



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE - 2015

GRADE 5 - GRADE 6 CONTEST

- ANSWER KEY -

SAVING

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. <u> B </u> | 21. <u> C </u> |
| 2. <u> A </u> | 22. <u> A </u> |
| 3. <u> D </u> | 23. <u> D </u> |
| 4. <u> A </u> | 24. <u> A </u> |
| 5. <u> C </u> | 25. <u> B </u> |
| 6. <u> D </u> | 26. <u> C </u> |
| 7. <u> B </u> | 27. <u> B </u> |
| 8. <u> D </u> | 28. <u> D </u> |
| 9. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> A </u> |
| 10. <u> D </u> | 30. <u> D </u> |
| 11. <u> A </u> | 31. <u> C </u> |
| 12. <u> B </u> | 32. <u> A </u> |
| 13. <u> C </u> | 33. <u> B </u> |
| 14. <u> D </u> | 34. <u> D </u> |
| 15. <u> B </u> | 35. <u> A </u> |
| 16. <u> C </u> | 36. <u> B </u> |
| 17. <u> A </u> | 37. <u> C </u> |
| 18. <u> C </u> | 38. <u> D </u> |
| 19. <u> D </u> | 39. <u> A </u> |
| 20. <u> B </u> | 40. <u> C </u> |

**National Council for Geographic Education
The National Geography Challenge – 2015**

Grades 5-6

1. Where is the headquarters of the United Nations?
A. Geneva, Switzerland B. New York City
C. Brussels, Belgium D. Singapore
2. In what region of the United States are you most likely to find a prairie?
A. Midwest B. Northeast
C. Northwest D. Mid-Atlantic
3. Which of the following best describes a *developing country*?
A. a country with serious economic problems caused by war
B. a country whose economy is based on mining and logging
C. a country in the process of becoming democratic
D. a country with a relatively low standard of living, undeveloped industries, limited health care, and poor educational services
4. What urban corridor in the United States is the most densely populated?
A. Washington-Boston B. San Francisco-San Diego
C. Atlanta-Miami D. Seattle-Portland
5. All of the following are examples of *natural resources* available in the United States except _____.
A. soil B. water
C. electricity D. minerals
6. An invention that helped people settle the Great Plains in the 19th century was _____.
A. the printing press B. the telephone
C. the cotton gin D. barbed wire
7. Which one of the following is a service job that makes a product consumed in most American cities?
A. deep sea fisherman B. pizza maker
C. airline pilot D. cross country truck driver

8. To develop a local weather forecast, the most helpful data meteorologists check is gathered from _____.

- A. Geographic Positioning Systems
- B. drones
- C. the world wide web
- D. satellite images of Earth

Match the animal listed in Column A with its meat type in Column B when it is served at dinner.

Column A

Column B

- | | | | |
|-----|----------|----|---------|
| 9. | Cattle | A. | Pork |
| 10. | Chickens | B. | Mutton |
| 11. | Hogs | C. | Beef |
| 12. | Sheep | D. | Poultry |

13. The world's time zones are measured from the _____.

- A. Equator (0° latitude)
- B. International Dateline (180° longitude)
- C. Prime Meridian (0° longitude)
- D. North and South Poles (90° north and south latitudes)

14. All of the following are physical features of a place except _____.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| A. elevation | B. vegetation |
| C. climate | D. population density |

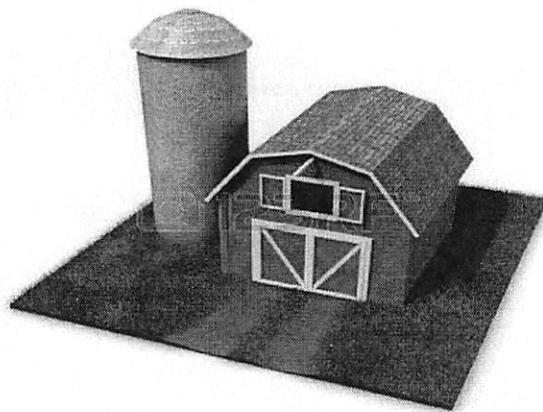
15. What animals replaced the herds of bison on the Great Plains of North America in the 19th century?

