



The Scramble
Round 2 - Prelims

1. The eighteenth king of this kingdom, Hamazasp, was attacked by Alans. The fourth ruler of this kingdom, Pharnajom, became a fire-worshipper and started condemning native gods, and was replaced by an Armenian prince, Arshak. First ruled by Pharnavaz I for most of the third century BCE, this kingdom shares its Greek name with a European peninsula. For the point, name this kingdom, also the name of Spain's national airline.

ANSWER: **Iberia** (accept **Kartli**)

2. A Cossack group named after this river recognized Denikin's authority at a krug which elected General Vdovenko ataman. This river's tributaries include the Urukh, Malka, and the Sundzha. The Khazarian capital of Samandar may have stood near modern-day Kizilyar on this river. A major Caucasian city lies on the Sundza, and that city's football team is named after this river. For the point, name this Caucasian river.

ANSWER: **Terek** river or **Tergi**

3. Zalumma Agra, a supposed niece of this man, was featured in P.T. Barnum's shows. For many years he was Kaluga's most famous resident, and he was allowed to visit Mecca by Alexander II. After fleeing from Ahulgo, he evaded capture for two decades before surrendering to the Russians at Mount Gunib in 1859. For the point, name this imam, a famed leader of Muslim Caucasian resistance.

ANSWER: Imam **Shamil**

4. Mikhail Vorontsov organized the building of a city on both sides of this river. It is navigable to Yevlax (yev-lakh), and its chief tributary meets it at Sabirabad. Flowing through the Turkish city of Ardahan, one feature of this river is the Mingachevir Reservoir. It begins in Turkey, flowing through Rustavi and Georgia and into the Caspian in Azerbaijan. For the point, name this Caucasian river which flows through Georgia's capital.

ANSWER: **Kura** River or **Kurachay** or **Mtkvari** River

5. Some members of this group believed that the popular Archbishop Tourian's allowing of the Soviet flag to fly at events represented a betrayal. After his murder, some members of this group took over a church in Philadelphia. President Ter-Petrossian banned this group, though his successor lifted that ban. In control of the Armenian parliament in 1919, they were founded in 1890 after the Hunchaks in 1887. For the point, name this militant Armenian political party.

ANSWER: **Dashnaks**

6. An Indian group of these people settled with their king Maues in Kashmir and the Punjab. The last recorded sovereign of this group was Palakus, and Ateas of these people was killed at age ninety fighting Philip II of Macedon. Fighting a thirty-year war against the Cimmerians, they eventually succumbed to the Sarmatians. For the point, name this people of the Black Sea and Western Caucasus whose name is not related to an agricultural tool borne by the Grim Reaper.

ANSWER: **Scythians** or **Sakai** or **Askuzai**

7. This food was craved by a colleague of Ulyanov's, who couldn't bear two days of Ulyanov's wife, Valentina Krupskaya's, "sausagey" German cooking. Known as "mtsvadi" in Georgian, it can be made of lamb or beef, but in Armenia, as "khorovats," it is often made from pork. Ubiquitous in the former USSR, its name comes from the Turkic for skewer with the noun-forming suffix. For the point, name this popular Caucasian food.

ANSWER: **shashlyk** (accept **kebab** or the local names before they are mentioned; prompt on **shash** or **shish**)

8. This man claims that Chuck Norris owes him a bottle of whisky due to a lost bet. On September 17, 1997, this man was abducted by aliens in yellow spacesuits from Moscow. He has met the Dalai Lama, who blessed a number of temples in his republic. On June 13, 2011, he played chess with his friend Muammar al Gaddafi four months before Gaddafi's death. He has been president of FIDE (fee-day) since 1995. For the point, name this eccentric president of Kalmykia.

ANSWER: Kirsan **Ilyumzhinov**

9. Along with an embassy from Ummidius Quadratus, this man obtained a brief peace from the Parthians. With the help of his allies, Antiochus IV of Commagene and Pharasmanes I, he invaded Armenia after Paetus' defeat at Rhandaia. Restoring Armenia to being a Roman vassal, this man committed suicide after being accused of conspiracy by Nero. For the point, name this Roman general.

ANSWER: Gnaeus Domitius **Corbulo**

10. Originally known as Vardkesavan, it became known as Vagarshapat when the Parthian Vologases III made it his capital in AD 140. Still officially called Vagarshapat since 1995, it was named a World Heritage Site in 2000, and it is centered around the Mayr Tachar. Its main relic is a holy hand and it is home to Garegin II, the Catholicos of the Armenian church. For the point, name this city, the center of the Armenian church.

ANSWER: **Echmiadzin** or **Ejmiatsin** (accept **Vagarshapat** until mentioned)

11. In the aftermath of this event, the Metsamor plant was closed for six years. Lee Iacocca and Armand Hammer were among those influential in donating to the relief effort for this incident, and Nikolai Ryzhkov won a national heroism award for his efforts in rebuilding one city affected by this. Killing twenty-five to fifty thousand and causing much damage to Kirovakan and modern Gyumri, it happened in the same year as the Seoul Olympics. For the point, name this earthquake.

