

National Geography Bowl – Round 2 (V-JV)

First Quarter

(1) The Angara River flows out of this lake, its largest tributary is the Selenga, and a major city to its east is Chita. This lake, located in the Yenisei watershed, forms the border between Buryatia and the Irkutsk region, and after defeating the Xiongnu [[SYUNG-noo]], the Han dynasty called it the "North Sea" of China's borders. This second-largest lake in Eurasia is also the world's deepest, holding about 19 percent of the world's freshwater. For ten points, name this largest lake in Siberia.

ANSWER: Lake **Baikal** (or Ozero **Baikal**; or **Baigal** Dalai)

(2) This country's western border is marked by the Osogovo and the Vlahina mountain ranges, while its eastern border features the Lake Varna coastal wetlands and the Kamchia Biosphere Reserve. This country's highest point, Mount Musala, lies in the Rila range, and this country, which borders the Black Sea to the east, contains fertile agricultural regions in its Thracian Plain. For ten points, name this country located south of Romania and north of Greece, governed from Sofia.

ANSWER: Republic of **Bulgaria** (or Republika **Bŭlgariya**)

(3) This country contains a submarine volcano called Kavachi, and its Isabel Province has its capital at Buala, while Rob Roy Island is located in this country's Choiseul Province. This country's Temotu Province contains the island of Vanikoro, where explorer Jean-Francois de La Pérouse was shipwrecked. This country contains the Santa Cruz Islands and includes the island of Tulagi. For ten points, what island nation in Melanesia has its capital of Honiara on Guadalcanal?

ANSWER: **Solomon** Islands (or the **Solomons**; or **Solomon** Aelan)

(4) The Hoh Rainforest is located in a national park with this name and contains Hurricane Ridge, accessible from Port Angeles. A mountain range with this name traverses Grays Harbor and Clallam Counties, and also includes a mountain named for a mythical location. A peninsula with this name lies across the Puget Sound from Seattle. For ten points, give this term which also names an athletic event that will be hosted in 2028 by Los Angeles.

ANSWER: **Olympic** (or **Olympic** Peninsula; or **Olympic** National Park)

(5) The parabolic type of these landforms are usually found alongside natural barriers such as cliffs, vegetation, or mountains. The star type of these landforms consist of multi-pronged patterns and are typically larger and more stable than their counterparts. A type of these landforms named for an Arabic sword called a seif is found in areas with consistent wind direction, unlike their crescent-shaped barchan variety. For ten points, name these hill-like shifting landforms frequently found in deserts.

ANSWER: sand **dunes**

(6) This city's neighborhoods of Yoff and Ngor host Lebu fishermen, who speak a language closely related to Wolof, and this city will host the 2026 Summer Youth Olympics. This city, which replaced Saint-Louis [[sahn-LOUH-ee]] as the capital of French West Africa, includes the former slave trading island of Gorée [[gor-RAY]], and is situated on the Cap-Vert Peninsula, home to mainland Africa's westernmost point. For ten points, name this capital of Senegal.

ANSWER: **Dakar** (accept **Ndakaaru**)

(7) Ngederrak Reef in this country was established in 2001 and has been designated as a 'Conservation Area' since 2005. Ngaremeduu Bay Conservation Area and Imul Mangrove Conservation Area are found in this country's state of Amilekiik, which is located on the island of Babeldaob. For ten points, name this island country in Micronesia, whose largest city is Koror and whose capital is the least-populated in the world, Ngerulmud [[en-GEH-ROOL-mood]].

ANSWER: **Palau**

(8) A 2024 study connected parts of this structure to the Orcadian Basin of northern Scotland. The body of a namesake "archer" was found buried in the outer ditch of this structure, and at least one bluestone from this structure originated at Waun Mawn in Wales. This structure was designed to align with the rising sun on the summer solstice and the setting sun on the winter solstice. For ten points, name this megalithic structure on Salisbury Plain, a group of standing stones set in a circle.

ANSWER: **Stonehenge**

(9) The Lateran Treaty granted a summer home at Castel Gandolfo extraterritorial status for this country. This country's St. Peter Square is demarcated from the territory of a surrounding country by a singular white line. The Swiss Guard patrols the Portone di Bronzo, which is the main entrance to this country's Apostolic Palace. At 109 acres, the smallest country in the world is, for ten points, what seat of the Papacy, housed entirely within the city of Rome?

