

Geography Monstrosity 5: Maryland vs. the World

Round 3

Questions by Nicholas Karas, Sameer Rai, David Madden, et al.

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. This state is home to Orleans, Essex and Caledonia counties which collectively form an area called the Northeast Kingdom. The Bicknell's Thrush breeds at the top of Stratton Mountain in this state, and this state's lone venomous reptile, the Eastern Timber Rattlesnake, is confined to a few acres near (*) Rutland. This state was devastated by flooding in Hurricane Irene, which washed out a number of covered bridges here. This state has the least populous largest city and state capital of any state, though those two cities are different cities. During the Civil War, Confederates attacked this state's town of ► St. Albans, the northernmost land action of the war. For 10 points, name this state, ranked 49th in population, whose largest city was once led by Bernie Sanders, now a senator from this New England state.

ANSWER: Vermont

2. Two of this river's tributaries are the Lukarara and the Ruvironza. Kyaka, this river's only port, is served by shallow-draft cargo steamers. Rusumo Falls is a waterfall located on this river, the site of the Belgian entrance to a neighboring country during World War I. In a span of 24 hours in 1994, the "largest and fastest refugee exodus in modern times" occurred over this largely unnavigable river, as refugees fled from a genocide carried out by the interahamwe. For 20 points, name this largest tributary of Lake Victoria, a southeastern source of the Nile that flows from Burundi to Uganda.

ANSWER: Kagera River

3. Commuters can take this city's People Mover bus system to the suburbs of Eagle River and Birchwood. The Conoco-Philips Building, completed in 1983, is the tallest in this city. Flattop Mountain is located just east of this city, in (*) Chugach State Park. In terms of geographic area, this city is larger than the state of Rhode Island. Its international airport is named for ► Ted Stevens; Stevens was succeeded in the Senate by Mark Begich, this city's former mayor. This city, located northwest of Prince William Sound and south of Mount McKinley, was 75 miles from the epicenter of the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake. For 10 points, name this most populous city in Alaska.

ANSWER: Anchorage

4. Cerro Tacarcuna is the tallest peak in this region home to Los Katios National Park. Before being wiped out in the 1500s, the Cueva people called this region home, while the Kuna and Embera-Wounaan people currently reside here. One expedition through this area crossed the Atrato Swamp from the south. Tom Hart Dyke and Paul Winder were captured in this region in 2000 while hunting for rare orchids. La Palma is the largest city and cultural hub of, (*) for 15 points, what region of swampland and forest that separates Panama from Colombia and is a noted break in the Pan-American Highway?

ANSWER: Darien Gap

5. In 2011, the Women's World Chess Championship match between Hou Yifan and Koneru Humpy was held in this nation. The 1997 Operation Libelle in this nation was the first time that German soldiers fired in combat since World War II. That event was a result of a rebel takeover in this country after a failed series of (*) Ponzi schemes resulted in the country descending into anarchy. A ruler of this nation abolished

Islamic law in 1929 and adopted a civil code modeled on that of Switzerland. In 1967, this nation's ► communist government proclaimed it the world's first atheist state. For 10 points, Enver Hoxha formerly ruled what southeast European nation across the Strait of Otranto from Italy?

ANSWER: Albania

6. This city's landmark of Aggmeda Khyang is a Buddhist sanctuary built on a group of round wooden columns. Muhammad Yunus proposed this city as the site of a “deep-sea mega-port.” Its local name is “Panowa,” but its usual English name commemorates a British East India Company officer sent to deal with a refugee crisis on the Arakan border. Located 150 kilometers south of Chittagong and home to the world's longest natural sandy beach, this is, for 20 points, what fishing port in Bangladesh situated on the Bay of Bengal?

