

PRACTICE EXAM 36 — NEW YORK REGENTS GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II

1. Robert Owen, the early-19th-century British industrialist, is best known for
 - A. operating model factory communities such as New Lanark with shorter hours and free education
 - B. inventing the spinning jenny and the steam-powered loom in the British textile industry
 - C. publishing the Communist Manifesto in cooperation with Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
 - D. founding the Anti-Corn Law League that ended the British protective grain tariffs

2. The French utopian socialist Henri de Saint-Simon argued that society should be reorganized so that
 - A. workers would seize and hold all means of industrial production by armed revolution
 - B. religious institutions would manage the economy under the leadership of the Catholic Church
 - C. industrialists, scientists, and engineers would plan the economy for the benefit of all citizens
 - D. feudal aristocratic families would resume their traditional roles in governing modern societies

3. The Frankfurt Assembly that met in 1848–1849
 - A. abolished the German monarchies and created a workers' republic under socialist leadership

- B. attempted to draft a liberal constitution for a unified Germany but ultimately failed
- C. negotiated the integration of Austria into a single Prussian-led German state by 1849
- D. transferred the German Confederation's authority directly to the new Russian imperial government

4. The Romantic movement in 19th-century European art, literature, and music was characterized by

- A. strict adherence to classical Greek and Roman models of order and rational restraint
- B. faithful documentary depiction of urban industrial poverty in the new factories and slums
- C. rejection of emotion and individual experience in favor of pure scientific analysis
- D. emphasis on emotion, nature, individualism, and the heroic spirit of national peoples

5. The Treaty of Saint-Germain (1919) following World War I

- A. dissolved the Austro-Hungarian Empire and reduced Austria to a small German-speaking republic
- B. transferred the former German colonies in Africa directly to the new Soviet Union
- C. unified the Austrian and German states into a single republic under shared leadership
- D. restored the Austro-Hungarian Empire to its pre-war borders under a new Habsburg monarch

6. The Greek Civil War of 1946–1949 was fought between

- A. Greek Orthodox and Greek Catholic communities over religious authority within the country
- B. Greek monarchists and Republican forces over the role of the king after German withdrawal
- C. the Western-backed Greek government and communist insurgents seeking to seize power nationally

D. Greek nationalists and ethnic Turkish populations over disputed territories in northern Greece

7. The 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion was

A. a successful U.S.-led operation that overthrew Fidel Castro and restored the Batista regime

B. a Soviet attempt to land military forces on the southern coast of Florida and Texas

C. a peaceful diplomatic mission sent by the United Nations to mediate the Cuban Missile Crisis

D. a failed U.S.-backed invasion of Cuba by exile forces aimed at overthrowing Fidel Castro

8. The 1961 trial of Adolf Eichmann in Jerusalem was historically significant because it

A. ended the prosecution of former Nazi officials by establishing a universal statute of limitations

B. drew global attention to the Holocaust and the bureaucratic organization of Nazi genocide

C. exonerated mid-level German officials who claimed they were simply following superior orders

D. led to the immediate establishment of a unified European Union police force across the continent

9. The 1962 Sino-Indian War was fought between

A. China and India over disputed Himalayan border territories such as Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh

B. China and India for control of the Tibetan plateau region and its religious sites of Lhasa

C. China and India over fishing rights in the South China Sea and Indian Ocean trade routes

D. China and India for influence over the Bangladeshi independence movement in East Pakistan region

10. The Manhattan Project of 1942–1945 was

- A. the U.S. naval campaign that destroyed the Japanese fleet at the Battle of Midway
- B. an Allied plan to liberate Manhattan from Nazi sympathizers operating within New York City
- C. the secret U.S.-led program that developed the first atomic weapons during the Second World War
- D. a major construction project that built the modern New York City subway transit system

11. The Battle of Iwo Jima in February–March 1945

- A. was a major German counteroffensive against advancing American forces in the European theater
- B. produced extremely heavy casualties as U.S. Marines captured a small but strategic Japanese island
- C. resulted in the immediate Japanese surrender aboard the deck of the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay
- D. ended Soviet involvement in the Pacific war and shifted American attention back to Europe

