Geography trivia questions and answers

50 questions in 5 rounds. The answer key is on the last page.

Round 1: Capitals

1. What is the capital of Australia?

A. Sydney
B. Melbourne
C. Brisbane
D. Canberra

2. What is the capital of Canada?

A. Toronto
B. Montreal
C. Vancouver
D. Ottawa

3. What is the capital of Brazil?

A. Rio de Janeiro
B. São Paulo
C. Brasília
D. Salvador

4. What is the capital of Turkey?

A. Istanbul
B. Izmir
C. Ankara
D. Bursa

5. What is the capital of Switzerland?

A. Bern
B. Zurich
C. Geneva
D. Basel

6. What is the capital of New Zealand?

A. Wellington
B. Auckland
C. Christchurch
D. Hamilton

7. What is the capital of Egypt?

A. Alexandria
B. Giza
C. Luxor
D. Cairo

8. What is the capital of Norway?

A. Bergen
B. Trondheim

C. Oslo
D. Stavanger

9. What is the capital of Japan?

A. Kyoto
B. Tokyo
C. Osaka
D. Nagoya

10. What is the capital of Kenya?

A. Mombasa
B. Kisumu
C. Nakuru
D. Nairobi

Round 2: Rivers and mountains

11. Which is the longest river in Europe?

A. Volga
B. Danube
C. Rhine
D. Dnieper

12. Which river flows through Paris?

A. Loire
B. Seine
C. Rhône
D. Garonne

13. Which mountain is the highest above sea level?

A. Mount Everest
B. K2
C. Kangchenjunga
D. Lhotse

14. Which mountain range runs along the border between France and Spain?

A. Alps
B. Apennines
C. Carpathians
D. Pyrenees

15. Which river flows through Baghdad?

A. Euphrates
B. Tigris
C. Nile
D. Jordan

16. What is the highest mountain in Africa?

A. Mount Kenya
B. Kilimanjaro
C. Toubkal
D. Mount Stanley

17. Which is the longest river in South America?

A. Orinoco
B. Amazon
C. Paraná
D. Magdalena

18. What is the highest mountain in North America?

A. Denali
B. Mount Logan
C. Mount Whitney
D. Mount Rainier

19. Which river flows through Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade?

A. Rhine
B. Elbe
C. Danube
D. Vistula

20. Which river forms the Victoria Falls on the border of Zambia and Zimbabwe?

A. Congo
B. Limpopo
C. Niger
D. Zambezi

Round 3: Countries and borders

21. Which country is the largest in the world by area?

A. Russia
B. Canada
C. China
D. United States

22. What is the smallest country in the world?

A. Monaco
B. Vatican City
C. San Marino
D. Liechtenstein

23. Which country is completely surrounded by South Africa?

A. Lesotho
B. Eswatini
C. Botswana
D. Namibia

24. Which two countries share the longest international land border?

A. Russia and Kazakhstan
B. Argentina and Chile
C. Canada and the United States
D. China and Mongolia

25. Which of these countries is landlocked?

A. Peru

B. Chile
C. Colombia
D. Bolivia

26. Which small country lies between France and Spain in the Pyrenees?

A. Monaco
B. Luxembourg
C. Liechtenstein
D. Andorra

27. In which country is the city of Timbuktu?

A. Niger
B. Chad
C. Mali
D. Mauritania

28. In which country is Machu Picchu?

A. Bolivia
B. Ecuador
C. Peru
D. Chile

29. Which country is shaped like a boot?

A. Italy
B. Greece
C. Portugal
D. Croatia

30. Which country does Greenland belong to?

A. Denmark
B. Norway
C. Iceland
D. Canada

Round 4: Oceans, seas and islands

31. Which is the largest ocean?

A. Atlantic Ocean
B. Pacific Ocean
C. Indian Ocean
D. Arctic Ocean

32. Which is the largest island in the world that is not a continent?

A. New Guinea
B. Borneo
C. Madagascar
D. Greenland

33. Which sea has a shore that is the lowest point on land?

A. Red Sea
B. Dead Sea
C. Caspian Sea

D. Black Sea

34. Which strait separates Spain from Morocco at the west end of the Mediterranean?

A. Strait of Gibraltar
B. Bosphorus
C. Dardanelles
D. Strait of Messina

35. Which island country has Reykjavik as its capital?

A. Iceland
B. Ireland
C. Finland
D. Norway

36. Which is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea?

A. Sicily
B. Sardinia
C. Cyprus
D. Crete

37. Which island group inspired Charles Darwin's studies of finches and tortoises?

A. Canary Islands
B. Azores
C. Galápagos Islands
D. Hawaiian Islands

38. Which is the deepest known ocean trench?

A. Tonga Trench
B. Java Trench
C. Mariana Trench
D. Puerto Rico Trench

39. Which is the smallest of the world's oceans?

A. Southern Ocean
B. Indian Ocean
C. Arctic Ocean
D. Atlantic Ocean

40. On which Hawaiian island is Honolulu?

A. Maui
B. Oahu
C. Kauai
D. Hawaii (Big Island)

Round 5: Landmarks and wonders

41. Which is the largest hot desert in the world?

A. Sahara
B. Arabian Desert
C. Gobi
D. Kalahari

42. In which country is the temple complex Angkor Wat?

A. Thailand
B. Cambodia
C. Vietnam
D. Laos

43. Which waterfalls lie on the border of Argentina and Brazil?

A. Angel Falls
B. Niagara Falls
