

GEOGRAPHY TRIVIA QUESTIONS XIV



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1> The Nile may be longer, but this Brazilian river outranks it in terms of watershed area, number of tributaries and volume of water discharged. What is it?

- a. Rio de Janeiro
- b. Amazon
- c. Rio de la Plata
- d. Rio Grande

2> All of these cities are on the Rhine, but which one is not in Germany?

- a. Strasbourg
- b. Bonn
- c. Dusseldorf
- d. Cologne

3> What tourist attraction's Latin inscription has vanished after years of removing the lipstick that covered it?

- a. Blarney Stone
- b. Plymouth Rock
- c. Black Stone of the Ka'aba
- d. Stone of Scone

4> At 83°40', the northernmost point on land in the world is Kaffeklubben Island, which is slightly north of Cape Morris Jesup. Where is it?

- a. Baffin Island, Canada
- b. Greenland
- c. Alaska, USA
- d. Irkutsk Oblast, Russia

5> With a 1902 election coming up, this island's incumbent governor downplayed the dangers of Mount Pelee, hoping to keep his wealthy voters from fleeing before election day, even blocking the road. As a result, all but two of the 30,000 residents of St Pierre died on what island?

- a. Martinique
- b. Krakatoa
- c. Sicily
- d. Tahiti

6> The Republic of South Africa, naturally, has Africa's southernmost point. But if the country with Africa's northernmost point decided to rename itself the Republic of North Africa, what country would this be?

- a. Libya
- b. Algeria
- c. Tunisia
- d. Morocco

7> What city's people are known as Portenos, or "people of the port"?

- a. Mexico City
- b. Havana
- c. Buenos Aires
- d. Santiago

8> Moscow and Lithuania used to be grand duchies, and Napoleon created a whole bunch of them. What country is the world's last grand duchy?

- a. Liechtenstein
- b. Monaco
- c. Luxembourg
- d. Andorra

9> The Greek explorer Pytheas stumbled on one of the so-called "Seven Seas" in the fourth century BC. Which sea is this?

- a. Indian Ocean
- b. Baltic Sea
- c. Arctic Ocean
- d. Mediterranean Sea

10> A network of alleys called De Wallen, also known as Walletjes or Rosse Buurt, is the famous red-light district in what city?

- a. Amsterdam
- b. Berlin
- c. Antwerp
- d. Zurich

11> Cwrw means "beer" in what country, known locally as Cymru?

- a. Wales
- b. Ireland
- c. Scotland
- d. Cornwall

12> Although most prominent as a symbol of Hinduism, an eagle called Garuda is also a national symbol in which Muslim country, which has named its airline for it?

- a. Indonesia
- b. Thailand
- c. Pakistan
- d. Nepal

13> Bergen was this country's biggest city until the 1830s. And it was the country's capital until 1299. Which one?

- a. Norway
- b. Belgium
- c. Austria
- d. Germany

Answers:

- 1> Amazon - It carries more water than any other river, more than the Nile, the Mississippi and the Yangtze together.
- 2> Strasbourg - The European Parliament sits there.
- 3> Blarney Stone - The block of limestone is in Blarney Castle, near Cork. Leaning over backward and upside down to kiss it supposedly gives you the gift of gab.
- 4> Greenland - The name means 'Coffee Club Island'.
- 5> Martinique - As Mount Pelee started to fume in 1902, 6-foot-long snakes wandered into St Pierre and killed 50 people. Then came a landslide of boiling mud. But the mayor, who was up for re-election, insisted everything was okay. Then came the volcano.
- 6> Tunisia - It is Ra's al Abyad (Cape Blanc).
- 7> Buenos Aires - People from Rio are Cariocas.
- 8> Luxembourg - It became free of the Dutch when a woman took that crown in 1890.
- 9> Arctic Ocean - The Greeks named this sea for the constellation Ursa Major, and our word for it comes from theirs.
- 10> Amsterdam - Scantily clad girls in windows attract customers.
- 11> Wales - Welsh has plenty of words with none of the usual vowels.
- 12> Indonesia - Garuda also symbolizes Thailand, a Buddhist country, as does the elephant.
- 13> Norway - Bergen was displaced both ways by Oslo.