

High School Geography Fundamentals

Geography · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which layer of the Earth's atmosphere contains the ozone layer that protects life from ultraviolet radiation?

- A) Troposphere
- B) Stratosphere**
- C) Mesosphere
- D) Thermosphere

2. What is the term for a wind system that reverses its direction seasonally, most notably affecting South Asia?

- A) Trade winds
- B) Jet stream
- C) Monsoon**
- D) Westerlies

3. Which of these countries has the longest coastline in the world?

- A) Canada**
- B) Russia
- C) Australia
- D) Indonesia

4. What is the primary cause of the Coriolis effect on Earth?

- A) The Earth's gravitational pull
- B) The Earth's rotation**
- C) The tilt of the Earth's axis
- D) Ocean currents

5. The Prime Meridian passes through which famous observatory near London?

- A) Royal Observatory, Greenwich**
- B) Mount Wilson Observatory
- C) Mauna Kea Observatory
- D) Yerkes Observatory

6. Which biome is characterized by low precipitation, extreme temperature fluctuations, and specialized vegetation like succulents?

- A) Tundra
- B) Taiga
- C) Desert**
- D) Savanna

7. What is the name of the process by which fertile land becomes desert, typically as a result of drought, deforestation, or inappropriate agriculture?

- A) Erosion
- B) Desertification**
- C) Urbanization
- D) Salinization

8. Which river is the longest in the world by total discharge volume?

- A) Nile
- B) Yangtze
- C) Amazon**
- D) Mississippi

9. What type of map projection preserves accurate shapes of landmasses but distorts size at high latitudes?

- A) Mercator**
- B) Gall-Peters
- C) Robinson
- D) Winkel Tripel

10. Which of the following is considered a 'push factor' in human migration?

- A) Better job opportunities
- B) Family reunification
- C) Political instability**
- D) Higher quality of education

11. What is the definition of a 'megacity'?

- A) A city with a population over 5 million
- B) A city with a population over 10 million**
- C) A city with a population over 20 million
- D) A city that is the capital of a nation

12. The San Andreas Fault is an example of which type of plate boundary?

- A) Convergent
- B) Divergent
- C) Transform**
- D) Subduction

13. Which mineral is the primary component of most continental crust?

- A) Basalt
- B) Granite**
- C) Limestone
- D) Obsidian

14. What does the 'demographic transition model' describe?

- A) Changes in birth and death rates over time**
- B) Migration patterns between urban centers
- C) The distribution of languages globally
- D) Economic growth stages of developing nations

15. Which latitude line marks the furthest point north where the sun can be directly overhead at noon?

- A) Arctic Circle
- B) Tropic of Capricorn
- C) Equator
- D) Tropic of Cancer**

16. What is the term for the total value of goods and services produced by a country in a year, divided by its population?

- A) GDP
- B) GNP
- C) GDP per capita**
- D) HDI

17. Which ocean contains the deepest point on Earth, the Challenger Deep?

- A) Atlantic Ocean
- B) Indian Ocean
- C) Arctic Ocean
- D) Pacific Ocean**

18. What is the term for a narrow strip of land with sea on either side, forming a link between two larger areas of land?

- A) Strait
- B) Isthmus**
- C) Peninsula
- D) Archipelago

19. In which mountain range is Mount Everest located?

- A) Andes
- B) Alps
- C) Himalayas**
- D) Rockies

20. What is the greenhouse gas most commonly associated with human-induced climate change?

- A) Nitrogen
- B) Oxygen
- C) Carbon Dioxide**
- D) Argon