ANSWER: Cox's Bazar

7. The Italian battleships *Vittorio Veneto* and *Littorio* were interned in this body of water during World War II. Located north of this body of water are Lake Manzala and Lake Timsah. Fifteen ships known as the Yellow Fleet were trapped in this lake until 1975 as a result of a war that started eight years before. This hypersaline lake blocked the lessepsian migration of species for many decades, preventing the colonization of (*) Red Sea flora and fauna in the Mediterranean. Franklin Roosevelt met with Saudi King Aziz aboard the USS *Quincy* in 1945 in this lake. For 15 points, name this lake located within the Suez Canal. Drinking from it is not recommended!

ANSWER: Great Bitter Lake [prompt on “Suez Canal” before “this lake”]

8. This place was the capital of the Yuuhzhan Vong Empire. The Undercity on this object includes the districts of Sah'c Town, The Works, CoCo Town, and the Factory District. This body is located at the intersection of the Perlemian Trade Route, Metellos Trade Route, and the Leisure Corridor. Zam Wesell attempted to assassinate a prominent politician before being killed at the Outlander Club in the (*) Galactic City on this planet. A battle on the *Invisible Hand* above this planet led to ► Obi-Wan and Anakin freeing Chancellor Palpatine. For 10 points, name this *Star Wars* planet with galactic coordinates (0,0,0) [read as: zero, zero, zero] that is home to the Senate Building and Jedi Temple.

ANSWER: Coruscant [accept Galactic City until “body” in the second line, then proclaim loudly “Stop reading Wookieepedia!”]

9. This city's Cataract Gorge is home to the world's longest single-span chairlift. One part of this city's Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery is located at the Inveresk Cultural Precinct, while the other is located at Royal Park. In 1929 this city's suburb of Invermay was devastated by flooding. This city is located where the North and South Esk Rivers converge into the Tamar River. Located 45 kilometers south of the Bass Strait, this is, for 20 points, what second most populous city on Tasmania that was the first Australian city to be powered by hydroelectricity?

ANSWER: Launceston

10. A plateau east of this city was said to grow after dusk to deter night attacks from enemies, causing it to be known as the “mountain of the night.” This city's Cathedral of Our Lady of Victories is located along its nation's first paved road, Kingsway. This city contains its nation's only ski resort, (*) Afri-Ski, which is located in the Maluti Mountains, and it is connected to the town of Marseilles in a neighboring country by rail through its namesake “branch line.” Mazenod is a town close to this city, which lies on the Caledon River. This city's main airport is named after its country's greatest king, ► Moshoeshoe I. For 10 points, name this capital

of Lesotho.

ANSWER: **Maseru**

1. For 10 points each, name these Canadian islands:

[10] The Pacific Rim National Park is located on this island, whose mountains, such as the Golden Hinde, were once populated by a now-endangered endemic marmot.

ANSWER: **Vancouver** Island

[10] Elizabethan privateer Martin Frobisher found worthless iron pyrite on this island in Nunavut, the world's fifth largest..

ANSWER: **Baffin** Island

[10] Eocene period fossil forests are found on this island in the Queen Elizabeth group, named for a Norwegian brewing magnate.

ANSWER: **Axel Heiberg** Island

2. For 10 points each, name these cities in Bulgaria:

[10] Bulgarian navy headquarters is located in this Black Sea resort, the site of a 1444 battle featuring the poor decision-making of Wladyslaw III of Poland.

ANSWER: **Varna**

[10] The Neolithic Dwellings Museum in this city is home to two houses built during the 6th millennium BCE. 14,000 people were massacred in this city in 1877 after an invasion by the Turkish army.

ANSWER: **Stara Zagora**

[10] The Ivan Vazov National Theatre is located in this city next to Mount Vitosha, Bulgaria's current capital.

ANSWER: **Sofia**

3. Mike Batty was the 2013 recipient of this award. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this award, sometimes described as the Nobel Prize for Geography.

ANSWER: Lauréat Prix International de Géographie **Vautrin Lud**

[10] The prize is named after 16th century French scholar Vautrin Lud, who popularized this Italian's journeys to the New World.

