

2015 Geography Bee of Asia & Europe

ROUND ONE

1. A location home to this mineral features Fisher's Pan, which draws thousands of breeding flamingos during the wet season. In addition to being found in Etosha National Park, this mineral also names a location where several world land speed records were set. The disappearance of the prehistoric Lake Bonneville led to the creation of an area where this mineral is widely found. For the point, name this mineral which names a lake in Utah.

ANSWER: **Salt** (JF)

2. This region is home to a largely untapped vein of coal named Tavan Tolgoi. In the 1920s, Roy Chapman Andrews found fossilized dinosaur eggs in this region. A "Green Wall" consisting of artificial forests attempts to halt this desert's rapid expansion. Along with the nearby Taklimakan, this desert provides a habitat for Bactrian camels. For the point, name this large desert primarily located in Mongolia.

ANSWER: **Gobi** Desert <KG> {II}

3. This US state is home to Door County, a resort area in its east, and its namesake Dells, where many waterslide parks are found. Professional sports teams in this state are named for this state's heritage in beer production and meatpacking. This state is home to the industrial cities of Racine and Kenosha on Lake Michigan. For the point, name this state whose capital is Madison and largest city is Milwaukee.

ANSWER: **Wisconsin** (RN)

4. People of this ethnicity who live in fishing villages perform a ritual, during which an effigy representing St. Peter is carried to the waterfront, then beaten as a threat to ensure a good catch. These people speak a language which is thought to be the sole surviving native language in Western Europe from the spread of Indo-European languages. During the twentieth century, the terrorist group ETA sought greater autonomy for these people. For the point, name these people who live in northern Spain and southwest France.

ANSWER: **Basque** people (or **Euskaldunak** or **Vasco** or **Euskotarak**) (JF)

5. This man famously brought a native named Omai to England. This man today is the namesake of an island group whose capital is Avarua and which is controlled by New Zealand. Joseph Banks accompanied his second voyage in order to record natural history. In his ship *Endeavour*, this man landed at Possession Island to claim Australia for Great Britain. For the point, name this English navigator who was the first European to discover the Sandwich Islands, now called Hawaii.

ANSWER: James **Cook** (JF)

6. A long canyon whose name means "the Shaft," *al-Siq*, leads to former Nabataean capital in this country featuring tombs carved out of a cliff face. The city of Jerash is located in this country, whose only coastal city is Aqaba along a narrow gulf to its south. A place called *Al-Maghtas*, in this home country of the stone city Petra, marks the purported site of the baptism of Jesus. For the point, name this Middle East kingdom due east of Israel.

ANSWER: Hashemite Kingdom of **Jordan** <CKM> {II}

7. Every high school on this island participates in a television quiz show known as Gettu Betur. Tourists often visit the blue lagoon spa on this island, and take the Golden Circle tour to sites such as the waterfall Gullfoss. This island was chosen by Jules Verne to be the start of the *Journey to the Center of the Earth* in one of its volcanoes. For the point, name this island powered almost entirely by geothermal energy, whose "Bay of Smokes" lends its name to the city of Reykjavik.

ANSWER: **Iceland** [or **Ísland** ("EES-lahnd")] <SH> {II}

8. One city in this country is thought to be the location of the first paper mill in the Muslim world. Namanjan and Andijan are cities in this country's east, located in the Fergana valley. The city famous for the observatory of Ulugh Beg is connected to the capital city of this country by the first high-speed rail line in Central Asia. For the point, name this country, which includes the cities of Samarkand and Tashkent.

ANSWER: Republic of **Uzbekistan** (EK)

9. A large sand dune called the Curonian Spit creates a lagoon in this sea. Several Romantic artists took getaways to a resort island in this sea surrounded by chalk cliffs, called Rügen. At its narrowest point, this sea is south of two small channels called the Little Belt and the Great Belt, between the islands of Funen and Zealand. It is connected to the Atlantic via the Skagerrak. For the point, name this large sea of northern Europe.

ANSWER: **Baltic** Sea <BA> {II}

10. This present-day country's territory was the focus of the 19th century Cisplatine (**pr. SISS-platt-een**) War. As of 2015, this country remains by far the smallest in population to have won the FIFA World Cup. This nation shares a tradition of drinking mate (**pr. MAH-tay**) with Argentina, its neighbor across the Río de la Plata. For the point, name this South American country with its capital at Montevideo.

ANSWER: **Uruguay** (JF)

11. In response to decades of repression, the Diwan Schools are attempting to immerse students in this region's native language. The gateway to this region was once a lair for corsairs like Robert Surcouf and is named St. Malo. This region on the continent of Europe is home to the most widely-spoken Celtic language outside the British Isles. For the point, name this region of northwest France found west of Normandy.

