

Moderator's note: this set features 20-point superpowers (bold text before (*)) and 15-point powers (text before ►). Some more-difficult tossups are 15 (in extreme cases, 20) points all the way through. There are no minus-fives.

1. This body of water is internally divided by regions of sills called the “Northern Quark” and “Southern Quark.” 17th-century botanist Elias Tillandz supposedly became so seasick while crossing this body of water that he journeyed hundreds of miles around its shores on foot to avoid the return crossing. Far northern parts of this body of water are known for low (*) salinity, which allows species like the freshwater mussel *Anodonta* to thrive. The ports of Tornio and ► Lulea lie on—for 10 points—what northern extension of the Baltic Sea that separates Sweden from Finland?

ANSWER: Gulf of Bothnia (prompt on “Baltic Sea” before “Aland”)

2. The endangered blowout penstemon is a plant endemic to this region. A 1904 act sponsored by congressman Moses Kinkaid expanded the terms of the Homestead Act to allow for free land grants in this region, whose early history was dominated by large cattle ranches. Counties in this region include those named for Civil War generals Phil Sheridan, Joe Hooker, and John Logan. The Nature Conservancy's Niobrara Valley Preserve protects part of this region. The connection between this region's near-surface groundwater and the (*) Oglalla Aquifer was cited by opponents of the Keystone XL pipeline, which would have been built across this region. For 15 points, name this arid region of western Nebraska.

ANSWER: Nebraska Sandhills

3. The “Black Pyramid” is a major obstacle on the upper slopes of this mountain. Collapsing seracs on this mountain's “Bottleneck” killed three members of a South Korean expedition that tried to reach its summit in 2008. Fredrik Ericsson died during a 2010 attempt to ski down this mountain. (*) Achille Compagnoni, who led the first successful expedition to climb this mountain, did so via the Abruzzi Spur. This mountain was once named after the ► British author of *The Birds of Assam*, but its usual modern designation is that used by the Great Trigonometric Survey. For 10 points, name this “Savage Mountain” in the Karakoram Range of northern Pakistan, the world's second-highest.

ANSWER: K2 (or Mount Godwin-Austen)

4. This park is the location of the Castle Mountain internment camp, which was used to confine Ukrainian immigrants during the First World War. The 2009 internet meme “Crasher Squirrel” used an image of a ground squirrel taken at this park's Lake Minnewanka. The snail *Physella johnsoni* is endemic to the hot springs near the base of Sulphur Mountain, which were the first protected area in what is now this park. Deltaform Mountain and Mount Tuzo are two of the summits that surround this park's Valley of the Ten Peaks, which was once inhabited by the (*) Stoney people. This park is the southern terminus of the Icefields Parkway, which connects it with ► Jasper National Park to the north. For 10 points, Lake Louise is located in what national park in the Canadian Rockies of Alberta?

ANSWER: Banff National Park

5. A book by Mark Mazower called this city the “City of Ghosts” and traced the history of its Sephardic Jewish community, which made up a majority of its population in the early 16th century. The 10th Irish Division was withdrawn from Gallipoli to be shipped to this city, whose use as a base for Allied forces in World War I led Georges Clemenceau to call its troops “the (*) gardeners” and Erich Ludendorff to refer to this city as a giant self-sustaining POW camp. This city, a center of trade on the Via ► Egnatia, was where Gothic troops under the Emperor Theodosius carried out a notorious 390 AD massacre. For 10 points, name this port on the

Thermaic Gulf, the second most populous city in Greece.

ANSWER: Thessaloniki (or Thessalonica or Salonika)

6. Part of this landform called the “Estero de Camaguan” is dominated by the palm tree *Copernicia tectorum*. A seasonally-flooded part of this landform known as the “gamelotales” is a monoculture of grass in genus *Paspalum*. A turtle called the “Arrau sideneck” and the long-nosed armadillo are typical animal species found in this region. Jose Antonio Paez, a general known as “the Centaur of [this region]” led its horsemen to victory at the Battle of (*) Boyaca, where they supported Simon Bolivar against the Spanish royalists. The Apure and Meta Rivers, tributaries that flow into the middle course of the ► Orinoco, drain this region. A Spanish word for the “plains” titles—for 10 points—what grassland area of northeastern Colombia and western Venezuela?

ANSWER: Llanos

7. The endpoint of this event is a landmark called the “burled arch.” Participants in this event are required to take an eight-hour break at the White Mountain checkpoint. Early landmarks on the course of this event include a desolate patch of fire-scarred spruce forest called the “Farewell Burn” and the ghost town of Ophir. In even-numbered years, this event uses a “northern route” through (*) Galena and Ruby; in odd-numbered years, it adopts a “southern route” through the town of Eagle Island. This event commemorates the actions of ► “Balto,” who brought serum against diphtheria to Nome in 1925. “Mushers” lead teams of huskies on—for 10 points—what annual sled dog race across the interior of Alaska?