12. The Battle of Okinawa from April to June 1945 is historically significant because it

- A. proved that the Japanese mainland could be invaded with very few American military casualties
- B. resulted in a swift and bloodless Japanese surrender that ended the entire Pacific war
- C. was a Soviet operation that ended the Pacific war before any American military action
- D. produced enormous casualties and influenced the U.S. decision to use atomic weapons against Japan

13. The 1974 Carnation Revolution in Portugal

- A. installed a long-lasting communist government aligned with the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact
- B. led to the immediate annexation of Portugal by neighboring Spain under General Francisco Franco
- C. peacefully ended decades of dictatorship and led to the rapid decolonization of Portuguese Africa
- D. forced Portugal to retain its African colonies under strict military supervision until the 1990s

14. Operation Condor, organized in the 1970s, was

- A. a campaign coordinating South American military dictatorships to track and kill political opponents
- B. a peaceful trade agreement among Latin American states to reduce regional tariff barriers
- C. a NATO intervention to defeat communist guerrilla movements operating in Central America
- D. a successful UN humanitarian mission to end military dictatorships across South America

15. The Brazilian military dictatorship of 1964–1985

- A. peacefully transferred power from the elected civilian government to a constitutional monarchy
- B. came to power through a U.S.-supported coup and used censorship and torture against opponents
- C. produced lasting democratic stability and economic equality across all regions of Brazil
- D. partitioned Brazil into separate Portuguese-speaking and indigenous-led federal political states

16. Ernesto "Che" Guevara is best known as

- A. the elected president of Argentina during the late 1950s and early 1960s
- B. the founding leader of the Mexican Revolution of 1910 against President Porfirio Díaz

- C. the moderate Cuban political leader who negotiated peace between Castro and the U.S.
- D. an Argentine-born revolutionary who fought alongside Castro and later in Bolivia

17. The Latin American "Boom" in literature during the 1960s and 1970s is best known for

- A. producing internationally acclaimed novels by writers such as García Márquez, Vargas Llosa, and Cortázar
- B. the rapid economic growth of Latin American export industries following oil discoveries
- C. a series of population explosions in the largest Latin American capital cities of the period
- D. the rapid spread of evangelical Protestant Christianity across traditionally Catholic Latin America

18. The Sierra Leone Civil War of 1991–2002 became known internationally because of

- A. peaceful free elections that produced one of Africa's first lasting stable multiparty democracies
- B. the discovery of major petroleum reserves that transformed the entire West African economy
- C. its use of child soldiers and the trade in "blood diamonds" that funded the conflict
- D. the joint military intervention of the Soviet Union and the United States during the war

19. The Liberian Civil Wars of 1989–1997 and 1999–2003 were marked by

- A. a peaceful transition from one-party rule to multiparty democracy under United Nations supervision
- B. the rise of warlord Charles Taylor and the eventual involvement of West African peacekeepers
- C. a successful invasion by Sierra Leone that unified the two West African neighboring nations
- D. economic prosperity for Liberia based on the discovery of large new petroleum reserves offshore

20. The Mozambican Civil War (1977–1992) was fought between

- A. Portuguese colonial forces and Mozambican independence fighters during the late colonial period
- B. competing factions seeking to make Mozambique part of either Tanzania or South Africa
- C. communist and royalist Mozambican factions over the future of the traditional monarchy
- D. the Marxist FRELIMO government and the RENAMO insurgency backed by Rhodesia and South Africa

21. The Algerian Civil War of the 1990s was triggered when

- A. France invaded Algeria to recover its former North African colonial possessions in the south
- B. the United Nations imposed economic sanctions on the Algerian government over human rights
- C. the Algerian military cancelled elections in 1992 that an Islamist party was poised to win
- D. neighboring Morocco invaded Algeria over disputed Saharan border territories near the coast

22. The First Chechen War (1994–1996) was fought between

- A. the Russian Federation and Chechen separatists seeking independence in the North Caucasus
- B. Chechnya and Georgia over disputed territories along their Caucasus mountain border
- C. Russia and the United States over military influence in the post-Soviet Caucasus region
- D. Iran and Chechnya over the religious orientation of the new Chechen Islamic government

