

Geography Monstrosity 7

Round 1

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 city was the site of a 1731 “transaction” in which its Protestant residents emigrated to eastern Prussia, as they wished to exercise their right to live in a Protestant territory rather than be converted to Catholicism under the rule of Archbishop Firmian. This city is the location of the “blob architecture” building Red Bull Hangar-7, which at the time of writing this tossup had not yet been purchased by the National History Bee and Bowl. (*) Styria and both sections of the Tyrol are bordered by the federal state named for this city. A yellow-painted house on this city's Getreidegasse was the birthplace of ► Mozart. For 10 points, name this Austrian city whose Nonnberg Abbey is the setting of *The Sound of Music*.

ANSWER: Salzburg

2. This substance replaced mineralized bone in the Addyman plesiosaur specimen and in the thighbone of a brachiosaur discovered underneath Lightning Ridge. Miners of this substance live in underground homes called “dugouts” at the field beneath the Stuart Range at the town of (*) Coober Pedy, whose name is supposedly an Aboriginal word for “white man's hole in the ground.” At least eighty percent of the world's production of this mineral comes from South Australia, although the “Mexican ► fire” variety of this mineral is mined in the state of Queretaro. For 10 points, name this amorphous form of silica, the traditional birthstone for the month of October.

ANSWER: opals

3. Description acceptable. A paper by Urribarri, Rios, and Ferrer hoped that treatment with ammonia would allow this process to be used as a source of raw vegetable protein for the feeding of livestock. Pollution with poliaspartic acid and disruption of the hypolemnitic cone have been suggested as causes of this phenomenon, which may result in lower (*) oxygen levels that threaten the curubina fishery. Researchers at the University of Zulia blamed ships from Florida or Texas for starting this phenomenon by transporting an ► invasive species of genus *Lemna*. For 10 points, what bloom of aquatic plants threatens the ecological health of a certain lake in western Venezuela?

ANSWER: duckweed infestation of Lake Maracaibo (accept equivalents)

4. The Poros joins this river shortly before it flows into the sea at a delta known as the “Ethir.” The city of Framsburg, which was named after a ruler who slew Scatha, lies near the site where this river is formed by the confluence of the Greylin and the Langwell. The island of (*) Carrock rises from a “swirling channel” in this river, which later flows between two massive sculptures known as the Gates of Argonath. Its name is derived from Sindarin words meaning “Great River.” A lament for a warrior who died “Beneath Amon Hen” claims that the “Tower of Guard” shall “ever northward gaze” to the “golden” falls of Rauros on this river. ► Boromir's body is placed on a boat that travels down, for 10 points, what major river of Middle Earth?

ANSWER: Anduin (accept Langflood; prompt on “Great River (of Wilderland)”)

5. This fate was met by Jai Mahal in Jaipur around 1610, and Dana was one of four towns in central Massachusetts disincorporated due to meeting this fate. Triton Logging is working in central Ghana to recover hardwood trees that have met this fate. Celilo Falls along the (*) Oregon/Washington border was destroyed in this process. The former homes of millions living within and to the east of Chongqing met this fate, as did the original site of ► Egypt's Abu Simbel temple, upriver from the city of Aswan. For 10 points, name this fate met by the land that existed where Lake Mead is today.

ANSWER: being submerged by the construction of a dam/creation of a reservoir [accept "flooded," "inundated," or any other equivalent for "submerged", prompt on just "submerged" etc] [answer must show knowledge of flooding being manmade]

6. This structure's owner changed its name to reflect this structure's status upon completion in 1963, but it has since changed its name to reflect a geographic area. Located off 153rd Avenue SE, this structure is about 5 miles from a competitor for its current title, which is just three feet (*) shorter. This structure had one of its titles taken away by a similar edifice in Warsaw, and was later surpassed by the Burj Khalifa, despite that being a building and this structure solely broadcasting Channel 11 to the Red River Valley. For 15 points, name this structure, a TV tower near Blanchard, North Dakota, currently the tallest manmade structure in the Western Hemisphere and formerly the tallest in the world.

