## GEOGRAPHY TRIVIA QUESTIONS X



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- 1> What country is made up of two islands, inventively named North Island and South Island, that are on two different continental plates and are separated by Cook Strait?
- 2> Which nomadic North African people have no commonly used written form of their language?
- 3> Strictly speaking, Big Ben is what specific part of the Houses of Parliament?
- 4> It used to be that we thought these people came from Egypt. In fact, based on study of their language, they probably came from northwestern India. Who are they?
- 5> On what continent do the borders of Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe meet at a single point called the Four Corners Heartland?
- 6> Only Indonesia exports more nutmegs than does what Caribbean country, which even has a nutmeg on its flag?
- 7> There were no lions or gladiators in July 2000, when a Sophocles play, Oedipus Rex, became the first show in 1500 years staged at what venue?
- 8> If you were in a restaurant overlooking Narragansett Bay, enjoying a fried cornbread called johnnycake, where would you be?
- 9> Who summers at the Castel Gandolfo, which doubles as an astronomical observatory?
- 10> The only real waterfall on the Mississippi is St Anthony Falls. What state is it in?
- 11> What lake, the world's deepest, is fed by 336 rivers but only drained by one (the Angara)?
- 12> After the Civil War, losing Confederates packed up their slaves and founded

the town of Americana, in which country, which at the time had the world's largest slave population?

- 13> Until those Soviet republics (and East Timor) became free, what had been the only Asian country with a Christian majority?
- 14> Cut off from light, Lake Vostok is two miles beneath the surface of which continent?
- 15> Which of South Africa's three capital cities, now its legislative capital, is also a port?

## **Answers:**

- 1> New Zealand The North Island and the northwest corner of the South Island are on the same plate as India and Australia, while the South Island is on the Pacific plate.
- 2> Berbers Today, Berber is more of a language than an ethnic group.
- 3> The bell Today, the whole clock tower is called Big Ben, although strictly speaking, the 320-foot tower is called St. Stephen's Tower and the clock itself has no real name at all.
- 4> Gypsies (Roma) Historically, only the Jews have been more persecuted in Europe than were the Roma, and Hitler alone killed a half million of them.
- 5> Africa There are some territorial disputes, however, that would keep all four from connecting there.
- 6> Grenada This island, although half the size of New York City, provides a third of the world's nutmeg and much of its cloves and mace.
- 7> Colosseum That being said, the last 'games' were held in the Coliseum in 523, but there were bullfights there in the 1300s, passion plays through the Renaissance, and a 1951 concert to commemorate the anniversary of Verdi's death.
- 8> Rhode Island Johnnycake is made from unleavened cornmeal.
- 9> The pope It overlooks Lake Albano. He normally lives in the Apostolic Palace, also known as the Palace of Sixtus V, in the Vatican.
- 10> Minnesota It is in Minneapolis.
- 11> Baikal It has so much water than this ancient lake affects the weather around it.
- 12> Brazil Today, the Confederados are descended from the 20,000 rebel fugitives who moved to Brazil.
- 13> Philippines About 85 percent of Filipinos are Catholic
- 14> Antarctica It is beneath the spot where the coldest temperature ever was recorded.
- 15> Cape Town In 1652, Dutch East India Company official Jan van Riebeeck established the first European settlement in South Africa here.

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