23. Muhammad Yunus and the Grameen Bank, founded in Bangladesh in 1983, pioneered

- A. the use of cash subsidies provided directly by national governments to poor families
- B. microcredit, providing very small loans to poor borrowers (often women) to start small enterprises
- C. the privatization of national banking systems through stock-exchange listings across South Asia
- D. the use of foreign aid grants from wealthy nations to fund large-scale industrial projects

24. The acronym BRICS in international affairs refers to

- A. a permanent military alliance of South Asian states formed to balance Chinese power
- B. a religious confederation of states that have officially adopted Buddhism as state religion
- C. an informal grouping of major emerging economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
- D. a European trade pact among Belgium, Romania, Italy, Croatia, and Spain along the Mediterranean

25. Steve Biko, who died in police custody in South Africa in 1977, is best known as

- A. the founding president of the post-apartheid African National Congress government in modern Pretoria
- B. the principal Afrikaner politician who designed the original system of apartheid in 1948
- C. an Indian South African activist who founded the Natal Indian Congress during Gandhi's youth
- D. a leader of the Black Consciousness Movement that demanded Black self-reliance and pride

26. Nelson Mandela's imprisonment on Robben Island from 1964 to the early 1980s

- A. lasted 18 years on the island and became a powerful symbol of resistance to apartheid worldwide
- B. ended after only a few months when international pressure forced South Africa to release him

- C. was served in solitary confinement in a French overseas prison off the coast of West Africa
- D. coincided with his service as the elected president of the African National Congress in exile

27. The term "caudillo" in 19th-century Latin American history refers to

- A. peaceful constitutional presidents elected under stable national multiparty democratic systems
- B. strongman political-military leaders who ruled many Latin American states after independence
- C. wealthy plantation owners who supplied raw cotton exports to European industrial powers
- D. Catholic clerical reformers who advocated land redistribution to the indigenous rural poor

28. In modern global history, the term "diaspora" most accurately describes

- A. a single coordinated mass deportation of a population by a national government in wartime
- B. the temporary movement of skilled workers from wealthy nations to less developed countries
- C. the spread of a national, ethnic, or religious group across multiple countries beyond its homeland
- D. the permanent return of immigrant populations to their original ancestral homeland by 1900

29. Among the world's major religions today, Islam is the dominant tradition in regions including

- A. South America, sub-Saharan Africa south of the equator, and most of Southeast Asia
- B. Eastern Europe, the United States, Canada, and the islands of the South Pacific Ocean
- C. Tibet, Mongolia, China, Korea, and most of the major countries of mainland East Asia
- D. North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and most of Indonesia

30. The Yellow Sea, an arm of the Pacific Ocean, lies between

- A. mainland China and the Korean Peninsula and is a major shipping route in East Asia
- B. the Japanese home islands and the Russian Far East coast facing the Sea of Okhotsk
- C. the southern coast of mainland Australia and the northern islands of New Zealand
- D. Vietnam and the Philippines along the eastern edge of the South China Sea region

31. The Aegean Sea has been historically important because it

- A. provides the only freshwater navigable shipping passage between Europe and the African continent
- B. lies between mainland Greece and Turkey and contains many islands central to ancient Greek civilization
- C. forms the southern coastline of the modern Russian Federation and the city of Saint Petersburg
- D. separates the Iberian Peninsula from North Africa and contains the Strait of Gibraltar

32. The Caribbean basin has historically been important in world history because it

- A. lies entirely within the Arctic Circle and contains vast undeveloped offshore petroleum reserves
- B. forms the deepest oceanic trench in the world and is the source of major Pacific tsunamis
- C. was the site of Spanish, French, British, and Dutch sugar colonies dependent on enslaved labor
- D. is the northernmost region of the African continent and is dominated by the Sahara Desert

33. Iceland is geographically unusual because it

- A. is a small flat coral island with no mountains or significant geographic elevation changes
- B. lies entirely within the tropics and supports dense rainforest vegetation across the island
- C. is the most densely populated country in the entire North Atlantic Ocean region today
- D. straddles the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and is shaped by frequent volcanic and geothermal activity