ANSWER: KVLY-TV mast (or tower)

7. Peter Sahllins's 1991 book about this feature discussed the use of blue, red, and "no color" markings in the region of the "two Cerdanyas." One area near this line is where Aranese is spoken, and this line completely surrounds the town of Llivia. This line's western end is near the towns of Irun and Hendaye. Those cities are along the (*) Bidasoa River. Pico de Aneto is located just to the south of this line. One area along this line, Pheasant Island, is located just inland from the ► Cantabrian Sea and is controlled for alternating six-month periods by the two countries that define this line. For 10 points, Andorra briefly interrupts what border where the Treaty of the Pyrenees was signed?

ANSWER: border between France and Spain (accept equivalents; prompt on "The Pyrenees" before "this line")

8. The "Spreuer" example of this feature in Switzerland contains Kaspar Meglinger's 17th-century paintings of the Danse Macabre. Examples of these features from Qing Dynasty China include the "stepping toad" and the "eternal celebration." The longest feature of this type in the world, at Hartland in New Brunswick, was damaged by ice in the 1920s. The "Burr (*) arch" is a typical design for these structures, which exist at Kaufman's Distillery, White Rock Forge, and Landis Mill in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. A 1992 novel by ► Robert James Waller centers on a photographer who is assigned to document these features in Madison County, Iowa. For 10 points, identify this kind of river crossing that is protected from rain and snow.

ANSWER: covered bridges (prompt on "bridges")

9. The waves of the aurora borealis are called "merry dancers in the sky" in a traditional song about this city's "northern lights." The Irish dragoon song "Bonnie Lass of Fyvie" claims that the title character is more beautiful than the many "bonnie Jeans" located in this city. Two snarling leopards, three white castles, and the motto "Bon Accord" appear on this city's coat of arms. After Lord Burleigh's (*) Covenanters army was smashed at "Two Mile Cross" outside this city, the Marquis of Montrose sacked it in September 1644. The River Don and the River Dee lie on either side of, for 15 points, what "Granite City" on the northeast coast of Scotland?

ANSWER: Aberdeen

10. A Dutch merchant named Van Curler was drowned in a storm on this body of water after he mocked the local habit of sacrificing tobacco to “a spirit who controlled the winds.” Jasper Cropsey painted the “dawn of morning” and “sunset” on this body of water, whose western shore was a resort destination nicknamed “Millionaire's Row.” This lake's southern tip was protected by Fort (*) William Henry, the site of a notable 1757 massacre during the French and Indian War. John Burgoyne tried to bypass this body of water by building a wilderness road from Fort Anne to Fort ► Edward. For 10 points, what upstate New York lake, the southern neighbor of Lake Champlain, was named to honor the Hanoverian monarchs?

ANSWER: Lake George

1. For 10 points each, name these stations of the Mexico City metro:

[10] A scale model of Tenochtitlan's Templo Mayor is located in this Blue Line station, which has exits leading to the National Palace and the Metropolitan Cathedral. This station shares its name with a term for the central plaza in many Mexican cities.

ANSWER: Metro Zócalo

[10] Metro Zócalo is one stop north of this station, which contains the ruins of an Aztec temple to the wind god Ehecatl. This station served by the Blue and Pink lines was named after the murdered vice president of Francisco Madero.

ANSWER: Metro Pino Suárez (prompt on partial answer)

[10] Riders transferring between the yellow and olive green lines may pass through this station's kilometer-long "Tunnel of Science," which contains exhibits on biology, geology, and astronomy.

ANSWER: La Raza

2. Hlothere issued a code of laws for this kingdom. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this only Jutish kingdom of the Anglo-Saxon heptarchy. The modern county of the same name in southeast England contains the cities of Rochester, Maidstone, and Dover.

ANSWER: Kent

[10] Dover and four other Kentish coastal towns make up this series of ports that possessed particular parliamentary freedoms in Anglo-Norman times.

ANSWER: Cinque Ports

[10] The easternmost point of Kent is this isle, which joined the mainland when the Wantsum Channel was filled in. According to Sellar and Yeatman's *1066 and All That*, all those who land on this island are fated to become rulers of Britain.

ANSWER: Isle of Thanet

3. The Antelope Creek people exploited the natural resources available in this national monument. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this set of quarries along the Canadian River, which were a major source of pre-Columbian stone tools.

ANSWER: Alibates Quarries National Monument (accept, but do not reveal, Alibates Flint Quarries)

[10] The Alibates quarries produce an unusual striped kind of this rock, which was used to strike a spark and ignite gunpowder in 18th-century muskets.

ANSWER: flint

[10] The Alibates quarries are located in this region, which is surrounded on two of its four sides by Oklahoma. Palo Duro canyon breaks up its otherwise flat topography.

