Trump in 2024. At the State Farm Stadium, this non-California county's metropolitan area hosted the 2023 Super Bowl in Glendale. For the point, name this county home to Phoenix, the most populous in Arizona.

ANSWER: **Maricopa** County