ANSWER: **Vatican** City (or the State of **Vatican** City)

(10) This island's rain forests are the only place where golden-mantled tree-kangaroos can be found, and its longest river is the Sepik. The western part of this island contains Vogelkop montane rain forests, which include parts of the Bird's Head peninsula. The Cromwell Mountains run through this island's Huon Peninsula, and Hollandia was the former name of this island's city of Jayapura. For ten points, name this second-largest island in the world, which contains Port Moresby.

ANSWER: **New Guinea** [[GHI-nee]] (or **Niugini**; or **Niu Gini**; or **Papua**; or **Nugini**; or **Irian**; do NOT accept or prompt on "Papua New Guinea" or "PNG")

Second Quarter

(1) This city got its name from the Greek goddess of victory after Ligurians were defeated by Greek colonists. This city's Promenade des Anglais was the site of a terrorist attack in 2016 which occurred on Bastille Day, and this city's urban area includes the resort cities of Antibes and Cannes. This city is the largest of the Alpes-Maritimes department and Côte d'Azur. For ten points, name this largest city of the French Riviera, lying close to Monaco.

ANSWER: **Nice** [[NEESS]] (accept **Nikaia**)

BONUS: The Côte d'Azur forms a larger region with this historical French region containing the cities of Avignon and Aix.

ANSWER: **Provence** (or **Provença**)

(2) This tectonic plate's subduction was responsible for the most powerful earthquake in history, the 1960 Valdivia earthquake, and its southwest includes the Juan Fernández Ridge. This tectonic plate's northwestern edge ends at a triple junction with the Cocos Plate and Pacific Plate at the Galápagos Islands. The Atacama Trench is situated along, for ten points, what tectonic plate situated off the western coast of South America?

ANSWER: **Nazca** Plate

BONUS: The western coast of South America is cooled by this cold-water current which is sometimes named for Peru.

ANSWER: **Humboldt** current (or **Peru** current until mentioned)

(3) The Barento and the Boorana are the two major divisions of this ethnic group, which originated near Lake Chew Bahir. One region named for this ethnic group surrounds the Harari Region enclave and has its capital at Finfinne. This ethnic group speaks the most-widely spoken of the Cushitic languages, which is also the second most-used language in East Africa behind Swahili. For ten points, name this largest ethnic group of Ethiopia, contrasting with the Amhara people.

ANSWER: **Oromo** people (or **Oromoo**)

BONUS: Oromia lies to the west of Ethiopia's Somali Region, including this historic region, which was the site of a war in the late 1970s known for its Cuban intervention.

ANSWER: **Ogaden**

(4) The degradation of this substance can trigger ground subsidence and the formation of features such as drunken forests and thaw lakes. The top layer of this substance is known as the active layer, and Thermokarst landscapes, as well as the release of sequestered carbon in the form of methane, are caused when this substance melts, contributing to global warming. For ten points, name this type of soil which remains in a frozen state year-round.

ANSWER: **permafrost**

BONUS: There is a limited amount of permafrost in the Southern Hemisphere, but it can be found in the mountain slopes of this region at the southern end of South America, named by Magellan for a mythical race of giants.

ANSWER: **Patagonia**

(5) This country contains *Emancipation Statue* which honors Bussa, the leader of a slave revolt on it. This country's George Washington House contains the only place the U.S. president stayed outside of America, and it left the Commonwealth realm in 2021. This country also houses Mount Gay Rum, while its parish of Saint Michael contains a monument to Rihanna. For ten points, name this Caribbean island country which displays a trident on its flag and is governed from Bridgetown.

ANSWER: **Barbados**

BONUS: A trident is also displayed on the logo of Maserati, which took inspiration from the Fountain of Neptune in this Italian city in the Emilia-Romagna region.