ANSWER: **Spitak** earthquake or **1988 Armenian** earthquake (take equivalents with the year and Armenia, prompt on only one of those answers)

12. In this region, many are followers of the mystic Kunta Hadji-Kushiev, and in the city of Duisi, a new mosque has been built with Saudi money. The poet Vazha-Pshavela dedicated poems to the conflict between the Khevsurs and the Kists, an ethnic Chechen group numbering about 5,000 in this region. Tarkhan Batirashvili, known as “Omar the Chechen,” is a senior ISIS commander from this region, which is north of the Georgian capital along the Chechen border. For the point, name this troubled region.

ANSWER: **Pankisi** Gorge or **Pankisis** khoeba or **Pankiskoe** uchel’e

13. This region’s Batonistsikhe Castle was the site where King Archil II resided after transferring his court from Gremi. One popular destination in this region is the small town of Signaghi, while the historical monasteries of Davit Gareja and the Lagodekhi Protected Areas are near this region’s border with Azerbaijan. Perhaps most famous for producing such wines as Kindzmarauli and Tsinandali, its main city is Telavi. For the point, name this wine-producing region of eastern Georgia.

ANSWER: **Kakheti**

14. Several places in Azerbaijan were named for this man, including two towns now known as Liman and Baliqchilar. A town called Akhalgori was named for this man, and various towns had the Turkic suffix –kent or Persian –abad attached to this man’s name. Liman, once Port-Ilich, and the town of Sharur, formerly Ilyich were named for this man’s patronymic. Most famously seen in the Soviet name of Gyumri, all of these places were named for a man born Ulyanov. For the point, name this Russian communist leader.

ANSWER: Vladimir Ilich **Lenin** (accept **Ulyanov** before mentioned)

15. In 2009, this man was appointed Armenia's ambassador to Switzerland. Born with the name Shahnour Varinag, he recorded an album *Duos* in 2008, collaborating with Sting and Paul Anka, among others. He played a movie director in a 2002 film about the Armenian genocide and played a supporting role in the Oscar-winning *The Tin Drum*. Known for songs like "She" and "Dance in the Old-Fashioned Way," he has been dubbed France's Frank Sinatra. For the point, name this Franco-Armenian singer.

ANSWER: Charles **Aznavour** or Shahnour Varinag **Aznavourian**

16. The eastern branch of these people call themselves the Ir and the western branch the Digor. They were defeated by the Khazar king Aaron II and Maslamah ibn Abd-al Malik reached the gate of these people. One leader of these people, Itaxes, was bribed by an emissary of Justinian II. Their capital of Magas has been rebuilt in another republic, but this people's name is part of the name of the republic in which Vladikavkaz is located. For the point, name proto-Ossetes.

ANSWER: **Alans**

17. This work involves the members of the Galinsk goat-breeding kolkhoz and Rosa Luxemburg fruit-growing kolkhoz, who invite a folk singer to talk about days past. In one scene, Lavrentiy convinces Grusha to appease villagers by marrying the dying peasant Jussup. Deriving from a play by the 14th century author Li Xingdao, it is a play within a play. For the point, name this Bertold Brecht play set in Georgia.

ANSWER: The **Caucasian Chalk Circle** or Der **Kaukasische Kreidekreis**

18. This man's greatest creation came to him after a vision in a cave near Palu. Petitioning the aid of the Catholicos Sahag and King Vramshabouh, his main hagiography was composed by his student Goriun. With the help of Isaac the Great and Rufanos, he first translated Proverbs 1:2 into his native tongue. Two letters were added to his original creation of thirty-six letters. For the point, name this Armenian Biblical translator and creator of the Armenian alphabet.

ANSWER: St. **Meshrop Mashtots** (accept either)

19. This man spent time as a hostage in the Persian after his uncle Artavazd I's defeat. A province of Syria was given to Magadates, one of this man's generals, and this man's brother controlled Nisibis. He refused to surrender his father-in-law to the Roman embassy of Appius Claudius, and he was saved from capture by Lucullus' army, which refused to advance to Artasat. Later recognized as a "friend and ally" of the Romans, he ruled until 56 BC. For the point, name this Armenian king.

ANSWER: **Tigranes II** or **Tigran the Great**

20. Near this city is the cave city of Uplistsikhe, with a pre-Christian Temple of Makvliani. This city has a museum which includes a small house rented by a Besarion. The museum also contains a bulletproof, air-conditioned train carriage equipped with a bathtub used to travel to Yalta in 1945, and the museum also contains the death mask of its subject. For the point, name this rather simply named Georgian city, which is a homophone of a word that might be used to describe the actions of its most famous native son.

ANSWER: **Gori**

21. One person of this ethnicity was drafted by the Phoenix Suns with the 25th pick of the 2000 NBA Draft, playing seven seasons in the NBA. Many people of this origin speak a Turkic language called Urum, and a center for these people is the now Armenian-majority city of Tsalka. Before World War II, the city of Sukhumi was home to 65,000 of these people, but “Operation Golden Fleece” evacuated many of them in 1993. For the point, name this Hellenic diaspora community.

