

Geography Monstrosity 9

Questions by Studies in Siberian Ethnogenesis (Jeff Hoppes)

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 organization was founded by Ralph Bagnold, who designed a sun compass used by this organization's Chevrolet trucks because the operation of a magnetic compass would be disrupted by deposits of iron ore. Extensive areas of the Kalansho Sand Sea were mapped this organization, which was often based around the Jalo (*) oasis. Counting road traffic on the Via Balbia was an important mission of this organization, whose 'R' and 'T' patrols were made up of volunteers from New Zealand forces in the Middle East. The Italian “autosaharan” companies were meant to counter the actions of this group, which took heavy losses during Operation Agreement, a disastrous ► 1942 attack on Tobruk. For 10 points, name this British special forces unit that conducted raids behind enemy lines during the North African campaign of World War II.

ANSWER: Long Range Desert Group (or LRDG)

2. According to one early scheme for creating these things, they should all be squares 18 leagues on each side, and divided into nine cantons. Early 19th-century expansion of the number of these things increased the total of them to 130, including in such unlikely places as “military Croatia,” “Lake Trasimene,” and “the mouth of the Elbe.” The Abbe (*) Sieyes claimed that he was not the principal creator of these things, but the only creator of these things, which were actually introduced to the National Assembly by a lawyer named Thouret. These things were given standardized numbers and, in most cases, the names of rivers: for example, number 38 is the Isere, number 70 the Haute-Saone, and number 47 the Lot-et-Garonne. In 2011 the island of ► Mayotte stopped being a “collectivity” and achieved this status, joining Reunion and Guadeloupe as “overseas” examples of these places. For 10 points, give this term for the territorial subdivisions of government in France.

ANSWER: departments of France (or French departments; accept overseas departments after “Mayotte”)

3. The Bluefish Cave site in this territory is an early source of human-modified mammal bone. In 2016 scientists observed this region's Kaskawulsh River conduct an act of “river piracy” when climate change melted an ice dam and cut off the flow of water to the Slims River. The (*) Dempster Highway begins at Flat Creek in this territory before crossing the Eagle Plains. This territory is described as a place where addition is not taught and where one can use the fork of one's choice, according to the “real primitive” rules set out in a song found at the beginning of a 1989 *Calvin and Hobbes* collection. The Kluane National Park, which covers most of this territory's southwestern corner, is the site of Mount ► Logan. For 10 points, what Canadian territory was the center of a 1890s gold rush around Dawson City?

ANSWER: Yukon Territory

4. In early times the Bishops of Sodor also had ecclesiastical jurisdiction over this island. King Orry's Grave is a stone age site on this island, where the “Tourist Trophy” motorcycle race has been held since 1907. Ned Maddrell, the last man who spoke the native language of this island, grew up in its small fishing town of Cregneash. Near this island's southern tip is a smaller island called “the (*) calf of” [this island]. This island's red flag bears a symbol called the triskelion or “ny tree cassyn,” three armored legs joined at the hip. The ► Tynwald is the traditional parliament of this island, a crown dependency whose capital is Douglas. For 10 points, what island in the Irish Sea is known for its tailless cats?

ANSWER: Isle of Man

5. The Diamond Craters volcanic field lies at the southeast edge of this location, where a Streak-backed Oriole was seen in September 1993. The Lilly Irons memorial bench is outside the headquarters of this

location, which houses stone bowls and projectile points produced by the Burns Paiute people. Waters of the Donner und Blitzen River, which runs through the center of this location, eventually reach Harney Lake. (*)

LaVoy Finicum was killed as a result of an incident at this location, where the “Citizens For Constitutional Freedom” ► occupied U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service property in January 2016. For 10 points, what wildlife refuge in southeastern Oregon was taken over by right-wing extremists associated with the Bundy family?

ANSWER: Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

6. This city was where the ancient plaster-and-reed statues of Ain Ghazal were excavated. Rainbow Street and Souk Jara are important cultural centers in its downtown. Arab geographers knew this city as the center of the Balqa region, but Victorian British visitors thought it had been depopulated for centuries before a wave of Circassian refugees resettled it from the 1870s onward. The Romans built a Temple of Hercules on the citadel of this city, which was known in classical times as (*) Philadelphia. The nearby town of al-Salt was overshadowed by this city, which became an administrative capital in 1921 under ► Abdullah I and is today the center of the Hashemite monarchy. For 10 points, name this city, the capital of Jordan.

ANSWER: Amman

7. Remains of the *crassicutata* species of this animal were found at Little Salt Spring, Florida, where Paleo-Indians killed them with wooden stakes and then roasted them on ledges at the side of a sinkhole. One of these animals named “Jonathan” lives at Plantation House on Saint Helena, where he was brought by British sailors in 1882. David (*) Attenborough's series *The Living Planet* describes the concentration of these animals on the atoll of Aldabra. The last of these animals native to ► Pinta island died in 2012 and was known as “Lonesome George.” For 10 points each, what giant slow-moving reptiles are now restricted to isolated islands such as the Seychelles and Galapagos?