ANSWER: **Bologna**

(6) This river passes by the former Jewish colony of Jodensavanne, and the first major bridge over this river, the Jules Wijdenbosch Bridge, was built as part of the East-West Link extending between the Courantyne and Maroni rivers. This river flows through the Brokopondo Reservoir, and this river separates Fort Zeelandia from a city named Nieuw Amsterdam. For ten points, name this river in an eponymous South American country, flowing past Paramaribo.

ANSWER: **Suriname** River

BONUS: Suriname is known for its large community of immigrants descended from this island, whose eponymous sea includes the southern coast of Kalimantan.

ANSWER: **Java** (or **Javanese**; or **Java** Sea)

(7) Members of this ethno-religious group convene at the Maramon Convention along the Pamba River. This ethnic group is sometimes termed as the "Nasranis," and some members are part of the Malankara Church. This ethnic group forms minorities in cities such as Trivandrum and Conchin, speaking Malayalam in Kerala. For ten points, name this ethno-religious Christian group in southern India, named for an apostle of Jesus Christ.

ANSWER: **Saint Thomas** Christians (prompt on "Christians" or "Indian Christians" alone; prompt on "Malayalis")

BONUS: Also having a high concentration of Christians is this state, which was a former colony of Portugal, lying on the coastline of the Arabian Sea in western India.

ANSWER: **Goa**

(8) This country's capital borders its Hirshabelle and Southwestern states, but is in neither. This country's southernmost state is Jubaland, and it has recently created the state of Khatumo. The region of Banaadir serves as a federal district for this country, while Hargeisa serves as the capital of a separatist entity in its north dominated by the Isaaq clan. This country's easternmost point is Cape Gardafui, located in Puntland. For ten points, name this country on the Indian Ocean, recently plagued by pirates.

ANSWER: Federal Republic of **Somalia** (or Jamhuuriyadda Federaalka **Soomaaliya**; or Jumhūriyah aṣ-**Sūmāl** al-Fīdirāliyah)

BONUS: Though it is not part of Somalia, this country is home to a Somali majority, and it was once known as the Territory of the Afars and Issas to suppress Somali nationalism.

ANSWER: Republic of **Djibouti** (or République de **Djibouti**; or Jamhuuriyadda **Jabuuti**; or **Gabuutih** Ummuuno)

Third Quarter

The categories are:

1. Appalachian Trail
2. German States
3. Central Asia
4. African Waterways

Appalachian Trail

Concerning the Appalachian Trail, name the...

- (1) State that is home to the southern trailhead at Springer Mountain, northeast of Atlanta.

ANSWER: **Georgia**

- (2) Type of artificial waterway the trail follows in Maryland, called the Chesapeake and Ohio, and built for drainage management.

ANSWER: **canal** (accept Chesapeake and Ohio **Canal**; accept **C and O** Canal)

- (3) State through which it traverses forests named for two native sons, Thomas Jefferson and George Washington.

ANSWER: **Virginia**

- (4) National park it passes through in Tennessee, the most-visited park in the U.S.

ANSWER: **Great Smoky Mountains** National Park (prompt on partial answers)

- (5) Highest peak in the Northeast, the summit of which is crossed by the trail in New Hampshire.

ANSWER: Mount **Washington**

- (6) Highest point in the Appalachians, originally suggested as the southern terminus of the trail.

ANSWER: Mount **Mitchell**

- (7) Northern terminus of the trail, the highest mountain in Maine.

ANSWER: Mount **Katahdin**

- (8) New York mountain and state park named for an animal, which contains the lowest and oldest portion of the trail.

ANSWER: **Bear** Mountain State Park

German States

Concerning the sixteen states of the Federal Republic of Germany, name the...

- (1) Century in which the states of West and East Germany were unified after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

ANSWER: **20th** century (or **1900s**)

- (2) City-state that also serves as the capital.

ANSWER: **Berlin**

- (3) Word that appears in the names of three states, shared with an Old English "Anglo" group.

ANSWER: **Saxon** (accept Anglo-**Saxon**; accept **Saxony**; accept Lower **Saxony**; accept **Saxony**-Anhalt)

- (4) Home of the 1972 Summer Olympics, the capital of Bavaria and third-largest German city.

