



The Scramble
Round 1 - Prelims

1. After besieging Nineveh, one ruler of this kingdom was subject to a neighboring kingdom for twenty-eight years, before slaying many of that kingdom's leaders at a banquet. That man, Cyaxares, led this kingdom to take Ashur, Mannai, and subjugate Urartu. This kingdom was later led by Astyages, who was defeated by Cyrus the Great. For the point, name this kingdom of northern Iran.

ANSWER: **Media**

2. One town in this region, Jolfa, gave its name to the Armenian quarter of Esfahan. By land, it can only be approached from the city of Igdir (uh-duhr). Jafar Kuli Khan founded a short-lived republic here, and it is the home of former president Abulfaz Elchibey, as well as his two successors, who rule the country of which this region is an exclave. For the point, name this exclave of Azerbaijan.

ANSWER: **Naxçivan** (accept **Nakhichevan** (it is pronounced nakh-chuh-vahn))

3. Lermontov and Tolstoy performed military service in this city, and an attempt to rename this city Akhmad-kala was refused by the namesake's son. This city was captured by the White Army in 1919. Flights to Saudi Arabia were made in 2009 after the re-opening of this city's airport. It was renamed Dzhokhar-kala in 1996, to honor President Dudayev of Ichkeria. For the point, name this embattled Chechen capital.

ANSWER: **Grozny** (accept **Solzha-Gala**; accept **Dzhokhar**-kala before it is read)

4. This king was responsible for something called the "Asian Vespers" and married his daughter Cleopatra to an Armenian royal. He encouraged his son-in-law to invade Cappadocia after being denied conference with the Roman Senate. Defeated at Artaxata in 68 BCE by Lucullus, he was thoroughly defeated by Pompey. Retreating to modern Kerch, he was buried in Sinope, the Pontic capital. For the point, name this ruler of Pontus and thorn in Rome's side.

ANSWER: **Mithradates VI** Eupator Dionysius

5. A ruler of this polity refused to deliver Gait-ed-Din, the Seljuk Sultan of Rum, to Mongol invaders; that man took power after marrying Zabel, the female heir of the Rubenids. After the death of Levon IV, power over this polity moved to the Lusignans of Cyprus, and it was conquered by the Mameluks in 1375. For the point, name this state, which ruled over the home region of St. Paul.

ANSWER: **Lesser Armenia** or **Armenia Minor** or **Little Armenia** or **Cilicia** or **Kilikya**

6. Near this city are the ruins of Armaz-Tsikhe Castle, the seat of kings from the 2nd to 5th century. The Jvari church is located near this city, featuring a cross built in the sixth century by the aristocrat Stepanoz I. This city's main cathedral claims to have Christ's robe, brought here by a Caucasian Jew named Elioz, and tombs such as that of Erekle II can be found in the Svetitskhoveli Cathedral. For the point, name this religious city and ancient capital of Georgia.

ANSWER: **Mtskheta**

7. A refuge for these people called Krasnaya Sloboda was created by the mid-18th century khan of Quba. The national leader of these people, Semyon Ikhilov, claims this group were not converts or descendants of Khazars. Between 2,000 and 5,000 of these people remain in the Azeri town of Krasnaya Sloboda, formerly known Yevreyskaya Sloboda. For the point, name this religious minority, whose moniker comes from their settlement among high peaks.

ANSWER: **Mountain Jews** (accept **Caucasus Jews**; accept **Gorsky Jews**; accept **Juhuro**; prompt on "Jews")

8. This man rose in contrast to Vasil Mzhavanadze and became famous for his Abasha experiment in Mingrelia. He succeeded Andrey Gromyko in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in consultation with the opposition leader, Zurab Zhvania, resigned as president on November 23, 2003. The second president of the Republic of Georgia, he had served as the USSR's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1985-1990. For the point, name this Georgian politician.