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| A. sheep | B. cattle |
| C. rabbits | D. hogs |

16. Dams like the Hoover Dam and the Grand Coulee Dam in the western United States are used to _____.

- A. allow ships to travel between two large bodies of water
- B. connect rivers to the Pacific Ocean
- C. generate electricity and provide flood control
- D. protect land areas below sea level

17. Which of these countries is presently a good example of a nation-state?
A. France
B. Northern Ireland
C. Soviet Union
D. Puerto Rico
18. All but one of these cities is a state capital. Which one is the exception?
A. Boston, Massachusetts
B. St. Paul, Minnesota
C. San Francisco, California
D. Denver, Colorado
19. Penguins are native to what area of the world?
A. North Pole
B. Iceland
C. Alaska
D. Antarctica
20. With what economic activity are the two buildings shown below associated?
A. manufacturing
B. agriculture
C. transportation
D. banking



21. Using its name as a clue, where is Desert Valley Elementary School located?
A. Florida
B. Maine
C. Arizona
D. Oregon
22. Of the following landforms, which one historically has been the most often used site for human settlements?
A. coastal plains
B. flood plains
C. mountain valleys
D. piedmont regions

23. Cartographers (mapmakers) use picture symbols and colors to represent physical and human features on a map. What part of a map identifies these symbols?

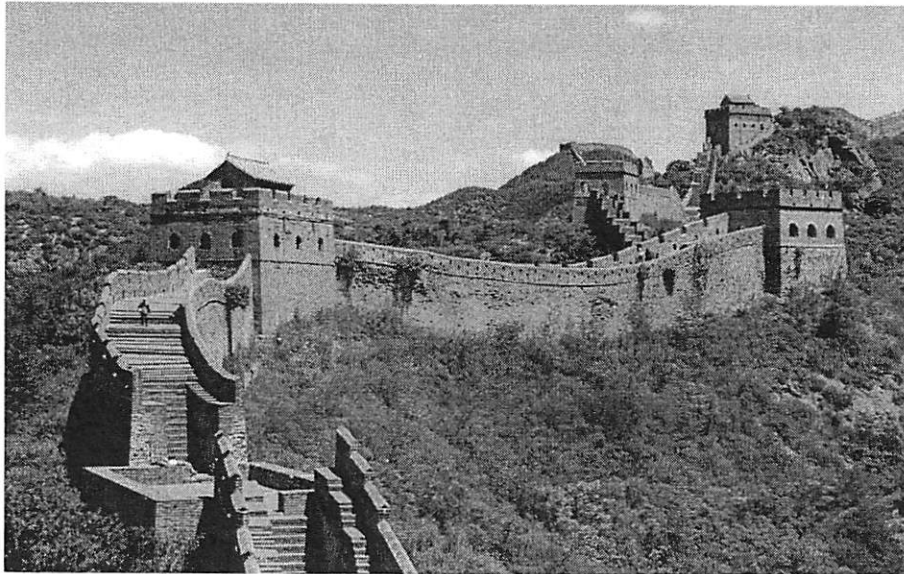
- A. scale
- B. compass rose
- C. distance markers
- D. legend

24. Which of the following has most affected the development of suburbs in the United States in the last 50 years?

- A. automobiles
- B. computers
- C. electricity
- D. rail transportation

25. The picture below shows the _____.

- A. Taj Mahal
- B. Great Wall of China
- C. Pyramids of Egypt
- D. Pueblos in Colorado



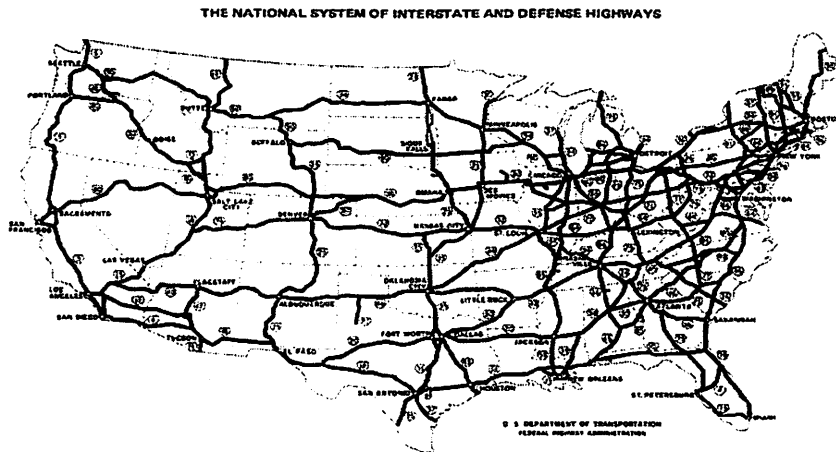
26. The Corn Belt in the United States is an example of an agricultural _____.