ANSWER: giant tortoises (prompt on “turtles”)

8. The 17th-century French monk Gabriel Foigny, wrote that this place was entirely populated by hermaphrodites. By contrast, in 1668 Henry Neville wrote that an English sailor named William Pine had been shipwrecked off the coast of this place with four women, and his descendents had founded a colony whose chief pastime was gambling. The 16th-century Dieppe maps depict the “Great Island of (*) Java” as part of this landmass, whose name was coined by the German globe-maker Johannes Schoerner. Theories about this landmass date back to Aristotle, who speculated about the ► necessity of having additional populated regions to balance the presence of both Europe and Asia in the Northern Hemisphere. For 10 points, name this hypothetical landmass below the equator whose existence was finally disproven by James Cook's voyages across the Pacific.

ANSWER: Terra Australis Incognita (or the (Great) Unknown Southern Continent; prompt on “Australia” before “hypothetical”)

9. This island contains the archaeological site of Tanki Flip, where people of the Dabajuroid culture left a midden of conch shells around 1000 CE. Betico Croes, who advocated political autonomy for this island, lapsed into a coma on the day that it was scheduled to actually receive self-government. The Casibari and Ayo rocks are monoliths located near the center of this island, where visitors can scuba-dive among the wreckage of SS *Pedernales*, an oil tanker torpedoed near this island in 1942. The endangered unicolor rattlesnake lives on the southern tip of this island and appears on the 25- (*) florin denomination of its currency. Red Sox shortstop Xander Bogaerts was born on this island, which seceded from the ► Netherlands Antilles in 1986. For 10 points, the 'A' in the 'ABC islands' stands for what neighbor of Bonaire and Curacao?

ANSWER: Aruba

10. This is an alternate name for the pass of Biban in central Algeria, where Marshal Valee's movement of a French army in 1839 caused the breakdown of the Treaty of Tafna. This name was also used for what Chinese sources call the Tiemenguan, a passage on the road to Samarkand that supposedly kept the Western Turks from invading the land of the Tokharians. A third feature with this name include the now-submerged Turkish smuggler island of Ada Kaleh and the Mesolithic village site of (*) Lepenski Vir. The Derdap National Park preserves part of a feature with this name, where many historic sites were submerged by two ► Ceausescu-era hydroelectric dams. For 10 points, give this name shared by a gorge of the River Danube on the border between Serbia and Romania.

ANSWER: Iron Gate (or Iron Gates or Gates of Iron)

Bonuses:

1. Events on this island in the 1930s were covered by the newspaper *Bolshevik Fish Run*. For 10 points each:

[10] The Nivkh people are the indigenous inhabitants of what island of the Russian Far East, which is separated from Hokkaido by the Strait of La Perouse?

ANSWER: **Sakhalin**

[10] Sakhalin is separated from mainland Russia by this strait. According to Nivkh legend, in winter lightning sinks to the bottom of this strait and “lives there like a blind man.”

ANSWER: **Tatar** Strait (or Strait of **Tartary**)

[10] Until 1945 the southern half of Sakhalin was a Japanese prefecture known by this name, borrowed from an Ainu phrase for an estuary god.

ANSWER: **Karafuto**

2. In 1880 he falsely claimed to have been the first to climb the Ecuadorian volcano Chimborazo. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this British mountaineer, the author of *Scrambles amongst the Alps*.

ANSWER: Edward **Whymper**

[10] Whymper is best known for actually being the first to climb this peak that towers over the Swiss village of Zermatt. A fall on the descent killed four members of party, including Lord Francis Douglas.

ANSWER: the **Matterhorn** (or **Monte Cervino** or **Mont Cervin**)

[10] Another casualty of the Matterhorn was Michel Croz, Whymper's senior guide, a native of this French ski resort that hosted the first Winter Olympics.

ANSWER: **Chamonix** (accept **Le Tour**)

3. For 10 points each, name these notable locations of the international coffee trade:

[10] Kailua is the largest city in this coffee-growing district on the western slopes of the Big Island of Hawaii.

ANSWER: **Kona** (or **North Kona** or **Kona 'Akau**)

[10] This port on the Red Sea coast of Yemen was a major center of the coffee trade in the 17th century. Today its name denotes food flavored with coffee and chocolate.

ANSWER: **Mocha**

[10] Stanley J. Stein wrote about the “crumbling economy” of this “Brazilian coffee county” just outside Rio de Janeiro. Its forest lands were devastated by the rise of hastily planned 19th-century coffee plantations.