34. The Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn define the boundaries of

- A. the tropics, the area between them in which the sun can appear directly overhead at noon
- B. the polar regions, where the sun does not rise for at least one full day each year
- C. the boundary between Earth's largest oceans including the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, and Arctic
- D. the eastern and western limits of the world's largest temperate forest zone in northern Russia

35. Madagascar, the world's fourth-largest island, lies in the

- A. South Pacific Ocean east of the Australian continent and the islands of New Zealand
- B. Indian Ocean off the southeastern coast of Africa and has unique flora and fauna
- C. North Atlantic Ocean between Iceland and Greenland in the Arctic Circle area
- D. South China Sea between the islands of the Philippines and the mainland of Vietnam

ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS (Questions 1-35)

1. A — Owen ran the New Lanark cotton mills in Scotland from 1800, demonstrating that humane working conditions, shorter hours, decent housing, and schools for workers' children could coexist with profitability. His writings and later experiments (including the failed New Harmony community in

Indiana) made him the most influential figure in the early British cooperative and utopian socialist movements.

2. C — Saint-Simon believed that the productive class — what he called "industriels," meaning manufacturers, bankers, scientists, and engineers — should replace the unproductive aristocracy and clergy at the top of society and direct the economy for the common good. His technocratic vision deeply influenced later 19th-century positivism, French industrial planning, and even strands of socialist thought.

3. B — Elected during the wave of 1848 revolutions, delegates met in Frankfurt's Paulskirche and produced a liberal constitution offering the imperial crown of a unified Germany to King Frederick William IV of Prussia. The king refused the crown "from the gutter," conservative monarchies regained the initiative, and the failed assembly became a cautionary tale that German unification would ultimately come from Prussian power rather than liberal parliamentarianism.

4. D — Reacting against Enlightenment rationalism and the industrial age, Romantics such as Wordsworth, Goethe, Beethoven, and Delacroix exalted feeling, imagination, the sublime in nature, and the folk traditions of the common people. The movement also fed directly into 19th-century nationalism, as writers and composers celebrated supposedly unique national spirits in literature and music.

5. A — Signed with the small new Republic of Austria in September 1919, Saint-Germain formally dissolved the Habsburg empire, recognized the independence of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, and Yugoslavia, and prohibited Austria from uniting with Germany. Austria was reduced to a German-speaking rump state of about 6 million people, struggling with economic collapse and political instability throughout the interwar years.

6. C — After the Germans withdrew from Greece in 1944, the communist-led ELAS partisans and the Western-backed royalist government fought a brutal three-stage civil war that became one of the earliest hot conflicts of the Cold War. American aid under the Truman Doctrine helped the government prevail by 1949, demonstrating the U.S. policy of containment in practice.

7. D — Approved by President Kennedy in April 1961, roughly 1,400 CIA-trained Cuban exiles landed at the Bay of Pigs on Cuba's southern coast but were quickly overwhelmed by Castro's forces; promised U.S. air cover was withheld. The fiasco humiliated the new Kennedy administration, strengthened Castro domestically, and pushed Cuba further into the Soviet camp, setting the stage for the 1962 Missile Crisis.

8. B — Captured in Argentina by Mossad agents and tried in Jerusalem from April to December 1961, Eichmann's testimony about his role organizing the deportation of Jews to death camps was broadcast worldwide and read by millions. Hannah Arendt's coverage popularized the phrase "the banality of evil," and the trial became a turning point in global Holocaust awareness and the survivor-testimony movement.

9. A — Long-standing disputes over the McMahon Line in the eastern Himalayas and over the Aksai Chin plateau in the west erupted into open war in October 1962, when Chinese forces decisively defeated unprepared Indian troops in both sectors. China unilaterally withdrew from most captured territory but retained Aksai Chin, leaving border disputes that continue to flare into deadly incidents today.

10. C — Directed by General Leslie Groves with physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer leading scientific work at Los Alamos, the project employed roughly 130,000 people and cost nearly \$2 billion in 1940s dollars to develop the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It also marked the beginning of "big science" and inaugurated the nuclear age that would dominate the rest of the 20th century.

11. B — U.S. Marines fought five weeks for the eight-square-mile volcanic island to seize its airfields for fighter escorts on B-29 raids against Japan, suffering nearly 7,000 killed and 20,000 wounded while almost the entire Japanese garrison of around 21,000 perished. The famous flag-raising on Mount Suribachi photographed by Joe Rosenthal became one of the most enduring images of the Pacific war.