ANSWER: the **Texas panhandle**

4. This region's tourist attractions include a giant strangler fig tree. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this tableland named for a 19th-century pioneer of the Great Tin Rush.

ANSWER: **Atherton** Tableland

[10] The Atherton Tableland is usually considered part of this range that stretches south to the Grampians and Snowy Mountains of Victoria.

ANSWER: **Great Dividing** Range

[10] The Atherton Tableland is southwest of Cairns in this state on the northeast coast of Australia.

ANSWER: **Queensland**

5. In 2000 this state was detached from adjacent Bihar. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this mineral-rich Indian state, whose capital is Ranchi.

ANSWER: **Jharkand**

[10] 26% of Jharkand's population are classified by the Indian government as belonging to these groups. Examples in Jharkand include the Ho and the Munda.

ANSWER: **scheduled tribes** (or **Adivasis**; do not accept “scheduled castes”)

[10] Rural forest areas of Jharkand are one of the remaining strongholds of this Maoist insurgency, which was targeted by Indira Gandhi's government during Operation Steeplechase.

ANSWER: **Naxalite** insurgency

6. The “Eye of the Sun” is a natural arch located in this region. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this valley whose sandstone landscape appears in the John Ford movie *Stagecoach*.

ANSWER: **Monument** Valley

[10] Monument Valley is a tribal park on the reservation of this Native American people, who engaged in a decades-long dispute with the neighboring Hopi over village boundaries and mineral rights.

ANSWER: **Navajo**

[10] The upper layers of Monument Valley's mesas are made up of this Triassic rock formation, whose typical fossils include the sail-backed *Arizonasaurus*.

ANSWER: **Moenkopi** Formation

7. It was the northern analogue of the Pinetree Line and the Mid-Canada Line. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this network of high Arctic radar stations, intended to provide advance notice of incoming Soviet attacks during the Cold War.

ANSWER: **Distant Early Warning** line (or **DEW** line)

[10] A DEW radar station was located at this “point” on Alaska's north slope, the northernmost land location in the United States.

ANSWER: Point **Barrow**

[10] A 2000 fire destroyed the abandoned DEW station on Victoria Island named for this woman, who sponsored 1850s expeditions into the area to search for her husband, a missing Royal Navy officer.

ANSWER: **Lady Franklin** (or **Jane Franklin**; prompt on “Franklin”)

8. For 10 points each—name these horrendous icy mountains that people for some reason try to climb:

[10] A “mushroom” of ice rime sits atop this vertical rock spike in the Patagonian Ice Field of southern Chile. Toni Egger was killed on a controversial 1959 attempt to reach its summit.

ANSWER: **Cerro Torre**

[10] The rock face known in German as the “murder wall” is the north side of this Swiss peak connected to the Jungfrau.

ANSWER: **Eiger**

[10] The “Bottleneck” is a dangerous ice cliff on the “Abruzzi Spur” near the top of this mountain that was once named for Henry Godwin-Austen.

ANSWER: **K2**

9. This paper notes that “since geography is unconcerned with minute details, one may choose a positive scale G as a lower limit to the length of geographically meaningful features.” For 10 points each:

[10] Name this 1967 paper, which “warns that geographers disagree about the value of G .”

ANSWER: **How Long is the Coast of Britain?**

[10] “How Long is the Coast of Britain?” was written by this mathematician who concluded that many geographic curves are statistically self-similar.

ANSWER: Benoit (B.) **Mandelbrot**

[10] Mandelbrot wrote that Britain's coast was “one of the most regular in the world,” while this country had “one of the smoothest in the atlas.” Saldanha Bay and Mossel Bay are some exceptions to that generalization.

ANSWER: **South Africa**

10. This feature is located at the bottom of the Tularosa Basin. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this giant pile of fragmented gypsum crystals, whose name is applied to both a national monument and a U.S. Military missile range.

ANSWER: **White Sands**

[10] The White Sands Missile Range contains this atomic test site whose landmarks include the McDonald Ranch House. In July 1945 the Manhattan Project detonated its first bomb here.

ANSWER: **Trinity** test site

[10] White Sands lies to the east of this desert that is a supposed shortcut for travelers headed north or south along the Rio Grande. Its Spanish name indicates that many did not survive the trip across this waterless lava field.

A
N
S
W
E
R
:

J
o