Answer: **Brittany** (or **Bretagne**, or **Breizh**) (JF)

12. In 2012 this island received an Official Statistician following a 2010 decision to build its first airport on Prosperous Bay. It is home to a Jacob's Ladder which connected a hilltop fort with its main port of Jamestown. Its Longwood House was, in 1815, converted to serve as a residence for its most famous prisoner. For the point, name this remote island in the South Atlantic where the British government permanently exiled Napoleon.

ANSWER: **Saint Helena** <DW> {II}

13. Just outside this country's capital stands a massive bronze statue commissioned by its president Abdoulaye Wade (**pr. ahb-DOO-kay WAH-day**), and this nation occupies land once owned by the Wolof Empire. This country controls Goree Island off the Cap Vert Peninsula, and in its South lies the Casamance River. This nation surrounds another country on three sides, which has its capital at Banjul. For the point, name this nation with capital at Dakar in far Western Africa.

ANSWER: Republic of **Senegal** (RN)

14. In this city, the Madurodam park depicts famous landmarks from its country, like the Delta Works, in miniature form. Slobodan Milosevich died while on trial in this city. In addition to the Peace Palace, this city is home to a "View of Delft" along with another Vermeer work, "The Girl with a Pearl Earring". For the point, name this Dutch administrative capital that is home to the International Court of Justice.

ANSWER: **The Hague** (or **Den Haag**) (JF)

15. The Mi'kmaq people named this island Epekwitk, which means "resting on the waves." The world's longest bridge over ice-covered waters connects this island to its nearest mainland and was called the "Fixed Link" before it was officially named the Confederation Bridge, in honor of this island's title "Cradle of Confederation" which it earned by hosting the Charlottetown Conference in 1864. For the point, name this smallest Canadian province, the setting of *Anne of Green Gables*.

ANSWER: **Prince Edward Island** (KL)

16. This region was home to the ancient city of Tartessos, and was known as Baetica in Roman times. It's not in the USA, but this region is home to the peak Mulhacen in its Sierra Nevada range. Its Guadalquivir River flows into the Gulf of Cadiz, and this region's city of Granada is famous for its Moorish architecture. This region is famed for flamenco dancing, and contains the city of Cordoba. For ten points, name this region of Southern Spain with capital at Seville.

ANSWER: **Andalusia** (RN) (prompt on "Spain" or "Iberia" or "Iberian Peninsula")

17. During World War II, the nation this archipelago belongs to authorized the USA to build a naval base on its island of Baltra. This archipelago is home to the world's northernmost species of penguin. A creature from this archipelago's Pinta Island, the last of his subspecies, was nicknamed Lonesome George. For the point, name this archipelago located on the Nazca tectonic plate and owned by Ecuador, which is home to large namesake tortoises and Darwin's finches.

ANSWER: **Galapagos** Islands [or Islas **Galápagos** or Archipiélago de **Colón** or **Columbus** Archipelago; accept Las **Encantadas**] <SH> {II}

18. This flag had faces on it until it was redesigned in 1962. The red background of this flag stands for the national flower, the rhododendron, of its country. Two astrological symbols, the crescent moon and the sun, represent the unity of two formerly warring branches of power in this flag's country. This flag is believed to have originated when the two triangular flags of those sides were placed atop each other. For the point, name this only national flag that is not rectangular.

ANSWER: **Nepalese Flag** (accept clear knowledge equivalents) (JF)

19. This river's Southern extremities flow over the Owen Falls Dam. The first American case of a virus named for this river was detected in 1999. The British fought a charismatic figure known as the Mahdi in a battle near the banks of this river at Omdurman. This river's Kagera branch was used to dispose of bodies following a 1994 genocide. For the point, name this river that is divided into White and Blue portions which meet in Sudan.

ANSWER: **Nile** (accept West Nile Virus) (RN)

20. The Tijuca Forest in this city is claimed to be the largest urban forest on the planet. This city's Maracanã Stadium hosted the final match of the 2007 Pan American Games, and its Corcovado Peak overlooks Guanabara Bay. Residents of this city are known as *cariocas* and samba schools parade competitively at this city's Sambadrome. This city's famed beaches include Ipanema and Copacabana. For the point, name this Brazilian city, the site of Christ the Redeemer.

ANSWER: **Rio de Janeiro** (RN)

21. A common saying in the country this mountain is found in says that a wise person should climb this mountain once in their life, but only a fool would climb it twice. A forest near the base of this mountain is the world's second most common location for people to commit suicide. Three small boats are rocked by a wave in a painting that includes this mountain, entitled *The Great Wave off Kanagawa*, which is part of Hokusai's *36 Views of (This Mountain)*. For the point, name this stratovolcano, the highest mountain in Japan.

ANSWER: Mount **Fuji** (accept Fujisan) (JF)

22. This park was the subject of a Bernhard Grzimek documentary whose title insisted it “Shall Not Die.” This park is entered at Naabi Hill Gate and across a national border to its north, this park borders a smaller park known as the Mara. It contains the Grumeti River, which every year is crossed by over one million wildebeest in an event known as the Great Migration. For the point, name this home of most of the remaining Black Rhinos, a massive nature reserve in northern Tanzania.