ANSWER: the Iditarod

8. A song named after this city describes it as being 9,957 miles away from the location of the singer, Joe Robinson. In 1857 the "steerage passenger" John Askew wrote that "all the shops of any importance" in this city accepted payment in gold, which was mined nearby. Local and specialty foods are sold at the Central Market of this city, which also contains its country's National Wine Centre. Much of this city's drinking water is provided by a "Desalination Plant" that borders Gulf St. Vincent. A gallery celebrating the life of explorer Douglas Mawson, opalized fossils from Andamooka, and a collection of (*) Ediacaran fossils from the Flinders Ranges are all found at one of this city's museums. The name of this city honors the ► queen consort of Britain's King William IV. For 10 points, name this state capital, whose metropolitan area is home to over 75 percent of the residents of South Australia.

ANSWER: Adelaide

9. This country's most populous city was founded by settlers rescued from the ship *Elizia*. Louis Tardy, a bishop active in what is now this country, controversially preached that “the Free French are not French in either their origin or their hearts.” This country's deposits of manganese were exported using the COMILOG cableway system until this country was capable of financing a railroad to cross the Abanga swamps. High concentrations of ruthenium-99 and neodymium-143 around this country's (*) Oklo mine suggest that it was the site of a natural nuclear reactor where fission took place during the Precambrian. The Bateke people are a minority ethnic group of this country's southeastern savannahs, near the border with the ► Republic of the Congo. For 10 points, what country was once ruled by the Bateke strongman Omar Bongo?

ANSWER: Gabon (or Gabonese Republic)

10. According to these people's mythology, the first man was Puntan, whose decision to die resulted in his eyebrows turning into rainbows. Frenchman Charles le Gobien theorized about ethnic distinction among the “manachang” caste group of this people, who were responsible for constructing monuments known as the “latte stones.” A ruler named Mata'pang led resistance to the ceremony of baptism among these people, who were persecuted after they killed the Jesuit missionary Diego Luis de San Vitores. A Spanish word meaning (*) “bald” designates these people, whose initial contact with Europeans came in 1521, when members of Magellan's expedition called their home the “Island of ► Thieves.” For 10 points, name these indigenous people of

Rota, Saipan, Guam, and the rest of the Mariana Islands.

ANSWER: Chamorros (or Chamorro people)

Tiebreaker: This island is the only habitat of the one plant in genus *Dendrosicyos*, often called the “cucumber tree.” It's not in the Strait of Hormuz, but the Portuguese explorers Tristão da Cunha and Afonso de Albuquerque briefly captured and occupied this island in a 1507 attempt to cut off Muslim trade routes, before abandoning it due to the harsh (*) desert climate. This island's small medieval-era Christian population may have been converted by Thomas the Apostle while he was en route to India. Its most famous plant is an endemic, umbrella-shaped species of tree whose sap was believed to be the blood of dragons. This really weird-looking island, a biodiversity ► hotspot that is often compared to the Galapagos, lies southeast of the Gulf of Aden. For 10 points, name this isolated island in the Indian Ocean, owned by Yemen.

ANSWER: Socotra

1. For 10 points each, identify these notably rainy locations:

[10] In July 1861 alone, 366 inches of rain fell on this capital of the Sohra chieftainship in India's Meghalaya state. Many bridges in the area of this city are constructed from the living roots of *Ficus elastica* trees.

ANSWER: **Cherrapunji**

[10] The title of “rainiest place on earth” is sometimes disputed by Cherrapunji and Mount Waialeale, a volcanic crater on this Hawaiian island whose other landmarks include Waimea Canyon and the Na Pali coast.

ANSWER: **Kauai**

[10] China's rainiest place is this peak in Sichuan, one of China's Four Sacred Buddhist Mountains. Its “Golden Summit” is often surrounded by a “sea of clouds.”

ANSWER: **Emei** Shan (or Mount **Emei**)

2. A 2009 corruption scandal led the British government to impose direct rule on this island territory. For 10 points each:

[10] The island of Providenciales and the Mouchoir Bank are located in what British overseas territory southeast of the Bahamas?

ANSWER: **Turks and Caicos** Islands (prompt on partial answer)

[10] In 1974 the government of the Turks and Caicos proposed that the islands perform this action to improve their tourist economy. During World War I, Robert Borden proposed that this action be carried out on behalf of the Turks and Caicos.

ANSWER: **becoming part of Canada** (accept descriptive equivalents such as becoming **Canada**'s eleventh **province**, annexation of the Turks and Caicos by **Canada**, etc.)

[10] Henry Vassey, a politician representing this Atlantic island, also expressed interest in becoming part of Canada. Canadian troops helped defend its capital, Hamilton, during World War I.

ANSWER: **Bermuda**

3. A five-lobed one of these structures called “Fenu” was built out of basalt. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this type of Bronze Age megalithic monument, which may have been used as a fortress or as an observatory to view the solstice.

ANSWER: **nuraghe** (or **nuraghi** or **nuragic** civilization)

[10] The nuraghi were built on this Italian island, where the Campidanese and Logudorese languages are spoken.

ANSWER: **Sardinia** (or **Sardegna**)

[10] Many nuraghi are concentrated in the northwestern corner of Sardinia, adjacent to this strait that separates Sardinia from French Corsica.