- A. state
- B. territory
- C. region
- D. landscape

27. Canyons such as the Grand Canyon in Arizona and Bryce Canyon in Utah are the result of what physical process?

- A. volcanic eruptions
- B. water erosion
- C. extremes in temperature
- D. global warming

28. What conclusion can be drawn about the distribution of the population in the United States by studying this map of the nation's interstate highway system?



- A. The population of the United States is evenly distributed.
B. Most people live within a few miles of the border with Mexico.
C. Since this is a road map, it is impossible to tell.
D. Most of the population lives east of the Mississippi River.
29. What are the most common forms of precipitation on earth?
A. rain and snow
B. summer and winter
C. fog and dew
D. weather and climate
30. Most of the world's water supply is _____.
A. fresh
B. polluted
C. non-recyclable.
D. salty
31. The theory of plate tectonics explains the reason for _____.
A. hurricanes
B. thunderstorms
C. earthquakes
D. tornados
32. Of which ocean system is the Gulf of Mexico a part?
A. Atlantic Ocean
B. Pacific Ocean
C. Arctic Ocean
D. Indian Ocean

33. On a globe, latitude is represented by _____.
- A. straight lines
B. circular lines
C. shaded spaces
D. dashes

34. In their study of weather, the sixth graders at Central School learned about symbols on weather maps. The symbol below was on the weather map their teacher gave them for New York City for July 1, 2002. What kind of weather was New York having that day?



- A. overcast and rainy
B. scattered showers
C. partly cloudy
D. thunderstorms
35. Study these clues to decide what country is being described.
- It borders the United States on its northern boundary.
 - English and French are its official languages.
 - Much of the western part of the country is mountainous.
 - Most people live in the southeastern part of the country
- A. Canada
B. Russia
C. Colombia
D. Mexico

36. Two years ago, the Morton family moved from Maryland's Chesapeake Bay area to St. Louis. Now they own a restaurant featuring the specialty food of their former home in eastern Maryland. What have they most likely named their new restaurant?

- A. The Yankee Steak House
B. The Crab Shack
C. The Lobster Pot
D. The Dutch Pancake Diner
37. Geographers identify the movement of people, ideas, products, and technology across the world as _____.
- A. globalization
B. trade
C. diffusion
D. specialization

Note: read the following paragraph to answer questions #38, #39, and #40.

Even though Christopher Columbus was born in Italy where he learned to be a skilled sailor, he moved to Portugal where he worked as a mapmaker and sea captain in search of better opportunities. He wanted to accomplish his dream of sailing west across the Atlantic Ocean to reach Asia. That is the reason he asked the king of Portugal for help to build and equip ships. The king turned him down because he did not believe there was a water route to the Far East. He was convinced that places such as India and China could only be reached by land. Undaunted, Columbus persuaded the king and queen of Spain to provide the money necessary for the trip. With their support, he left Spain in August 1492 with three ships and their crews to find a water passage to Asia. By mid-October, he sighted land and was convinced he had found Asia. Later explorers proved him wrong, but they did agree that Columbus had actually discovered two new continents unknown in Europe. Columbus died never realizing the real value of his accomplishment.

38. Where was Columbus born?

- A. Asia
- B. Spain
- C. Portugal
- D. Italy

39. The work of Columbus as a mapmaker convinced him there was a western passage to Asia across the Atlantic Ocean because Earth is a

- _____.
- A. sphere
 - B. flat surface
 - C. cone
 - D. planet

40. Which one of the following sentences best describes why Columbus is remembered?

- A. Columbus was a failed genius who misled the king and queen of Spain because he did not reach Asia as promised.
- B. Even though Columbus reached the Americas, he failed as an explorer because he was mistaken about the location of Asia.
- C. The journey of Columbus to the Americas brought change that affected the entire world.
- D. His success made it clear that the southern Europeans knew more about world geography than any other group.