

Geography Monstrosity 5: Maryland vs. the World

Round 1

Questions by Jacob Wasserman and Richard Yu

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 minuses.

1. One end of this structure lies between Lakes Bradford and Joyce near Chik's Beach; its other end falls between the mouth of Magothy Bay and (*) Kiptopeke State Park. This structure crosses the Thimble Shoal Channel and Fisherman Island to connect the area around Lynnhaven Inlet to Cape Charles in Northampton County. Construction of this structure was impeded by the 1962 Ash Wednesday Storm. This structure carries Route 13 from the ► Eastern Shore on the Delmarva Peninsula to the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Area, and its four artificial islands were needed to allow passage by ships from Norfolk Naval Base. For 10 points, name this structure near Virginia Beach that spans a certain bay, the world's longest combined bridge-and-tunnel water crossing.

ANSWER: Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel [or Lucius J. Kellam, Jr. Bridge-Tunnel; prompt on "Bay Bridge-Tunnel"; do NOT accept or prompt on "Chesapeake Bay Bridge" or "Bay Bridge"]

2. The safest route through one part of this area runs along the stone banks of a stream compared by one traveler to the spring Bulicame; that stream then goes over this region's largest known waterfall. Another stream in this region lies before a seven-walled castle said to have housed Saladin. One of ten bridges in this region was destroyed in a 33 CE earthquake. (*) Antenora and Ptolomea are two subdivisions of the center of this area. Ringed by a bubbling marsh, the walls of the City of Dis encircle the middle of this location, entered via a ► "dark wood," home of the valley-filled region Malebolge. The frozen Cocytus is at the bottom of this conical, subterranean realm, home of a three-headed demon described by the guide Virgil. "Abandon all hope, ye who enter here" marks the gate of, for 10 points, what location that names the first 33 cantos of the *Divine Comedy*, in whose nine circles Dante visits condemned souls?

ANSWER: Dante's Inferno [or Hell; accept "the Third Ring of the Seventh Circle of Hell," "the Plains of Fire of the Seventh Circle of Hell," or equivalents until "seven-walled" and prompt for a less specific answer afterwards; prompt for a less specific answer on "City of Dis" until mentioned; prompt for a less specific answer on "ante-Hell," "the First Circle of Hell," "Limbo," "the Sixth Circle of Hell," "the Eighth Circle of Hell," "the Ninth Circle of Hell," or equivalents]

3. One neighborhood of a city on the shore of this body of water is Branes. The Camarinal Sill emerges on the floor of this body of water, which includes Bolonia Bay. The Cape Malabata Lighthouse overlooks this body of water, in which lies the disputed Perejil Island. It sits at the western edge of the (*) Alboran Sea, stretching from Point Cires to Cape Spartel. Across from each other on its shores lie El Lentiscal and Ksar es-Seghir. Along a bay that shares this waterway's name lies the port of Algeciras. Located between Tarifa and ► Ceuta, it bisects the Pillars of Hercules and separates the Rif from Andalusia. Flowing between Cape Trafalgar and Tangier and lying south of the Iberian Peninsula, this is, for 10 points, what outlet of the Mediterranean Sea, a strait between Morocco and Spain?

ANSWER: Strait of Gibraltar [or Estrecho de Gibraltar; or Madhik Jebel Tariq]

4. This city's sculpture the Tetra Mound lies near Moere Marsh, and in this city, home of a concert hall nicknamed "Kitara," lies the amusement park Satoland. Otaru is a port that serves this city, and Odori Park runs along a boulevard in its downtown. The (*) Nippon-Ham Fighters play in this city's namesake "Dome" baseball stadium. Since 1950, this city's Snow Festival has seen the creation of massive snow sculptures. This city on the Toyohira River is the largest on the Ishikari Plain. About 100 miles north of Hakodate, this host of the 1972 Winter Olympics is the capital of an ► island home to the Ainu people. For 10

points, what northern Japanese city is the capital of Hokkaido?

ANSWER: City of Sapporo [or Sapporo-shi]

5. In the town of Bassar in this country, kings are buried near the House of the Dead. Mina-Gen is spoken in the south of this country, while the term “terre de barre” describes an iron-rich region in its north. In this country, Dapaong lies north of the Oti River, and the Mono River’s valley makes up much of its Plateaux and Centrale Regions. Living in the area surrounding cities like Aného, the Ewe [“you-AY”] are its largest ethnic group. Islam is the dominant religion in Sokodé, the second-largest city in this former (*) German, then French, colony. Its border with Burkina Faso is both countries’ shortest, well north of its coastline, the ► shortest of any mainland country on the Gulf of Guinea. For 10 points, name this narrow West African country whose capital is Lomé, situated between Ghana and Benin.