C. Iguazu Falls
D. Victoria Falls

44. In which city is the Colosseum?

A. Athens
B. Rome
C. Naples
D. Florence

45. In which country is the rock-cut city of Petra?

A. Egypt
B. Jordan
C. Syria
D. Israel

46. Which lake is the deepest in the world?

A. Lake Superior
B. Lake Baikal
C. Lake Tanganyika
D. Lake Victoria

47. In which city is the Sagrada Família?

A. Madrid
B. Seville
C. Valencia
D. Barcelona

48. Which is the largest lake in Africa by area?

A. Lake Tanganyika
B. Lake Malawi
C. Lake Victoria
D. Lake Chad

49. Which canal links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans?

A. Suez Canal
B. Kiel Canal
C. Corinth Canal
D. Panama Canal

50. In which country is the Atacama Desert?

A. Namibia
B. Mongolia

C. Argentina
D. Chile

Answer key

Round 1: Capitals

1. D. Canberra (Canberra was chosen as a compromise between rivals Sydney and Melbourne.)
2. D. Ottawa (Ottawa sits on the border between Ontario and Quebec.)
3. C. Brasília (Brasília was inaugurated in 1960 and built from scratch.)
4. C. Ankara (Ankara became the capital in 1923, when the republic was founded.)
5. A. Bern (Zurich is the largest Swiss city, but Bern is the seat of government.)
6. A. Wellington (Auckland is the largest city, but Wellington is the capital.)
7. D. Cairo (Cairo lies on the Nile, close to the pyramids of Giza.)
8. C. Oslo (Oslo was called Christiania from 1624 until 1925.)
9. B. Tokyo (Kyoto was the imperial capital for over a thousand years.)
10. D. Nairobi (Mombasa is Kenya's main port.)

Round 2: Rivers and mountains

11. A. Volga (The Volga flows through Russia into the Caspian Sea.)
12. B. Seine (The Seine flows into the English Channel near Le Havre.)
13. A. Mount Everest (Everest is about 8,849 meters high and lies on the Nepal-China border.)
14. D. Pyrenees (The tiny country of Andorra lies inside the Pyrenees.)
15. B. Tigris (The Tigris and Euphrates frame ancient Mesopotamia.)
16. B. Kilimanjaro (Kilimanjaro is in Tanzania and is 5,895 meters high.)
17. B. Amazon (The Amazon carries more water than any other river.)
18. A. Denali (Denali in Alaska was once officially named Mount McKinley.)
19. C. Danube (The Danube flows through ten countries.)
20. D. Zambezi (Locals call the falls Mosi-oa-Tunya, the smoke that thunders.)

Round 3: Countries and borders

21. A. Russia (Russia spans 11 time zones.)
22. B. Vatican City (Vatican City covers about 0.44 square kilometers.)
23. A. Lesotho (All of Lesotho lies more than 1,000 meters above sea level.)
24. C. Canada and the United States (The border is about 8,900 kilometers long, counting Alaska.)
25. D. Bolivia (Bolivia lost its coast to Chile in the War of the Pacific, 1879 to 1884.)
26. D. Andorra (Its two heads of state are the French president and a Spanish bishop.)
27. C. Mali (Timbuktu is famous for its ancient manuscripts.)
28. C. Peru (The Inca citadel was built in the 15th century.)
29. A. Italy (The island of Sicily sits just off the toe.)
30. A. Denmark (Greenland governs itself but is part of the Kingdom of Denmark.)

Round 4: Oceans, seas and islands

31. B. Pacific Ocean (The Pacific covers about a third of the Earth's surface.)
32. D. Greenland (Greenland covers about 2.16 million square kilometers.)
33. B. Dead Sea (Its shore is about 430 meters below sea level.)
34. A. Strait of Gibraltar (It is only about 14 kilometers wide at its narrowest.)
35. A. Iceland (Reykjavik is the northernmost capital of a sovereign state.)
36. A. Sicily (Sardinia is the second largest.)
37. C. Galápagos Islands (The Galápagos Islands belong to Ecuador.)

38. C. Mariana Trench (Its deepest point, Challenger Deep, is about 10,900 meters down.)
39. C. Arctic Ocean (The Arctic Ocean is largely covered by sea ice.)
40. B. Oahu (Honolulu is the capital of the state of Hawaii.)

Round 5: Landmarks and wonders

41. A. Sahara (The Sahara is roughly the size of the United States.)
42. B. Cambodia (Angkor Wat is often called the largest religious monument in the world.)
43. C. Iguazu Falls (Paraguay is also close, at the point where three countries meet.)
44. B. Rome (It opened around the year 80 and held tens of thousands of spectators.)
45. B. Jordan (Petra is carved into rose-colored sandstone cliffs.)
46. B. Lake Baikal (Baikal in Russia holds about a fifth of the world's unfrozen fresh water.)
47. D. Barcelona (Construction began in 1882 and is still going on.)
48. C. Lake Victoria (Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania share its shores.)
49. D. Panama Canal (The Panama Canal opened in 1914.)
50. D. Chile (The Atacama is one of the driest places on Earth.)