ANSWER: **Munich**

- (5) Largest city in Hesse [[HESS-uh]], home to the European Central Bank and the heart of the Rhine-Main [[MINE]] region

ANSWER: **Frankfurt** am Main

- (6) Region whose name is paired with North Rhine in the name of a state and names a 1648 "Peace" ending the Thirty Years' War.

ANSWER: **Westphalia** (accept North Rhine-**Westphalia**; accept Peace of **Westphalia**; prompt on "NRW")

- (7) Northeastern state that surrounds the German capital and has its own capital at Potsdam.

ANSWER: State of **Brandenburg**

- (8) Second-smallest state, sharing a five-mile long border with Luxembourg.

ANSWER: **Saarland**

Central Asia

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

- (1) Type of vehicle launched by Russia from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

ANSWER: **rocket** (accept **space ship**, **satellite**, and other clear-knowledge equivalents)

- (2) Type of fossil fuel produced in Turkmenistan, often used in stoves and primarily composed of methane.

ANSWER: natural **gas** (or fossil **gas**; or methane **gas**)

- (3) Country on the border of South and Central Asia that is governed by the Taliban from Kabul.

ANSWER: Islamic Republic of **Afghanistan** (or Jamhuri-ye Islami-ye **Afghanistan**)

- (4) Nation that is mostly covered by the Karakum Desert, led from Ashgabat.

ANSWER: **Turkmenistan**

- (5) Country south of Kazakhstan, crossed by the Tian Shan and lying farther from the sea than any other country.

ANSWER: **Kyrgyzstan** (or **Kyrgyz** Republic; or **Kyrgyz** Respblikasy)

- (6) Turkic ethnic group that comprises the majority in its namesake nation and includes some 36 million people in Central Asia.

ANSWER: **Uzbek** (accept Republic of **Uzbekistan**; accept **O'zbekiston** Respublikasi)

- (7) River with its source in Lake Zorkul, which was once known as the Oxus and is the longest in Central Asia.

ANSWER: **Amu** Darya

- (8) Long, thin lake in southeast Kazakhstan, which includes salt and fresh portions and is fed by the Ili River.

ANSWER: Lake **Balkhash**

African Waterways

Concerning the waterways of Africa, name the...

- (1) Large, predatory reptiles, a dwarf variety of which inhabits the Upper Congo, whose namesake order includes alligators and caimans.

ANSWER: crocodile (accept dwarf crocodile; accept Crocodilia)

- (2) Longest river in Africa, which flows through Egypt into the Mediterranean.

ANSWER: Nile River

- (3) Largest lake on the continent, named for an English queen and primarily fed by the Kagera River.

ANSWER: Lake Victoria (accept Queen Victoria)

- (4) Primary river of West Africa, which shares its name with a country governed from Niamey.

ANSWER: Niger [[nee-ZHEHR]] River (accept Republic of Niger; accept Republique du Niger; accept phonetic pronunciations)

- (5) Country that is home to the Orange River and is separated from Zimbabwe by the Limpopo.

ANSWER: Republic of South Africa (or RSA)

- (6) Rapidly drying lake, sourced from the Chari River and located on the western border of a namesake Central African country.

ANSWER: Lake Chad (accept Republic of Chad; accept Republique du Tchad; accept Jumhuriyat Tshad)

- (7) River, also known as the Cubango, with a large inland delta in Botswana.

ANSWER: Okavango (accept Okavango delta; accept Okavango grassland)

- (8) Crater lake in the Northwest Region of Cameroon, underground outflow from which feeds into the Benue River system.

ANSWER: Lake Nyos

Fourth Quarter

(1) **This city's downstream suburbs include Huangshi and Huanggang, and it lies on a bullet train route from Beijing to Guangzhou. The mouth of the Hanshui River is located in this city, which with the (+) Yangtze divides this city into its three historic towns, Hankou, Hanyang, and Wuchang. This city is the capital of Hubei Province, and is east of the (*) Three Gorges Dam.** For ten points, name this largest city of central China, host to a namesake notorious Institute of Virology.

