

Geography Monstrosity 5: Maryland vs. the World

Round 4

Questions by Jeff Hoppes, Larissa Kelly, and Raynell Cooper

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 body of water is jugged into by Cape Froward on the Brunswick Peninsula, which features a large metallic cross. Fuerte Bulnes was an establishment along this body of water, which connects to the Smyth Channel and is near the home of the Kaweskar people. A 16th-century attempt to settle near this body of water ended when all of the settlers either starved or froze to death; English captain Thomas Cavendish, who found the remains of the colony, called the site “Port Famine.” The (*) Magdalena Channel is at this strait’s western entrance. This strait’s ► namesake, who was killed on Cebu in the Philippines, did not know of the nearby Beagle Channel or Drake Passage. For 10 points, name this Chilean waterway that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

ANSWER: Straits of Magellan [or Magellanic Strait or Estrecho de Magallanes]

2. Summits in this range include Fire Scale Mountain, Old Rag Mountain, and the Peaks of Otter. The Grenville orogeny produced this mountain range, which is largely composed of charnockites. This range forms the eastern side of the (*) Luray Valley, which lies between it and the Massanutten Mountains. The Furnace Hills are a northeastern extension of this range, whose terminus is usually taken to be South Mountain in Adams County, Pennsylvania. Swift Run Gap and Rockfish Gap cross this range, much of which is preserved in ► Shenandoah National Park. For 10 points, a Virginia parkway provides scenic access to what Appalachian sub-range named for the color of haze on its distant crest line?

ANSWER: Blue Ridge [prompt on “Appalachians” before “Luray”]

3. This body of water is home to Fort Ives and its upper portion is known as the Bedford Basin. Its Narrows is crossed by the MacKay and Macdonald Bridges, connecting its namesake city to Dartmouth. This body of water is home to children’s television character Theodore Tugboat and was the site of one of the collision of the SS *Imo* and the SS (*) *Mont-Blanc* during World War I, which caused an explosion that killed nearly 2,000 people in what is believed to be the largest accidental explosion in history. ► For 10 points, name this Canadian harbor in Nova Scotia’s largest city.

ANSWER: Halifax Harbor

4. Thomas Cole's painting *View from Mount Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm* is better known by the name of this kind of landform, which appears at right-center. One of these called “Reelfoot” was created in west Tennessee by the action of the New Madrid earthquake. One called “Providence” was the subject of a scheme by Ulysses S. Grant's engineers to bypass the fortress of Vicksburg. A (*) “billabong” is the Australian term for this kind of landform, which appears in the title of a novel about a ► lynch mob by Walter Van Tilburg Clark. For 10 points, identify this kind of lake, formed when a meander is cut off from the main course of a river.

ANSWER: oxbow lake [prompt on “lake”; accept The Ox-Bow Incident]

5. “The Boy who Waterskied to Forever” and “What Came Ashore at Lirios” are two of the “Tales of” this region in a short story collection by James Tiptree, Jr. This territory's town of Chan Santa Cruz, a center of resistance during the Caste War, was renamed to honor a man called the “red dragon with eyes of

jade,” Felipe Carillo Puerto. It was named for a patriot who assisted Jose Maria Morelos in drafting the Constitution of Apatzingan. Chetumal is the capital of this state, whose southern border adjoins Belize. In 1974, this territory became the 30th of Mexico's states. For 20 points, Cancun is located in what Caribbean coastal state of Mexico, south and east of the state of Yucatan?

ANSWER: Quintana Roo

6. The Russian oil tanker Volgoneft-248 broke in half during a storm in this body of water, causing a major 1999 oil spill. Another vessel that sank in this body of water was the Australian submarine AE2, which was scuttled near Kara Burnu Point. The (*) Granicus River flows into this body of water, one of whose islands, Buyukkada, served for four years as a place of exile for Leon Trotsky. In ancient times, it was known as the Propontis; its present name derives from another island, which was used as a quarry for white marble. Water flows into this sea from the Bosphorus and out through the Dardanelles into the Aegean. For 10 points, name this inland sea in Turkey. ►