ANSWER: **Georgian Greeks** (accept **Pontic Greeks**, prompt on **Abkhazian Greeks**)

22. David Remnick described a toast of this beverage to a noted Caucasian with a relative of that man. One city in Georgia planned to build a tower above a fountain that dispenses this beverage for ten to fifteen minutes a week. Usually around 60-proof and drunk with bread and lemons handy to help it stay down, it is a pomace brandy sometimes known as Georgian grappa or vodka. For the point, name this potent potable which shares its name with a Cuban dance.

ANSWER: **chacha**

23. This man’s grandfather, Bospaz, was knighted for his defeat of Persian invaders in this man’s hometown of Kvareli. He published five poems of a seminary student he called the “young man with burning eyes.” Known for works like *The Hermit* and *Kako the Robber*, he was canonized in 1987 and is known as “The Uncrowned King” by Georgians. Killed by assassins in Tsitsamuri in 1907, he was devoted to promoting Georgian literature. For the point, name this man.

ANSWER: Prince or Saint Ilia **Chavchavadze**

24. This place was chosen as a residence by King Gagik I Artsruni and Khachatur III was the last Catholicos of this place, dying in 1895. The noted writer Yashar Kemal protested a Turkish plan to destroy this island’s main building, which was renovated in 2005 and 2006, and re-opened in a ceremony attended by Patriarch Meshrop II of Constantinople. Location of the 10th century Holy Cross Cathedral, its Turkish name means “white vein.” For the point, name this island in Lake Van.

ANSWER: **Akdamar** Island/Adasi or **Aghtamar**

25. This man sent James Harbord and the King-Crane Commission on a diplomatic mission to the Caucasus, where they were briefed on Khevsur politics in Esperanto. On May 24, 1920, this man asked to establish a mandate for Armenia, and his name is given to a proposed vision of Armenia. For the point, name this defender of self-determination and sponsor of the Fourteen Points.

ANSWER: (Thomas) Woodrow **Wilson**

26. One of this author's works deals with a suicide epidemic among teenage girls that actually happened in the city of Batman (Baht-mahn). Kemal Kirinchsiz filed a complaint that led to legal trouble and a 2011 decision where this man paid five people 6000 lira, at the time about US\$3,500. His novels include *The Museum of Innocence*, *The New Life*, *My Name is Red*, and *The Black Book*. For the point, name this Nobellist writer of *Snow*, set in the Caucasian garrison town of Kars.

ANSWER: Ferit Orhan **Pamuk**

27. The faith healer Grigory Grabovoy was sentenced for fraud for his response to this event. According to one participant in the event, another participant in this event was Korean. Clemency for that participant was advocated for by a group led by Susanna Dudiyeva. Alexander Dzasokhov was criticized for his response to this event, and the two main perpetrators, nicknamed Polkovnik and Abdullah, died during it. For the point, name this massacre which claimed the lives of 186 children.

ANSWER: **Beslan** massacre

28. Elements in this system are mehekan and ahekan, which to refer to the god Mithra and fire. The deities Tir and Ameretat are also represented, and it begins with Navasard. Ori and sami, the Georgian words for "two" and "three," respectively, also feature in it. The epagomenal days of the Fravashi were in the ancient version, and 2015 roughly corresponds to 1465. For the point, name this time-measuring system probably not observed by Principal Skinner.

ANSWER: **Armenian calendar**

29. Recently, this man played a Turkish inspector in *Taken 2*. Another recent role was as a survivor of the crash in the remake of *The Flight of the Phoenix*, and he played the renegade general Zavros in the classic 1994 TV movie *MacGyver: Lost Treasure in Atlantis*. Often playing Turks, he played a prosecutor in *Midnight Express* and most famously advised Indiana Jones against seeking the Holy Grail in *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. For the point, name this Armenian actor whose surname comes from the Turkish or Arabic for "angel."

ANSWER: Kevork **Malikyan**

30. The beginning of this group's involvement in the conquest began with their installation of General Chormaghun. Queen Rusadan of Georgia became a vassal to this group. The Chobanid and Jalayarid descendants of them dominated the Caucasus for a time, after disputes between Berke and Hulegu left a political vacuum. Led in their efforts briefly by Ogodei, the short-lived Ilkhanid group of these people held brief sway in the Caucasus. For the point, name these descendants of Genghis Khan.

ANSWER: **Mongols** (accept **Ilkhanids** until **Ogodei**, he wasn't one)

Extra Tossup – ONLY READ IF A QUESTION IS BOTCHED!

REPLACEMENT. A Genoese castle was set up at Leontokastron in this state and the travel writer Ruy de Clavijo (krah-vee-hoe) visited here. The mesokhaldioi, named for the Duchy of Khaldia which preceded this state, were influential nobles. Daughters of this state's royal families married Uzun Hasan and John V Palaeologus. Set up by Alexios Comnenos with Georgian military support, it was defeated by the Ottomans in 1461. For the point, name this Greek empire of the Pontus.

ANSWER: Empire of **Trebizond** or the **Trapezuntine** Empire