ANSWER: Eduard Amvrosiyevich **Shevardnadze**

9. This ruler controversially took the title of mep'è. This ruler divorced a Vladimir-Suzdal noble on the grounds of his "drunkenness" and sodomy and sent him to Constantinople. Defeating the Seljuk shah Suleymanshah II at Basian, this ruler reportedly outbid the Byzantines to obtain the relics of the True Cross from Saladin. Married to David Soslan, Georgian sources refer to this ruler as "king". For the point, name this ruler of Georgia from 1184-1213.

ANSWER: King **Tamara** the Great (accept Queen **Tamara**)

10. A supposed golf course in this region was found abandoned to sheep in 2008 and three chefs from Guangxi operate a restaurant in this region's Hotel Eclectic. The city of Agdam (ah-daam), once home to 100,000 people, is technically off-limits to tourists, while the main site in this region is the Gandzasar monastery. The mosque in Shusha is destroyed, while the capital is known as Xhankandi by one nation and Stepanakert by another. For the point, name this disputed territory.

ANSWER: Nagorn(o/iy)-**Karabakh** Republic or Republic of **Artsakh** or Mountainous **Karabakh** or **Dagliq Qarabag** or **Yuxari Qarabag** or **Lernayin Karabakh**

11. The defeat of this man was the aim of an alliance between al-Malik al-Ashraf and Sultan Kai-Kaboud. He was defeated at Yassa Chaman, and he retreated to Mayyafariqin, to avoid General Chormaghun, leader of a group that had previously fought with this man and his father. Exiled to India, after the defeat of Ala-ad-Din Muhammad II, the Khwarezmshah, he invaded the Caucasus, provoking the Seljuks. For the point, name this ruler of the Khwarezmian family.

ANSWER: **Jalal-ad-Din** Mingburnu

12. A photograph shows this man wearing a pince-nez working with the Caucasian leaders Nestor Lakoba, Aghari Khanjian, and Ghazanfar Musabekov, whom he had killed within three years. After those men died, this man oversaw the deportations of the Karachai and Balkars in 1943 and 1944, and he led the purge known as the Mingrelian affair. Owing his position to a man he knew as Koba, he was arrested in 1953 and shot. For the point, name this Georgian leader of the NKVD, the Soviet secret police.

ANSWER: Lavrenty Pavlovich **Beria**

13. In a 2011 film, this man was portrayed by Andy García, and an assassination attempt against this man was made by Vladimir Arutyunian. Protests against this man came from Badri Patarkatsishvili, director of Imedi Television, and he accepted a position at Tufts University. Now just another hipster living in Williamsburg, his alliance with Zurab Zhvania and Nino Burjanadze brought him to power. For the point, name this Georgian president from 2004 to 2013.

ANSWER: Mikheil **Saakashvili**

14. Artyom Island, off of this geographical feature, has a heliport for access to Neft Dashari, a private island inhabited by oil workers. Its southernmost point is Shah Dili, and the town of Suraxani (sura-khani) is home to an eighteenth century temple built by Shiva devotees. Murdukan is a popular area for dachas owned by residents of the capital built on this peninsula. For the point, name this Azeri peninsula.

ANSWER: **Absheron** peninsula (accept **Apsheron** peninsula)

15. Power in the towns of Mapa, Kopa, and Matrega were shared by Caucasians and these people, including Zakkaria Gvizoldi who was the son of a Caucasian and one of these people. People of the North Caucasus were extensively sold by these people, especially to the Mamluks, of Caucasian stock. Occupying Amasra and Tana, they were most notable for their control of Kaffa, one of conduits of the Black Death. For the point, name this Italian city state, home to Christopher Columbus.

ANSWER: **Genoa** or **Genova** or the **Genoese** or **Genovese**

16. With Fyodor Raskolnikov, this man arrived at Anzali and attempted to help Mirza Koochuk Khan with the establishment of the Soviet Republic of Gilan (hard “g”). He may have been involved with the assassination of a later canonized Georgian writer, and was appointed chairman of Kavbiuro in 1920. The towns of Vahdat in Tajikistan and Vladikavkaz were renamed for this man. For the point, name this influential Georgian Communist.