ANSWER: Sea of Marmara

7. These were created by removing iron oxide pebbles to expose a wind-resistant layer of lime. One crackpot theory of these structures holds that they were gigantic looms used to create textile patterns like those of the nearby Paracas culture. German archaeologist Maria Reiche worked to preserve these features, which were endangered by the building of the Pan-American highway. (*) Airplanes are the best way to view these features, a fact which has caused noted crank Erich von Daniken to postulate that they were actually the runways of ancient spacefaring aliens. A monkey with a spiral tail is one example of these, but of greater interest to this tournament's editor are the so-called “Pelican,” “Heron,” and “Condor.” ► For 10 points, name this set of ancient glyphs that stretch for miles across arid regions of southern Peru.

ANSWER: Nazca lines

8. This region's Fort Selkirk was a trading post attacked by Chilkats. Nelruna is the native name for a young volcano in this location that has the creative name of Volcano Mountain. The Signpost Forest can be found in this region's town of (*) Watson Lake. Ibex Valley is located in this territory, which is connected by the Dempster Highway to the city of Inuvik. ► Dawson City was a boomtown founded in this region, which is also the location of Mount Logan. This territory's population skyrocketed with the Klondike gold rush. For 10 points, name this territory of Canada, which shares its name with a river that flows through its western neighbor Alaska, and has its capital at Whitehorse.

ANSWER: Yukon Territory

9. This region's ports include Lemonwood and Planky Town, both of which lie near the mouth of the Greenblood river. Grey Gallows island, which is part of the Stepstones archipelago, lies to the east of this region. The Red Mountains of this region can be crossed through the Prince's Pass, which contains the (*) Tower of Joy, or through the Boneway Pass, which is overlooked by the fortress of Yronwood [“ironwood”] and which connects this region to the Stormlands. Many of this region's inhabitants are descended from Rhoynish invaders who intermarried with Andals, and this region maintains the Rhoynish custom of allowing female succession. The ► Water Gardens were constructed to please a princess of this region, which is governed from Sunspear by a family whose words are “Unbent, Unbowed, Unbroken.” Doran Martell rules--for 10 points--what southern peninsula of Westeros in George R. R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire*?

ANSWER: (Kingdom or Peninsula of) Dorne [prompt on “Westeros” or “Seven Kingdoms” before “Stormlands”]

10. Part of this city's historic center, known as “Grainger Town,” was destroyed to build the Eldon Square

shopping complex. This city took its name from one of its oldest structures, which was ordered by Robert Curthose. The earl of this city raised troops called the (*) “Whitecoats” in the English Civil War; they were slaughtered by Cromwell at the Battle of Marston Moor. A blue star is the logo of a type of “brown ale” first produced in this city by Colonel Jim Porter. The ► Geordie dialect is spoken around this city on the River Tyne. For 10 points, name this city in northeast England, whose role as a supplier of fossil fuel to London resulted in a proverb about carrying superfluous coals to this place.

ANSWER: Newcastle

1. One of these can be formed by a transform fault that opens up underwater. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this kind of plate boundary, an elevated feature that usually runs at 90 degrees to a mid-ocean ridge.

ANSWER: fracture zone(s)

[10] A fracture zone on the East Pacific Rise is named for this Chilean-controlled island, whose capital is Hanga Roa.

ANSWER: Easter Island [or Rapa Nui]

[10] A North Pacific fracture zone is named for this desolate atoll owned by France. A Mexican attempt to colonize it for guano mining ended with a series of deaths from scurvy and the killing of the island's self-proclaimed “king.”

ANSWER: Clipperton Island

2. For 10 points each, name these sites of fighting during the World War II campaign in North Africa:

[10] Fort Pilastrino was among the defenses of this Libyan port, which the South African general Hendrik Klopper unsuccessfully defended against Rommel in June 1942.

ANSWER: Tobruk

[10] Allied forces retreating from Tobruk briefly made a stand at this sponge-fishing port, the prewar terminus of the British Western Desert Railway.

ANSWER: Mersa Matruh

[10] The German advance was finally halted at this railway station, whose Arabic name means “the two flags.”

ANSWER: El Alamein

3. For 10 points each, name these islands home to members of the excellent genus *Polyplectron*, the peacock-pheasants:

[10] A noted peacock-pheasant displaying area is at the “underground river” of St. Paul's National Park on this Philippine island whose capital is Puerto Princesa.