ANSWER: Togo [or Togolese Republic; or République Togolaise]

6. The only survivors of the Brusilov Expedition made it to Cape Flora in this place, a journey recounted by Valerian Albanov in his book *In the Land of White Death*. This place was visited by a ship named for Admiral Tegetthoff, and captained by Julius von Payer and Karl Weyprecht. Jackson Island in this archipelago was used as a refuge in 1896 by (*) Fridtjof Nansen. Zemlya Zichy is one of its major island groups. After Ellesmere Island and Greenland, it is the closest landmass to the North Pole. It lies east of ► Svalbard and north of Novaya Zemlya. For 10 points, name this archipelago discovered by the Austro-Hungarian North Pole Expedition.

ANSWER: Franz Josef Land

7. The “string” kind of this landform, which is found at Salym-Yugan, contains a form of patterned vegetation. More common types include “raised” and “valley.” Much of the water in these regions is colored by tannins, and is acidic. (*) Muskeg is the Cree term used for an extensive region of this terrain around Hudson Bay, and it is most prevalent in western Siberia. Sphagnum moss characterizes this terrain that is differentiated from alkaline ► fens because they receive water entirely from rainfall. For 10 points, name this wetland terrain consisting of peat.

ANSWER: bog [accept muskeg before read; accept peatland before read; prompt on “mire” or “quagmire” before read; prompt on “wetlands” or “moors” or similar answers]

8. One of this city’s distinctive dishes is *ajiaco*, a thick potato soup. This city is said to have been founded at El Chorro de Quevedo, in its La Candelaria district. A nearby plateau region is called this city’s “savannah,” and is crossed by its namesake river. That plateau lies on the Altiplano (*) Cundiboyacense, a larger highland region in the Eastern Cordillera. This city’s historic center includes ► Bolivar Square, site of events like the Palace of Justice Siege and a series of riots resulting from Jorge Gaitan’s assassination. For 10 points, La Violencia began in what capital of Colombia?

ANSWER: Bogota [or Santa Fe de Bogota]

9. These places are traditionally surrounded by brushwood fences, and may be entered by a “visiting road.” Visitors to these places may use wooden dippers to wash themselves with water from stone basins. Their most common architectural style for these includes a parabolic gabled roof, and is called the “flowing style.” The most famous one, home to the (*) Sacred Mirror, dates back to the *kofun* era and is rebuilt every 20 years. Mount Nantai and Mount ► Fuji are notable *shintai*, or repositories for *kami* in these places. For 10 points, name these places of worship in traditional Japanese religion.

ANSWER: jinja [or Shinto shrines; or Shinto temples]

10. One location of this type contains sections named Inner Mongolia and Outer Mongolia, in addition to a site vandalized by the Environmental Liberation Front who committed arson here in 1998. Another location of this type, in (*) Cavalese, Italy was the site of a 1998 incident in which 20 people were killed by a U.S. Marine Corps aircraft. Locations of this sort in New Jersey include one that used to be home to the waterslide complex known as Action Park and Bergen County's Campgaw in the Ramapos. More famous ones include Tignes and Val d'Isere in France and ► Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Germany. For 10 points, name these locations such as Jackson Hole and Vail where people engage in a certain winter sport.

ANSWER: ski areas [accept equivalents such as ski resorts that convey "where people go skiing"]

1. This current state lost territory to Pennsylvania in the Pennamite Wars. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this Northeastern state which, in other territorial disputes, lost the western shore of Narragansett Bay to Rhode Island and barely kept the cities of its western panhandle, Greenwich and Stamford.

ANSWER: State of Connecticut

[10] Connecticut's bad luck continued when it lost "the Oblong," a wedge-shaped area located in this Appalachian range. These mountains, now mostly in southern New York, lie parallel to the Berkshires and Green Mountains.

ANSWER: Taconic Mountains [or Taconic Range; or Taconics]

[10] This indent in Connecticut's northern border was lost to Massachusetts in yet another territorial dispute. It is alternately named for the town it encloses or the lakes along whose shores it runs.

ANSWER: Southwick Jog [or Congamond Notch]

2. Men under Commander Edén Pastora entered this country in a 2010 dredging operation. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this demilitarized Central American country, which, in the aforementioned incident, was invaded by its northern neighbor, Nicaragua, allegedly due to the misplacement of its northern border on Google Maps.

ANSWER: Republic of Costa Rica [or República de Costa Rica]

[10] Google Maps had misplaced the border, which should have been on the south bank on this river. This river drains Lake Nicaragua and flows through the city of San Carlos on its way to the Caribbean.

ANSWER: San Juan River [or Río San Juan]

[10] The dispute occurred just north of this island in the delta of the San Juan River. Located between Isla Portillos and Isla Brava, this largest island in Costa Rica can be visited via a nature reserve lodge at Barra del Colorado.

ANSWER: Isla Calero [or Calero Island]

3. "The Day of Two Noons" marked their imposition in the U.S. by railroad companies. For 10 points each:

[10] Name these divisions of the Earth, offset by a given number of hours from GMT. Clocks are set the same within each of them, though skewed by daylight saving. The continental U.S. has four: Eastern, Central, Mountain, and Pacific.