ANSWER: **Vassouras**

4. This is the alternate name of Canada's Kugluk Territorial Park. For 10 points each:

[10] Give this name that also applies to a 1771 massacre of Inuit by the Dene people who accompanied Samuel Hearne's expedition.

ANSWER: **Bloody Falls** (massacre)

[10] The Bloody Falls lie on a river named for the mining of this metal resource, the primary one exploited during Europe's Chalcolithic era.

ANSWER: **copper** (accept **Coppermine** River)

[10] A different “Bloody Fall” was created by iron oxide deposits on the face of the Taylor Glacier, at the head of one of the Antarctic “dry valleys” that share this name with a nearby sound and American research base.

ANSWER: **McMurdo**

5. Osborn Maitland Miller modified this system using a “cylindrical” method. For 10 points each:

[10] Identify this entity created in 1569, whose “social history” is described in Mark Monmonier's book *Plumb Lines and Map Wars*.

ANSWER: the **Mercator projection** (prompt on partial answer)

[10] The Mercator projection is well-known for exaggerating the area of this Arctic landmass, whose northeastern section was once the unrecognized Norwegian territory known as “Eric the Red's land.”

ANSWER: **Greenland**

[10] The distortion created by the Mercator projection can be measured using the “indicatrix” named for this French mathematician who published an 1881 monograph on the subject of cartographic distortions.

ANSWER: Nicolas (Auguste) **Tissot** (accept **Tissot's indicatrix** or **Tissot's ellipse**)

6. The Sikkimese explorer Kinthup dumped marked logs into this river in an attempt to trace its course. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this river that carves a “grand canyon” from west to east across the Tibetan Plateau. In a post about 2016 ACF Fall, Will Alston called it “some Tibetan river that I suspect almost nobody converted.”

ANSWER: **Yarlung Tsangpo** (prompt on partial answer; prompt on, but do not otherwise reveal, “Brahmaputra”)

[10] The 1913 Bailey-Morshead expedition finally confirmed that the Yarlung Tsangpo is in fact the upper course of this river, whose waters merge with the Ganges system in the lowlands of Bangladesh.

ANSWER: **Brahmaputra**

[10] The middle course of the Brahmaputra flows through this national park in the Indian state of Assam, the home of most of the world's remaining Indian rhinos.

ANSWER: **Kaziranga** National Park

7. In 1549 the village of Supertino was responsible for tithing 2500 staia of this substance. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this substance that, according to Leo Africanus, was easy to export from the islands of coastal Tunisia. This is the major product for export in the agricultural region of Jaen, Spain.

ANSWER: **olive oil** (prompt on partial answer)

[10] The village of Supertino was in the territory of this Apulian city, the setting of a Gothic novel by Horace Walpole.

ANSWER: **Otranto** (do not accept or prompt on “Taranto”)

[10] The olive oil tithe of Supertino was discussed by this French historian, who wrote that “slow-motion shipping ... governed the geography of the coastal regions” in *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*.naANSWER: Fernand **Braudel**

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8. For 10 points each, name these islands off the coast of Maine:

[10] Most of Acadia National Park is located on this island, whose highest point is Cadillac Mountain.

ANSWER: **Mount Desert** Island

[10] Ken Burns's *Civil War* documentary focuses on the suffering of this island's fishing people in Union service. This island is on the east side of Penobscot Bay, near Vinalhaven and Isle au Haut.

ANSWER: **Deer** Isle

[10] This isolated lighthouse island was the site of an artists' colony, whose output included the George Bellows painting of gulls over this island, and a series of 32 oil sketches by Edward Hopper.

ANSWER: **Monhegan** Island

9. This state's site of Ixtlan del Rio is a notable example of the “West Mexican shaft tomb tradition.” For 10 points each:

[10] Name this Mexican state, located on the Pacific coast between Jalisco and Sinaloa.

ANSWER: **Nayarit**

[10] A city in central Nayarit is named this, in honor of the Spanish city of Santiago at the end of the pilgrim Way of St James in northwest Galicia.

ANSWER: **Compostela**

[10] Corn, Blue Deer, and Peyote are the trinity in the mythology of this indigenous people who live in the hills of Nayarit and neighboring Jalisco. The yarn painting called “nieli'ka” is a traditional shamanic craft among these people.

ANSWER: **Huichol** people (or **Wixaritari**)

10. The African green broadbill lives in this forest, whose name comes from the Kitara language. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this “impenetrable” forest along the Albertine Rift in southwest Uganda.

ANSWER: **Bwindi** Impenetrable Forest

[10] The Bwindi is a sanctuary for these endangered mammals studied by Dian Fossey.

ANSWER: **mountain gorillas** (prompt on partial answer)

[10] Bwindi forest is at the north end of this chain of eight volcanoes. The western most, Nyamuragira, produced a new lava lake in 2014.

ANSWER: **Virunga** volcanoes (or **Virunga** mountains)