ANSWER: **Wuhan** (prompt on "Hankou" or "Hankow" or "Hanyang" or "Wuchang" before "Hankou" is read)

(2) **The largest public park located in this city, Morelos Park, is part of the La Mesa borough. The Great Recessions halted construction of Donald Trump's Ocean Resort in this city, which is also home to the Hotel Caesar on Avenida (+) Revolución. This city is bounded on the southwest by Rosarito Beach and to the north by the neighborhoods of San Ysidro and Otay Mesa. (*) San Diego shares a metropolitan area with, for ten points, what heavily-touristed Mexican city, the most populous in Baja California?**

ANSWER: **Tijuana** [[tee-HWAH-nah]]

(3) **This group, which was formally established at the 1960 Baghdad Conference, is headquartered in Vienna, even though Austria is (+) not a member of it. One of this group's few sub-Saharan African members, Equatorial Guinea, joined in 2017, while countries like Indonesia and Ecuador have had fluctuating membership. This group created a significant shock to Western economies in (*) 1973 by quadrupling oil prices following the Yom Kippur War.** For ten points, name this cartel of major petroleum-exporting nations.

ANSWER: **OPEC** (or **Organization of (the) Petroleum Exporting Countries**)

(4) **This county has its seat at Mineola, and it's not in California, but this county includes the barrier island of Long Beach. This county features the eastern end of the Rockaway Peninsula, as well as the original (+) Levittown. Behind neighboring Suffolk County, this county is the most populous in its state that is not also a (*) borough.** For ten points, name this county that encompasses the inner suburbs of New York on Long Island and is named for a Dutch royal house.

ANSWER: **Nassau** County

(5) **This country's territory of Agaléga and St. Brandon are part of its officially designated Outer Islands. This modern country may have been discovered in 975 by Arabs, who called it Dina Arobi. Port (+) Mathurin is the capital of this country's autonomous region of Rodrigues, and this country claims the Chagos Islands, which are currently occupied by the British (*) Indian Ocean Territory.** The dodo was once endemic to, for ten points, what African archipelagic nation governed from Port Louis?

ANSWER: Republic of **Mauritius** [[maw-RIH-shuhs]] (or République de **Maurice**; or Repiblik **Moris**)

(6) **The tallest building in this city, the Living Shangri-La, houses an Urban Fare specialty grocery store and a local art gallery. At 1,001 acres, this city's Stanley Park is one of the largest urban parks in (+) North America. This city is tucked between the Burrard Inlet to the north, and the 2010 Winter Olympics were held in this city at nearby ski resorts such as (*) Whistler.** For ten points, identify this city in southwestern Canada, the largest city of British Columbia.

ANSWER: **Vancouver** (or **l̥hq'á:lets**)

(7) **The Diriyah suburb of this city is home to the At-Turaif historic district, famed for its signature architectural style. This city is home to the Al Masmak Palace, which was built by the Emir of (+) Nejd and served as the model for this city's Al Abtal Gate. This is the largest city along the Wadi Hanifa, which cuts through its western end. This city's King (*) Abdulaziz Historical Center is home to the Murabba Palace, a home of the house of Saud.** For ten points, name this capital and largest city in Saudi Arabia.

ANSWER: **Riyadh**

(8) **This mountain range was formed during the Alpine orogeny when the Iberian micro-continent collided with the Eurasian Plate. Pica d'Estats marks this range's highest point in one country, while (+) Aneto stands as its tallest peak overall at 3,404 meters. This range contains several small enclaves, including Llvia and Andorra. The Col du Perthus serves as a major pass through these mountains, which extend from the Bay of Biscay to the (*) Mediterranean Sea.** For ten points, name this mountain range forming a natural border between France and Spain.

ANSWER: **Pyrenees**

Extra Question

(1) **This region is sometimes termed the "Redneck Riviera," and this non-Texas region has its eastern extent in the Big Bend region. The Apalachicola River is sometimes used to demarcate this region's boundary, marking the border between the (+) Eastern and Central Time Zones. This region, home to the resorts of Fort Walton Beach and Panama City Beach, and it was devastated by Hurricane Michael. Also home to (*) Pensacola is,** for ten points, what westernmost region of a U.S. state governed from Tallahassee?

ANSWER: **Florida Panhandle** (prompt on partial answers)

BONUS: This U.S. state is the least populous, even though it is the tenth largest by area, and is one of three states with entirely straight borders.

ANSWER: **Wyoming**