ANSWER: **Serengeti** National Park <EA> {III}

23. This island’s Cibao Valley lies West of its Samana Peninsula, which is an extension of its Cordillera Septentrional. This island is home to numerous baseball academies and is where players such as Sammy Sosa and Robinson Cano played in youth leagues. This island’s Western Gulf of Gonave (**pr. gone-AHV**) opens into the Windward Passage, while the Mona Passage lies to this island’s east. For the point, name this island split between two countries on which Port au Prince and Santo Domingo are located.

ANSWER: **Hispaniola** (RN) (do NOT accept Dominican Republic or Haiti)

24. This body of water is home to the only seal which lives exclusively in fresh water, the nerpa. Some Buryat tribes are indigenous to Olkhon island, the largest island on this body of water. The first explorer to reach this body of water was supposedly Kurbat Ivanov. A railway known named for this body of water connects its banks to the town of Irkutsk along the Angara river, its only outflow. For the point, name this Russian lake, the deepest in the world.

ANSWER: Lake **Baikal** <JZ> {II}

25. This region was home to a namesake set of “clearances” in the 18th century that drastically reduced its population. Its Muir of Dinnet in this region is home to a giant pothole, the Burn O’ Vat. The Jacobite train passes over the Glenfinnan viaduct in this region, and was notably used in movies as the Hogwarts Express. Glencoe, or the “Glen of Weeping,” was home to a massacre between the MacDonalDs and Campbells, rival clans of this region. For the point, name this wild region of northern Scotland.

ANSWER: Scottish **Highlands** (do not accept or prompt on “Scotland” on its own)

26. The Vaganova Academy is a ballet school in this city associated with its premier ballet company, the Mariinsky (**pr. marry-IN-ski**) Ballet. This city is home to the cathedral of Peter and Paul and the Church of the Savior on Blood, which was built where Alexander II died. The cruiser *Aurora* sailed up the Neva River in this city to fire blanks at the Winter Palace. The statue *The Bronze Horseman* in this city’s Senate Square commemorates its founder, a Russian tsar. For the point, name this former capital of Russia on an arm of the Baltic Sea.

ANSWER: **St. Petersburg** or **Leningrad** or **Petrograd** (KL)

27. Kijongdong is one of two villages at this location, and was once home to the tallest flagpole in the world. Operation Paul Bunyan took place at this location, which contains the Joint Security Area. The Bridge of No Return at this location is found in the village of Panmunjeom. The Military Demarcation Line runs through this area, and the Northern Limit Line is an extension of it into the Yellow Sea. For the point, name this heavily fortified border created by the Armistice Agreement near the 38th parallel.

ANSWER: Korean **Demilitarized Zone** (accept Korean **DMZ**; prompt on “Korea” or “North-South Korea border” do NOT accept “North Korea” or “South Korea”)

28. In New York City, a street with this number is also known as Avenue of the Americas. Of the four U.S. states that refer to themselves as commonwealths, the smallest in size was this number state to join the union. Before its collapse, Yugoslavia was composed of this many Socialist Republics. A highway represented by two digits of this number once spanned the American West, and was known as the Mother Road. For the point, give the number of permanently inhabited continents.

ANSWER: 6 (CP)

29. **Warning: Two answers required!** The boundary between these two modern-day countries once followed a line set at the McMahon line in a 1914 treaty, but is now officially set at the Line of Actual Control. The Nathu La mountain pass in Sikkim is one of three open border posts between these two countries, and gives one country’s citizens access to Tibet. For the point, which two Asian countries are separated by the Himalayas and are the most populous in the world?

ANSWER: Republic of **India** and People’s Republic of **China** [or **PRC**] <TR> {II}

30. Barry der Menschenretter found children lost in these mountains near hospices built by a Menthonian Saint. Galeazzo Ciano organized a March 1940 meeting in mountain range at which the Pact of Steel was renewed by the Axis powers. This range in which fondue was developed gives its name to the species epithet of the high-altitude Edelweiss flower. For the point, identify this mountain range which was crossed at St. Bernard Pass by Napoleon.

ANSWER: The Alps <CC>

Backup Question – Only read if a question is botched!

31. The flag of Anguilla includes a crest with three of these animals on it. Gray’s Paradox arose from confusion about the quickness of these animals given their small muscle mass. In Brazilian folklore, pink animals of this type may be shapeshifting “encantados.” The baiji (**pr. bye-jee**) are a breed of this animal in China that has likely been driven extinct by the Three Gorges Dam and other human activity. For the point, name this echolocating type of marine animal which includes species like the bottlenose.

ANSWER: dolphins <EA> {II}