ANSWER: Palawan

[10] Rare brown peacock-pheasants occur in lowland forest on this island, most of which is known locally as Kalimantan.

ANSWER: Borneo

[10] Katsumata's subspecies of gray peacock-pheasant is found on this island, the home of Communist guerrilla leader Feng Baiju.

ANSWER: Hainan

4. The Barbecue Bottom Road is the only route that crosses this region. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this karst region, whose settlements include Rest and Be Thankful.

ANSWER: **Cockpit Country**

[10] Cockpit Country is a remote area in the northwestern mountains of this Caribbean island nation.

ANSWER: **Jamaica**

[10] In the 18th century, British troops fought two bloody wars in the Cockpit Country. Those wars are known by this contemporary term for the escaped slaves who populated the region.

ANSWER: **maroons** [or **maroon** wars]

5. For 10 points each, name these places where one might, with some effort, find a coelacanth:

[10] Many coelacanths forage in underwater caves off the coast of this country. The island of Mayotte, which famously voted against joining this country, is still ruled by France.

ANSWER: Union of the **Comoros**

[10] The first modern coelacanth known to science was identified when a fisherman brought it to this South African city at the mouth of the Buffalo River.

ANSWER: **East London**

[10] In 1998 a second species of coelacanth was found at a fish market at Manado in this nation.

ANSWER: **Indonesia**

6. An 1850 storm uncovered the ruins of this site. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this cluster of Neolithic stone houses, whose inhabitants may have built the nearby Ring of Brodgar.

ANSWER: **Skara Brae**

[10] Skara Brae is located on Mainland, one of this archipelago that lies between Britain and Shetland.

ANSWER: **Orkneys** [or **Orkney** Islands]

[10] Skara Brae was excavated by this advocate of Marxist archaeology, the author of *The Danube in Prehistory* and *The Forest Cultures of Northern Europe*.

ANSWER: (Vere) Gordon **Childe**

7. For 10 points each, name these Antarctic research stations:

[10] This American base named for two explorers is the permanent mission at the geographic South Pole. From 1975 to 2003 it was built in the shape of a geodesic dome.

ANSWER: **Amundsen-Scott** (South Pole Station)

[10] In July 1983 this Russian station atop the ice sheet set the world record for lowest recorded temperature.

ANSWER: **Vostok**

[10] This Australian base is a center for research on the nearby Auster rookery of emperor penguins.

ANSWER: **Mawson**

8. This man's journals were sent home on the *Sirius*, a vessel of the First Fleet that settled Botany Bay. For 10

points each:

[10] Name this French naval captain, whose voyage vanished into the Pacific early in 1789.

ANSWER: Jean-Francois de Galoup, comte de **la Perouse**

[10] A strait named for La Perouse separates Hokkaido from this island.

ANSWER: **Sakhalin**

[10] La Perouse's two ships were later discovered to have wrecked on the rocks of this island in the Solomons.

ANSWER: **Vanikoro**

9. For 10 points each, name these California counties:

[10] Angels Camp is the setting for a Mark Twain story about the “celebrated jumping frog” of this county.

ANSWER: **Calaveras** County

[10] The only California county to border both Nevada and Oregon is this one, named for a Native American people who fought against U.S. troops in the lava beds.

ANSWER: **Modoc** County

[10] The Algodones Dunes and Salton Sea are located in this southeastern county irrigated by the All-American Canal.

ANSWER: **Imperial** County

10. For 10 points each, give the following about Russia's Sakha Republic:

[10] The Sakha Republic's most valuable natural resource is this mineral, found in “pipes” at sites like Mir and Udachnaya.

ANSWER: **diamonds**

[10] The republic's capital, Yakutsk, is located on this river, whose tributaries include the Vitim and Aldan.

ANSWER: **Lena** River

[10] Lena means “large river” in the language of this ethnic minority, whose life is the subject of Piers Vitebsky's book *The Reindeer People*.

ANSWER: **Even** people [or **Eveny** people; prompt on “Tungus”; do not accept or prompt on “Evenk”]