



Geography Awareness Week winners pose with their prizes. Front row left to right: Robyn Federman, Michelle Costanzo, and Noah Isaacs. Back row: Michael Boester, Adam McAllister, Patricia Burgess, Linda Ziegler, and Yenel Kucuker.

GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK PRIZE WINNERS

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing the third week in November as Geography Awareness Week. Almost twenty years later, geographers continue to promote the importance of geographic literacy throughout the United States and Canada. This year, MCC's Geosciences Department celebrated Geography Awareness Week with an online quiz that challenged participants in physical geography, human geography, and geographic techniques. 45 people took the quiz and the average score was 11 out of 20. The top three performing students were: Michelle Costanzo (20/20), Noah Isaacs (19/20) and Adam McAllister (18/20). The top three performing faculty/staff were Patricia Burgess (18/20), Robyn Federman (18/20), and Linda Ziegler (18/20). These geography gurus received their geography themed prizes from Geosciences faculty: Michael Boester, Yenel Kucuker and Dan Robertson.

Geography Awareness Week
Geographic Literacy Quiz

Human Geography Questions:

1. The world's current population is approximately:
 - a. 5.5 billion
 - b. 6.0 billion
 - c. 6.5 billion**
 - d. 7.0 billion

2. Which of the following countries will be the first to surpass China and become the world's most populated country?
 - a. Brazil
 - b. India**
 - c. Nigeria
 - d. United States

3. The world's oldest major religion is:
 - a. Islam.
 - b. Judaism.
 - c. Buddhism.
 - d. Hinduism.**

4. In churchyard cemeteries, custom dictates that the body be oriented so that the feet "point" toward the:
 - a. north.
 - b. south.
 - c. east.**
 - d. west.

5. The most heavily fortified border in the world exists between these two countries.
 - a. China and Russia
 - b. USA and Mexico
 - c. North Korea and South Korea**
 - d. Syria and Lebanon

6. The Chinese government is working on the largest construction project undertaken since the Great Wall. What is this controversial project?
 - a. "The Really Big Bridge" linking China with Taiwan
 - b. "The Beijing Bullet" a high speed train between Hong Kong and Beijing
 - c. "The Seaunnel" a tunnel system from Shanghai, China to Kagoshima, Japan
 - d. " The Three Gorges Dam" a dam on the Yangtze (Chang) river**

7. Which city is located in two different continents?
 - a. Cairo, Egypt
 - b. Istanbul, Turkey**
 - c. Athens, Greece
 - d. Tel-Aviv, Israel

Physical Geography Questions:

8. Earth rotates from _____ to _____ and the most obvious effect of this rotation is:
- west, east, seasonal change.
 - east, west, tides.
 - west, east, alternation of night and day.**
 - east, west, coriolis effect.
9. Dallas, Texas (32° 45' N.), is far away from a large body of water. San Diego, California (32° 53' N.), is near the ocean. Which of the following is true?
- San Diego's wintertime temperatures should be lower than Dallas'
 - Dallas' summertime temperatures should be lower than San Diego's
 - There should not be much temperature difference if their latitudes are similar
 - Dallas should have a larger yearly range of temperature than San Diego**
10. Tropical cyclones circulate _____ in the northern hemisphere and wind speeds must reach _____ in order to be classified a hurricane.
- clockwise, 38 mph
 - counterclockwise, 50 mph
 - counterclockwise, 74 mph**
 - clockwise, 100 mph
11. Which of the following climate zones covers the most land area on Earth?
- Tropical Humid
 - Dry Climates**
 - Mild Midlatitude
 - Polar
12. The landform region in New York with the heaviest annual snowfall is the:
- Catskill Mountains.
 - Southern Tier.
 - Tug Hill Plateau.**
 - Adirondack Mountains.
13. Which of these U.S. rivers has the least discharge?
- Ohio
 - Missouri**
 - Mississippi
 - Columbia
14. Which of these U.S. states has the longest coastline?
- Florida
 - Maine
 - Alaska**
 - California

Geographic Techniques Questions:

15. The science of making maps is:

- a. conformality.
- b. cartography.**
- c. topography.
- d. geomorphology.

16. Computerized systems for the capture, storage, retrieval, analysis, and display of spatial data is:

- a. Global Positioning System.
- b. geographic information systems.**
- c. remote sensing.
- d. Landsat.

17. What major city is located at 43° 15' north, 77° 35' west?

Rochester, New York

18. What major city is located at 33° 14' north, 44° 22' east?

Baghdad, Iraq

19. What major city is located at 39° 03' north, 125° 48' east?

Pyongyang, North Korea

20. What historic region is found at 13° 21' north, 23° 46' east?

Darfur, Sudan