ANSWER: Amerigo **Vespucci**

[10] The 1995 prize was won by this Marxist geographer, whose contributions to the field include taking over the most recent “can geography be a real social science?” thread on hsqb.

ANSWER: David **Harvey**

4. It is located in Clearwater County, Minnesota. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this lake, whose name comes from the Latin words meaning “true” and “head.”

ANSWER: Lake **Itasca**

[10] Itasca is considered the source of this river that flows past Cairo and Port Hudson.

ANSWER: **Mississippi** River

[10] This explorer and anthropologist decided that “Itasca” was a better name for a lake than the local Ojibwe version, *O mashkoozo-zaaga'igan*.

ANSWER: Henry Rowe **Schoolcraft**

5. For 10 points each, give the following about human settlement patterns:

[10] Due to the increased use of cars in the early 20th century, this form of housing development became popular in Britain. This type of development involves constructing homes along routes of communications radiating from a human settlement.

ANSWER: **Ribbon** development

[10] This type of land designation took over after the popularity of Ribbon development faded. This policy is used to designate undeveloped land surrounding neighboring urban areas.

ANSWER: **Green Belt**

[10] German geographer Walter Christaller created this theory, in which he concluded that human settlements form in a triangular/hexagonal lattice. This theory states that the title location provides services to the surrounding area.

ANSWER: **Central Place** Theory

6. The Upper Sure National Park is part of this country's share of the Ardennes Forest. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this Grand Duchy that borders Belgium and France.

ANSWER: **Luxembourg**

[10] This river, known for its fine wine, crosses Luxembourg before it meets the Rhine at Koblenz in Germany.

ANSWER: **Moselle** River

[10] Luxembourg is traditionally divided into two regions: the rugged “Oesling” of the northern forests, and this gentler low-lying region of the south.

ANSWER the **Gutland**

7. For 10 points each, give the following about the geography of the Amazon:

[10] Leticia is this country's only major port on the Amazon. In a 1934 border incident, Peru tried to prevent it from having access to the river.

ANSWER: **Colombia**

[10] The Amazon's delta contains this gigantic island. A species of short-tailed opossum is named for it.

ANSWER: **Marajo**

[10] The Amazon got its name during a voyage by this misdirected Spanish conquistador, whose mutinous troops ignored Gonzalo Pizarro's instructions to continue searching the rainforest for evidence of El Dorado.

ANSWER: Francisco de **Orellana**

8. Nikolai Przewalski died at Karakol on the shore of this lake. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this endorheic lake, whose waters may flow underground into the basin of the Chu River.

ANSWER: Lake **Issyk Kul** [or **Issyk-Kol**]

[10] Issyk Kul is located in the eastern mountains of this country beloved by users of sporcle.com. Its capital is Bishkek.

ANSWER: **Kyrgyzstan**

[10] Northwest of Bishkek is this U.S. Air Force transit base, which takes its name from Kyrgyzstan's national

epic.

ANSWER: **Manas**

9. It received its current name after it was discovered to be higher than Hyndman Peak.

[10] Identify this mountain, named for an isolationist senator who hated the League of Nations.

ANSWER: **Borah** Peak

[10] Borah Peak is the highest in this U.S. state whose northeastern border is formed by the Bitterroot Range.

ANSWER: **Idaho**

[10] Borah Peak is part of this range. The Double Springs Pass crosses this range, which stretches from the Salmon to the Snake River valley.

ANSWER: **Lost River** Range

10. Places to stay on this route include Bus Stop Shelter and Pompolona Lodge. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this “track” that runs north from Lake Te Anau.

ANSWER: **Milford** Track

[10] The Milford Track is located on this island, whose peaks include Mount Cook.

ANSWER: **South** Island [of New Zealand]

[10] The track crosses Mackinnon Pass through this New Zealand national park, named for the type of landform that includes Dusky Sound, Doubtful Sound, and Preservation Inlet.

ANSWER: **Fiordland** National Park