The United States Geography Olympiad & The International Geography Bee
2017-2018 National Qualifying Exam – H Set Version

NAME: ___________________________________________ GRADE: __________ (e.g. 6th, 7th, 8th, etc.)

Check here: ___ if you’re in 7th or 8th grade (if so, you’re a MIDDLE SCHOOL division student for USGO & IGB)
Check here: ___ if you’re in 6th grade or younger (if so, you’re an ELEMENTARY division student for USGO & IGB, even if you attend a middle school) **

** = Homeschooled students who are not officially in any grade are considered Elementary if born after October 1, 2005

SCHOOL / HOMESCHOOL AFFILIATION: ________________________________________________________________

Email to report score to: ___________________________________________ (print neatly!)

Instructions: Print the Correct Answer in the space provided or leave it blank. Write Neatly!!! Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

You have 20 Minutes to complete this Exam.

_____ 1. Which of these cities has the highest mean temperatures in January?
A. Boston    B. Miami    C. St. Louis    D. Bismarck

_____ 2. Lake Champlain lies between Vermont and which other Northeastern US state?
A. Delaware    B. New Hampshire    C. Wisconsin    D. New York

_____ 3. A physical geographer would be least likely to focus their studies on which of the following?
A. Geomorphology    B. Oceanography    C. Linguistics    D. Climatology

_____ 4. The Yangtze River ends in a delta near Shanghai in which country?
A. Israel    B. Mexico    C. France    D. China

_____ 5. What is the major religion of Slovenia and the countries it borders, such as Italy?
A. Shintoism    B. Hinduism    C. Islam    D. Christianity

_____ 6. San Marino shares which official language with the country that surrounds it?
A. French    B. Italian    C. Chinese    D. Greek

_____ 7. This question was written in the Pocono Mountains in which US state, not far from Scranton?
A. Kentucky    B. Montana    C. Florida    D. Pennsylvania

_____ 8. Which of the following words is not associated with caves?
A. Spelunking    B. Stalactite    C. Stalagmite    D. Irrigation
9. Which lake is located in the northern reaches of Canada?
A. Great Bear  B. Tanganyika  C. Baikal  D. Vostok

10. What language is not considered to be one of the six official languages of the United Nations?
A. Arabic  B. Spanish  C. Russian  D. Finnish

11. France colonized Vietnam. The United Kingdom colonized India. Which European country did not colonize any African or Asian countries?
A. Belgium  B. Poland  C. Portugal  D. Italy

12. Which of these countries has the highest Gross Domestic Product (GDP)?
A. Lesotho  B. Niger  C. South Africa  D. Chad

13. Rising sea levels are of least concern in which of the following cities?
A. Amsterdam  B. New York City  C. Kansas City  D. Singapore

14. A swimmer once successfully swam to Florida from which of these countries?
A. St. Lucia  B. Jamaica  C. Dominican Republic  D. Cuba

15. If you were studying as an AFS exchange student in Ankara or Istanbul, you could send a postcard from which country, which is considered to be on two continents?
A. Germany  B. Madagascar  C. South Africa  D. Turkey

16. Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines are most at risk from which of the following natural disasters?
A. Earthquakes  B. Hurricanes  C. Avalanches  D. Blizzards

17. Residents of the “Centennial” state live in cities like Boulder, Aurora, and Pueblo in which state?
A. Colorado  B. Florida  C. Tennessee  D. New Hampshire

18. Sapporo, on the island of Hokkaido, hosted the 1972 Winter Olympics in which country?
A. Hong Kong  B. Bhutan  C. Japan  D. North Korea

19. Which of the following countries is located the farthest from Vatican City?
A. Albania  B. Iceland  C. Austria  D. France

20. Ernest Hemingway described the annual Running of the Bulls in Pamplona in which country?
A. Colombia  B. Germany  C. Spain  D. Slovakia

21. The Coast Mountains are in the westernmost Canadian province, which is:
A. Greenland  B. British Columbia  C. Oregon  D. Quebec

22. Based on its geographic location from north to south, what state is missing from this list: North Dakota, South Dakota, ____, Kansas
A. Iowa  B. Missouri  C. Nebraska  D. Oklahoma
23. A flight from Budapest to Bucharest would land in which country?
A. Sweden  
B. Malaysia  
C. South Korea  
D. Romania