12. D — The 82-day battle for Okinawa, the last major engagement before the planned invasion of Japan, produced roughly 50,000 U.S. casualties, more than 100,000 Japanese military deaths, and around 100,000 Okinawan civilian deaths from combat, suicide, and ordered mass killings. The bloodshed, combined with widespread kamikaze attacks, weighed heavily on President Truman's decision to use atomic weapons rather than invade the home islands.

13. C — Junior officers wearing red carnations overthrew Marcello Caetano's authoritarian Estado Novo regime in a nearly bloodless coup on April 25, 1974, ending nearly five decades of dictatorship begun under Salazar. The new government rapidly granted independence to Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, and São Tomé and Príncipe, dismantling Europe's longest-surviving colonial empire within roughly a year.

14. A — Launched in 1975 under Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet, Operation Condor brought together the security services of Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and later Brazil and Ecuador to share intelligence and assassinate exiled dissidents across the Americas and even in Washington, D.C. Declassified U.S. documents have since exposed at least passive American knowledge of the network and the killing of tens of thousands of suspected leftists.

15. B — Brazilian generals overthrew the elected populist president João Goulart in April 1964 with U.S. encouragement and tacit support, fearing a turn to the left, and ruled through a succession of military presidents for 21 years. Despite an "economic miracle" of fast industrial growth in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the regime censored the press, banned opposition parties, and used systematic torture and "disappearances" against political opponents.

16. D — Born in Rosario, Argentina, in 1928, Guevara joined Fidel Castro's 26th of July Movement in Mexico, fought through the Sierra Maestra campaign, and held senior positions in Cuba's revolutionary government before leaving in 1965 to spread armed revolution abroad. Captured and executed by Bolivian troops in 1967 with CIA assistance, his image became one of the most reproduced symbols of 20th-century radical politics.

17. A — Beginning roughly with Mario Vargas Llosa's *The Time of the Hero* (1963) and including Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1967) and Julio Cortázar's *Hopscotch*, the Boom brought Latin American fiction to a vast international readership. Its blend of social criticism, formal experimentation, and "magical realism" reflected the political turbulence of the Cuban Revolution era and the search for a distinctly Latin American voice.

18. C — A Revolutionary United Front (RUF) insurgency originating in neighboring Liberia abducted and drugged thousands of children to serve as fighters, controlled alluvial diamond fields in the east, and traded the stones to fund weapons and atrocities such as mass amputations of civilians. International outrage over "conflict diamonds" eventually produced the 2003 Kimberley Process certification scheme to regulate the rough-diamond trade.

19. B — Backed by Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, Charles Taylor invaded Liberia in 1989 and was elected president after the first war ended in 1997; he then sponsored the RUF in Sierra Leone and was driven from power in 2003 by a second war and U.S. pressure. The ECOWAS-led ECOMOG force, dominated by Nigerian troops, intervened in both conflicts and pioneered African-led peacekeeping on the continent.

20. D — After winning independence from Portugal in 1975, the Marxist FRELIMO government quickly became a target of the RENAMO movement, which was created and armed first by white-ruled Rhodesia and then by apartheid South Africa as part of regional destabilization. The 16-year war killed about a million people, displaced millions more, and only ended with the 1992 Rome General Peace Accords and multiparty elections.

21. C — When the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) appeared poised to win the December 1991 parliamentary elections outright, the Algerian army cancelled the second round, banned the FIS, and forced President Bendjedid from office. The cancellation triggered a decade-long civil war between government forces and Islamist insurgents — including the brutal GIA — that killed an estimated 100,000–200,000 people.

22. A — President Boris Yeltsin sent Russian troops into Chechnya in December 1994 to crush the separatist government of Dzhokhar Dudayev, but Russian forces suffered humiliating losses, especially in the storming of Grozny. The war ended with the 1996 Khasavyurt Accord that effectively granted Chechnya de facto independence, a settlement Vladimir Putin would overturn in the much more destructive Second Chechen War (1999–2009).

