

International History Olympiad
Sample Questions – Historical Geography Bee

Varsity / Junior Varsity Samples

This American political entity was the location of the Battles of Cabin Creek and Middle Boggy Depot in the Civil War. James Blunt defeated Douglas Cooper in this territory at the Battle of Honey Springs, its largest Civil War clash. In 1906, this often-shrunk territory was entirely abolished following the establishment of a new state whose capital was placed at Guthrie. For the point, name this former territory which now comprises the state of Oklahoma, and was once reserved for resettled Seminole, Cherokee, and other tribes.

ANSWER: **Indian Territory**

This province's namesake people were led by Caucenus and Punicus in a war that involved Servius Sulpicius Galba massacring ten thousand delegates at a peace conference. This region's early capital of Conistorgis was sacked in 194 BC, and a new city here was founded for veterans of the Cantabrian Wars at Emerita Augusta. The city of Olisipo already existed in this province. For the point, name this Roman province to the west and north of Hispania, in modern-day Portugal, and later the name of a ship sunk during World War I.

ANSWER: **Lusitania**

The execution of Thomas Scott in this colony led to Garnet Wolseley being sent to occupy Fort Garry, and to the incorporation of this colony into Canada under an agreement that preserved French Catholic schools and Métis privileges. This colony was where Louis Riel raised a namesake 1870 rebellion. For the point, name this colony which was transformed into the province of Manitoba, and which shares its name with bodies of water in Vietnam and on the Texas-Oklahoma border.

ANSWER: **Red River** Colony

Under the leadership of Marthinus Steyn, this country launched a Dutch language protection initiative, and it hosted a failed 1899 peace conference between Alfred Milner and the president of its larger neighbor to the north, Paul Kruger. The Bloemfontein Convention, signed at this country's capital, temporarily guaranteed its independence as the second-largest Boer republic, found to the west of Natalia and south of the Transvaal. For the point, name this South African predecessor state on a namesake river, which takes its name from the Dutch royal house.

ANSWER: **Orange Free State** [or **Oranje-Vrystaat**]

In 1952, a "special regime" was created on this line, followed shortly by the removal of people living near this line in Operation Vermin. This boundary split the village of Mödlareuth and resulted in tourist attractions such a pair of binoculars pointed into Kella. Approaching this boundary required crossing the restricted zone, signal fence, and protected strip, at which point one risked being shot by guards. For the point, identify this boundary found on the west of a no longer extant "Democratic Republic" until 1990, which included the Berlin Wall.

ANSWER: **Inner German Border** [or **Innerdeutsche Grenze**; or **Deutsch-Deutsche Grenze**; or **border between West Germany and East Germany**, etc.]

Middle School / Junior Varsity Samples

This place was home to a namesake tiger that went extinct during the twentieth century, and which was unrelated to other real tigers found thousands of miles to its north and west. This island has developed a successful agricultural industry for generating plants for pharmaceuticals, some of which are exported through its city of Launceston. This island was formerly known as Van Diemen's Land, and its capital of Hobart was the city of an infamous massacre. For the point, name this island which for decades has been the smallest state by population in Australia.

ANSWER: **Tasmania**

In 1922, Ruby Hendry was murdered in this state, leading to the lynching of Charles Wright and the Perry riot. The next year, events here culminated in this state's Rosewood massacre. Mary McLeod Bethune founded a college in this state, where Zora Neale Hurston collected black folklore for *Mules and Men* near Lake Okeechobee. For the point, name this Southern US state whose civil rights history includes C.K. Steele's bus boycott in Tallahassee.

ANSWER: **Florida**

This city's center includes the Esplanade of the Ministries and the Three Powers Square, and is arranged into the Thoroughfare Axis and Monumental Axis. This city, which was planned under Juscelino Kubitschek, contains buildings that are arranged in Lucio Costa's "Plano Piloto" and designed by Oscar Niemeyer. For the point, name this planned capital built in the 1950s in South America which replaced Rio de Janeiro as a national capital.

ANSWER: **Brasilia**