24. A cartographer would label the Sahara and Kalahari Deserts on a map of which continent?
A. Antarctica  
B. South America  
C. Asia  
D. Africa

25. Which of the following seas is located between China and the Koreas, and not near Antarctica?
A. Yellow  
B. Ross  
C. Weddell  
D. Amundsen

26. Which of the following lakes is not one of the Great Lakes?
A. Lake Ontario  
B. Lake Michigan  
C. Lake Superior  
D. Lake Powell

27. NATO and the European Union are both headquartered in which country where French and Flemish, a variant of Dutch, are official languages?
A. Switzerland  
B. Ireland  
C. Belgium  
D. Austria

28. After immigrants entered the United States at Ellis Island, which place would take the longest to travel to?
A. Hartford  
B. Syracuse  
C. Trenton  
D. Memphis

29. Timbuktu, which was once an important trading center, is located on the Niger River in which country?
A. Mali  
B. Tanzania  
C. Paraguay  
D. Indonesia

30. Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra are three of the states of which country?
A. Australia  
B. India  
C. Saudi Arabia  
D. Mexico

31. Crater Lake formed thousands of years ago when a volcano collapsed in what is now which US state?
A. Idaho  
B. Colorado  
C. Oregon  
D. Washington

32. The rushing waters of which river formed the Grand Canyon?
A. Missouri River  
B. Rio Grande  
C. Delaware River  
D. Colorado River

33. What Southeast Asian country’s name, which means “Land of the Free,” was never ruled by a colonial power, and was formerly known as Siam?
A. Thailand  
B. Malaysia  
C. Laos  
D. Cambodia

34. Which state, known as the Land of 10,000 Lakes, has plenty of opportunities to go ice fishing?
A. Minnesota  
B. Alabama  
C. Ohio  
D. California

35. Which island, considered to be one of the most remote inhabited places on Earth, is not located in or bordering the Caribbean Sea?
A. Trinidad  
B. Jamaica  
C. Tristan da Cunha  
D. Hispaniola

36. In the summer of 2017, several countries cut off ties to which country, located on a peninsula in the Persian Gulf, which will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup Finals?
A. Yemen  
B. Kuwait  
C. Russia  
D. Qatar
37. An American would need a passport to travel to which island?
A. Luzon  B. Maui  C. Kauai  D. Molokai

38. The United States bought the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 from what country?
A. Azerbaijan  B. France  C. New Zealand  D. Paraguay

39. Which of the following countries, located far from the others, does not belong to the Organization of American States?
A. Peru  B. Guatemala  C. Egypt  D. Brazil

40. The Sonoran Desert and its saguaro cacti can be found in which US state?
A. Arizona  B. Kansas  C. New Jersey  D. Utah

41. Which city is a suburb of Tampa, Florida?
A. Savannah  B. Alexandria  C. Clearwater  D. Knoxville

42. The Taj Mahal, a memorial to the Mughal emperor’s wife built in the 1630s, is located in which Indian city?
A. Agra  B. Karachi  C. Kathmandu  D. Mandalay

43. Which country is not located in the Indian Ocean?
A. Fiji  B. Comoros  C. The Seychelles  D. The Maldives

44. Koalas eat eucalyptus leaves in the forests of which country?
A. Mongolia  B. Iraq  C. Nauru  D. Australia

45. The Basque people have a language unlike any other on Earth and live in which mountain range which forms the border of France and Spain?
A. The Pyrenees  B. The Dolomites  C. The Caucasus  D. The Elburz

46. Your question writer once went skiing on the lower reaches of the Matterhorn in which country?
A. Belize  B. Norway  C. Switzerland  D. Peru

47. Which island is not located in Indonesia?
A. Sulawesi  B. Ellesmere  C. Java  D. Sumatra

48. Which country’s primary language is not normally written with the Latin alphabet?
A. Russia  B. Honduras  C. Czech Republic  D. Dominican Republic

49. Which country was never conquered by Germany in World War II?
A. Portugal  B. Netherlands  C. Denmark  D. Greece

50. Tango music, played with guitars, clarinets, and other instruments, is primarily associated with which South American country?
A. Australia  B. Argentina  C. Canada  D. Italy