ANSWER: time zones

[10] After President Teburoro Tito ["SEE-toh"] had the International Date Line moved, this Pacific country with capital Tarawa became home to the world's earliest time zone, 14 hours ahead of GMT.

ANSWER: Republic of Kiribati ["KEER-i-bas"]

[10] Around Eucla and Madura in this country is an unofficial timezone offset by 45 minutes from a neighboring state. In another irregularity, Broken Hill in its Yancowinna County unofficially follows its Central Standard Time.

ANSWER: Commonwealth of Australia

4. Cities in this region include Vannes and Rennes. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this peninsula, a historically Celtic region of northwestern France. It juts out between the Bay of Biscay and the English Channel.

ANSWER: Brittany Peninsula [or Region of Brittany; or Breton Peninsula; or Péninsule Bretonne; or Région Bretagne; or Ledenez Breizh; or Rannvro Breizh]

[10] This westernmost major city of France sits at the tip of Brittany. This port, home of France's naval academy,

is the most populous city in western Brittany.

ANSWER: City of **Brest** [or Ville de **Brest**; or Kumun **Brest**]

[10] Though Brest is the most populous city in Brittany's Finistère Department, this town is Finistère's capital. This town south of Brest is known for its faience earthenware.

ANSWER: Commune of **Quimper** [or Ville de **Quimper**; or Commune de **Quimper**; or Kêr **Kemper**; or Kumun **Kemper**]

5. For 10 points each, name these places near waterways named "the Red River."

[10] One Red River, along with the Prairie Dog Town Fork, serves as the border between Texas and this panhandle state to its north.

ANSWER: State of **Oklahoma**

[10] The Red River of the North meets the Red Lake River opposite this flood-prone home of the University of North Dakota. This city lies between Fargo and Winnipeg on the Red River.

ANSWER: City of **Grand Forks**, North Dakota

[10] The Red River also names a tributary of this Wisconsin River, which flows through Shawano and Winneconne. It joins the Fox River above Oshkosh to feed Lake Winnebago.

ANSWER: **Wolf** River

6. For 10 points each, give the following about the geography of the 2013 northern Mali conflict:

[10] The conflict began as a rebellion by this nomadic ethnic group, who live in Niger and northern Burkina Faso as well as Mali.

ANSWER: **Tuareg** people

[10] The MLNA pushed for the creation of this state, whose name is believed to come from the Berber for "land of transhumance." Its president would be Bilal Ag Acherif.

ANSWER: **Azawad**

[10] This city was the target of the French Operation Serval. It is the provisional capital of Azawad.

ANSWER: **Gao**

7. Sometimes, sports teams don't play within the boundaries of the cities they claim to represent. For 10 points each:

[10] Ralph Wilson Stadium is in Orchard Park, a suburb of this city, whose NHL team plays within city limits at the First Niagara Center.

ANSWER: **Buffalo**, New York

[10] The Capitals, Wizards, and Redskins all at one point played in this city outside Washington, DC. Only the Redskins remain, playing at FedEx Field.

ANSWER: **Landover**, Maryland [prompt on "Raljon"]

[10] The LA Galaxy MLS squad plays its home games south of Los Angeles proper at the Home Depot Center in this municipality, also the site of Cal State University-Dominguez Hills.

ANSWER: **Carson**, California

8. For 10 points each, name these Iberian rivers:

[10] This river is seen in El Greco's *View of Toledo*. It flows across central Spain before heading west into Portugal.

ANSWER: **Tagus** River [or **Tejo** River]

[10] This small tributary of the Jarama River, which flows into the Tagus, flows through Monte Del Pardo as it enters Madrid.

ANSWER: **Manzanares** River

[10] This southern Spanish river empties into the Gulf of Cadiz, but not before flowing past Cordoba. It is the second-longest river entirely within Spain.

ANSWER: **Guadalquivir** River.

9. For 10 points each, answer the following about the lack of county government:

[10] This southern state's cities, such as Harrisonburg, Danville, and Petersburg, are independent from counties

entirely. Its counties include Henrico and New Kent.

ANSWER: **Virginia**

[10] Different from independent cities are consolidated city-counties, where the government of a large city is combined with that of its county, often greatly expanding its city limits. One such consolidation of this city with Duvall County created the largest city by land area in the continental United States.

ANSWER: **Jacksonville, Florida**

[10] Two states lack counties entirely. Louisiana is divided into parishes, while Alaska is divided into these units. A large area of central Alaska is known as the Unorganized one of these.

ANSWER: **borough**

10. For 10 points each, now name these counties that still, just barely, exist:

[10] The San Andreas fault continues to rip in half this California county, the western terminus of the San Rafael Bridge.

ANSWER: **Marin** County

[10] This is Maine's northernmost county, unless perhaps you are a Canadian determined that the Webster-Ashburton Treaty didn't actually settle a certain 1830s quasiwar.

ANSWER: **Aroostook** County

[10] Libertarians from something called the "Free Town Project" tried to take over this Texas county, whose 82 people make it the least populous in the U.S.

ANSWER: **Loving** County