ANSWER: Strait of **Bonifacio**

4. The city formerly known as “Villa Occidental” now has this characteristic, as a result of American intervention into a dispute over the 1876 Machain-Irigoyen Treaty. For 10 points each:

[10] Give this characteristic, also shared by the only department that borders both San Pedro and Boqueron.

ANSWER: places in Paraguay named after Rutherford B. **Hayes**

[10] The department of Presidente Hayes is part of this region, the subject of a 1930s war between Paraguay and Bolivia.

ANSWER: Gran **Chaco** (or **Chaco** Boreal)

[10] Hayes's settlement fixed the Paraguay-Argentina boundary in the Chaco as this river, whose name means “red river” in Quechua.

ANSWER: **Pilcomayo** River

5. For 10 points each, answer the following about the renaming of cities in the former Soviet Union:

[10] During the Soviet period, this city was known as “Tselinograd” in honor of the Virgin Lands campaign. In 1992 it became Akmola; its name was changed again in 1998 after it became the capital of Kazakhstan.

ANSWER: **Astana**

[10] In 1993 the Caspian port of Krasnovodsk received this new name, intended to glorify a leader who renamed the month of September after his own book, the *Ruhnama*.

ANSWER: **Turkmenbasy** (or **Turkmenbashi**)

[10] In 2015 Ukrainian-Russian conflict led city leaders of Dnipropetrovsk to officially adopt this name for the city.

ANSWER: **Dnipropetrovsk** [The intent was to officially recognize St. Peter rather than Bolshevik Grigory Petrovsky.]

6. For 10 points each, answer the following about museums in Mexico City:

[10] The Aztec Calendar Stone and a statue of the snake goddess Coatlicue are found at this museum, which has separate floors devoted to archaeology and ethnography.

ANSWER: National Museum of **Anthropology** (or Museo Nacional de **Antropología**; accept **Anthropology** Museum; prompt on "MNA")

[10] A museum housed within a former monastery on Izazaga [ee-ZAH-zah-gah] Street is named after this national sport of Mexico, whose participants may wear ornate suits while competing in events that resemble rodeos.

ANSWER: **charrería** [chah-ray-REE-ah] or **charreada** [chah-ray-AH-dah] (accept Museo de **Charrería** or **Charrería** Museum; accept **charros**)

[10] Peacocks and hairless dogs stroll the grounds of a Xochimilco [zoh-chee-MEEL-koh] museum named for this businesswoman, who was a patron of Diego Rivera, and posed nude for dozens of his sketches.

ANSWER: Dolores **Olmedo** Patiño (or María de los Dolores **Olmedo** y Patiño Suárez; accept Museo Dolores **Olmedo** or Dolores **Olmedo** Museum)

7. German scholar Gustav Deissmann discovered this object in the library of Topkapi palace. For 10 points each:

[10] The eastern coast of South America is charted on what 1513 map drawn on a piece of gazelle parchment?

ANSWER: **Piri Reis** map

[10] Piri Reis was an admiral in the service of this empire, for which he compiled the *Kitab-i Bahriye*, or Book of Navigation.

ANSWER: **Ottoman** empire (prompt on "Turkish empire")

[10] Numerous crackpot pseudohistorians have claimed that the southernmost part of the Piri Reis map accurately depicts this territory, Norway's wedge-shaped claim on the Antarctic continent.

ANSWER: **Queen Maud** Land (or **Dronning Maud** Land)

8. The "Hudhud" is a series of chants performed by women responsible for maintaining and repairing these structures. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this kind of structure, used to make agriculture possible in the steep mountains of the Ifugao province.

ANSWER: **terraces**

[10] The Ifugao terraces are located in the central cordilleras of this island, whose early history is known from the Laguna Copperplate inscription.

ANSWER: **Luzon**

[10] The Ifugao terraces of Luzon are primarily used to grow this crop, which is also grown on terraces at Honghe Hani in Yunnan.

ANSWER: **rice**

9. The southern border of this region is the "Maud Line," named for the Royal Engineer who began surveying it in 1902. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this "triangle" of disputed territory now claimed by the government of South Sudan.

ANSWER: **Ilemi** triangle

[10] The southeast corner of the Ilemi triangle touches this rift lake, named for the nomadic pastoralists who live in the area. Its eastern shore borders the fossil-rich ridge of Koobi Fora.

ANSWER: Lake **Turkana** (accept Lake **Rudolf**)

[10] The Ilemi triangle is now under the de facto control of this country, which shares Lake Turkana with Ethiopia to the north.

ANSWER: **Kenya**

10. In 1948 this award was given jointly to British secret agent Freddie Spencer Chapman and American botanist Mary Gibson Henry. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this medal awarded by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

ANSWER: Mungo **Park** Medal

[10] The 1950 Mungo Park Medal was awarded to this explorer, who later burned the reed boat *Tigris* as an anti-war protest.

ANSWER: Thor **Heyerdahl**

[10] The name of the medal honors Mungo Park, the Scottish-born traveler who drowned in this river's Bussa Rapids in 1806.

ANSWER: **Niger** River