ANSWER: Grigol “Sergo” **Ordzhonikidze**

17. This ruler was seized while tending pigs and sold to Yalbugha al-Hassaki, and he may have been responsible for his master’s murder. Exiled to Kerak during a revolt in 1389, he was defeated by Timur at Aleppo and Damascus before Timur turned to fight this man’s Ottoman allies. The first sultan of the Burji dynasty, he established the superiority of the Circassian Mameluk factions over the Turkish. For the point, name this 14th century Mameluk sultan.

ANSWER: **Barquq** or **Barkuk**

18. The gates of this city were brought to the Gelati Monastery by Demetrius I. It was a center of an important khanate until 1804, when it was renamed Yelizavetpol. In 1935, it once again took a new name, becoming Kirovabad until 1989. In 2016, this home of the Nizami Mausoleum will succeed Cluj-Napoca [kloozh nah-poh-kah] as European youth capital. For the point, name this second-largest city of Azerbaijan.

ANSWER: **Ganja**

19. After tense negotiation, Vakhtang Sintadze boarded a special flight to Moscow to return one of these animals to Aslan Abashidze in exile. That animal, Basmach, a four-time world champion, lived with 80 other animals that required \$20,000 a month worth of upkeep, though the others were controversially auctioned off. Known as nagazi in Georgian, they are one of the oldest Molosser breeds. For the point, name this dog breed that have been protecting wethers, rams and ewes for centuries.

ANSWER: **Caucasian shepherd** or **Caucasian mountain** dog (accept **Georgian shepherd** or **Caucasian** or **Georgian ovcharka** or **ovcharke**; accept **nagazi** before mention)

20. One of these acts was compared to an act against Simon Petlyura by Hannah Arendt. The man who did that act is buried in a cemetery in Fresno. Another group of people who did this as part of Operation Nemesis did so in Georgia. An innocent verdict was the result of the trial of Soghomon Tehirlian, who killed Talaat Pasha, though this did not happen to Enver Pasha. For the point, name these acts of retribution against perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide.

ANSWER: **assassinating** the **Young Turk** triumvirate (accept answers like **assassinating Turks** or **Ottomans** responsible for the Armenian genocide, but prompt on Armenian genocide for **Turks** or **Ottomans**)

21. Erekle II signed a treaty of protection with Catherine the Great to counter this dynasty. Fath (faht-huh) Ali's wars lost control of the Caucasus to the Russians. Abbas Mirza led a march on Armenia, but was defeated by Paskevich in 1827. Originating in Iranian Azerbaijan, this dynasty's Naser-od-Din was assassinated by a fanatic in 1896, while the last member of this dynasty, Ahmad Shah, was deposed in 1925 in favor of the Pahlavis. For the point, name this Iranian dynasty.

ANSWER: **Qajars**

22. Located near a shooting range on 7,000 square meters of land and built by the Kahvecioglu (kaH-ve-jee-oh-loo) group, the unveiling ceremony of this work was not attended by Akparti or CHP leadership. Costing over \$2.2 million dollars, it depicts its subject pondering a campaign against the Greeks. Located in Artvin, near the Georgian border, at 22 meters tall, For the point, name this work depicting the founder of Turkey.

ANSWER: world's tallest **Ataturk statue** (accept any answer suggesting a **statue** of Mustafa Kemal **Ataturk**)

23. A Cossack group named after this river was led by I.P. Tymoshenko, who escaped to Georgia after falling out with the Whites. As General Denikin retreated to Crimea, that group retreated with Ulugai to Novorossiysk. Herodotus knew this river as the Hypanis, and Armavir lies along its banks. It discharges into the Sea of Azov after passing through Krasnodar. For the point, name this river, believed briefly to be the origin of this question's writer while taking to a Russian about his Havana-born father.

ANSWER: **Kuban** river

24. A very scenic view of this mountain can be seen from the Ishak (ees-hawk) Pasha Palace near Dogubeyazit (doe-oo-bay-ah-zeet). An 1840 earthquake here destroyed a monastery to Saints James and Jacob. First climbed in 1829 by Johann Jacob von Parrot (note: he's German, so j = y). The Kuchuk or little summit reaches 12,782 feet, while in Turkish this mountain is known as Agri (ah-ruh). For the point, name this tallest mountain in Turkey, the legendary resting place of Noah's Ark.

ANSWER: Mount **Ararat** (accept **Agri** Dagi before mentioned)

25. Sport and event are required. The single Caucasian competitor in this event, Elene Gedevanishvili, was supposed to be her nation's flagbearer but was replaced due to scheduling difficulties. Dead last was Isadora Williams of Brazil, and Carolina Kostner, a South Tyrolean representing Italy won bronze. Yuna Kim finished second, while Adelina Sotnikova won for the host nation. For the point, name this event previously won by Sarah Hughes in 2006.

ANSWER: women's **figure skating** at the **2014 Sochi Winter Olympics** (accept any answer that includes **figure skating** and either **Sochi** or **2014**; prompt on an incomplete answer)

26. In 1890, George Yeld and G.P. Baker, climbed the 14,652 foot Bazardyuzu, the highest peak of this region. A World Heritage site in this region was occupied by the Hunnic Ambazuk during the reign of the Sassanid Peroz. An Imamate here was founded by Ghazi Mohammad in 1828, while in 1999, Ibn al-Khattab aimed to establish an Islamic state. Home to the ancient city of Derbend, its name is a combination of the Turkic word for "mountain" and Persian for "land." For the point, name this Caspian Russian Republic.

ANSWER: **Daghestan**

27. This agreement was preceded by the slaughter of a number of Azeris and the governor Jawad Khan Ziadlu. Before this agreement was signed, Paul Tsitsianov was assassinated before meeting with the governor Hosaynqoli Khan. It was preceded by Lankaran's fall to Kotlyarevsky in 1813, and confirmed Russia's dominance over Eastern Georgia and Azerbaijan. For the point, name this treaty between Russia and Persia.

ANSWER: Treaty of **Golestan** or **Gulistan**

28. A temple to this religion was reported as existing in Khynalyg near Quba, Azerbaijan in the 9th century BCE. A site below Kartlis Deda near Kldisubis has been described as the northernmost temple of this religion. Some Georgians worshipped Armazi, and a temple dedicated to Jwala Ji was originally labeled as a temple to this religion. That temple, the Ateshgah, was mistakenly attributed to this religion because of its ties to fire worship. For the point, name this religion of Iran.

ANSWER: **Zoroastrianism** (do not prompt on **Zurvanism** or **Mithraism**, the sites mentioned in the tossup pre-date those developments.)

29. Herodotus sometimes confounded this river's name with the Volga. The Treaty of Turkmenchay affirmed this river's status as dividing the Persian and Russian Empires. The Hrazdan and Arpa Çayi (chigh-uh) are among its main tributaries, and the capital of Artaxata stood on an island in this river. It forms the Turkish-Armenian boundary and originates near Erzurum. For the point, name this river.

ANSWER: Aras or Araxes or Yeraskh River

30. The Menucher mosque in this city dates to 1072 and is one of the oldest Seljuk mosques. An account of the sack of this city is given by Sibte ibn al-Jawzi, and this city was ruled under happier times by Smbat II and Gagik. The cathedral, Surp Asdvadzadzin, built by Trdat and finished in AD 1001, and King Ashot III moved his capital to this city in AD 961. For the point, name this medieval Armenian capital.

ANSWER: Ani

Extra Tossup – ONLY READ IF A QUESTION IS BOTCHED!

REPLACEMENT. The Azeris Nizami Qafarov and Sultan Sultanov won medals in this sport at the 2014 European championships. Georgian participants include men born as Levan Gorgadze and Teimuraz Jugheli. Levan Tsaguria represented Oitekaze (oh-ee-tay-kah-zay) stable and reached the rank of komusubi in 2006, becoming the first European to reach the makuuchi division. For the point, name this sport of Kokkai, who defeated the yokozuna Asashoryu in 2005.

ANSWER: sumo