23. B — Yunus, an economist who began lending small sums to poor women in rural Bangladesh in the 1970s, formalized the experiment as Grameen Bank in 1983, demonstrating that the poor could be reliable borrowers when offered group-based collateral-free loans. The model spread globally and earned Yunus and the bank the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize, though later research has produced more mixed findings on microcredit's poverty-reduction effects.

24. C — The acronym was coined by Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill in 2001 as "BRIC" to highlight Brazil, Russia, India, and China as the most important large emerging economies; South Africa joined in 2010 to add an African member. The grouping has held annual summits since 2009 and created institutions such as the New Development Bank, presenting itself as a counterweight to Western-dominated bodies like the IMF and World Bank.

25. D — A medical student who founded the South African Students' Organisation in 1968, Biko urged Black South Africans to free themselves psychologically from internalized racism before they could overthrow apartheid politically. Detained without trial and beaten to death by security police in September 1977, his death galvanized international condemnation of the apartheid regime and inspired generations of activists.

26. A — Convicted of sabotage at the 1964 Rivonia Trial, Mandela served 18 years in the harsh limestone-quarry prison on Robben Island before being moved to mainland prisons in 1982, finally walking free on February 11, 1990. His refusal of conditional release offers and his quiet dignity behind bars turned him into the global face of the anti-apartheid struggle and helped sustain international sanctions against Pretoria.

27. B — Emerging from the chaos of independence wars against Spain and Portugal in the early 1800s, caudillos such as Argentina's Juan Manuel de Rosas, Mexico's Antonio López de Santa Anna, and Venezuela's José Antonio Páez used personal armies and patronage networks to dominate weak central governments. Their rule entrenched elite power, large landholdings, and chronic political instability across much of 19th-century Latin America.

28. C — Originally referring to the dispersal of Jews from ancient Palestine, the word now describes any community living outside its ancestral homeland while maintaining cultural, religious, or political ties to it — including African, Armenian, Irish, Chinese, Indian, and Palestinian diasporas. Modern diasporas play an outsized role in remittances, identity politics, and the spread of cultures across borders.

29. D — Roughly 1.9 billion Muslims worldwide form majorities across a continuous belt from Morocco through the Arab Middle East and the Central Asian republics to Pakistan and Bangladesh, with Indonesia alone home to about 240 million Muslims, the largest Muslim population of any country. Significant Muslim majorities also exist in parts of West Africa (Senegal, Mali) and the Horn of Africa (Somalia, Djibouti).

30. A — A shallow extension of the Pacific bounded by China's eastern coast and the Korean Peninsula, the Yellow Sea takes its name from the silt carried by the Yellow River (Huang He) that stains its waters. Major ports such as Tianjin, Qingdao, Dalian, and Incheon make it one of the busiest maritime corridors in East Asia and a focal point of regional naval competition.

31. B — Studded with thousands of islands including Crete, Rhodes, the Cyclades, and the Dodecanese, the Aegean served as the cradle of Minoan, Mycenaean, and classical Greek civilization and as the maritime heart of the Byzantine and Ottoman empires. Modern Greek-Turkish disputes over island sovereignty, airspace, and continental-shelf rights still make it one of the most diplomatically sensitive seas in the world.

32. C — Following Columbus's arrival in 1492, the Caribbean became the laboratory of European colonization in the Americas, with Spain, France, Britain, the Netherlands, and Denmark establishing plantation colonies on islands such as Hispaniola, Cuba, Jamaica, and Barbados. Their sugar economies relied on the forced labor of millions of enslaved Africans, shaping demography, culture, and resistance movements — most dramatically in the Haitian Revolution of 1791–1804.

33. D — Iceland sits astride the divergent boundary between the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, producing roughly 30 active volcanic systems and supplying about 25% of the country's electricity and most of its space heating from geothermal sources. The 2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajökull, which shut down European air travel for days, dramatized how an island of about 380,000 people can affect global systems.

34. A — The Tropic of Cancer at roughly 23.5° N and the Tropic of Capricorn at roughly 23.5° S mark the highest latitudes at which the sun can be observed directly overhead at the June and December solstices respectively. The zone between them — the tropics — covers about 40% of Earth's surface, contains most of the world's rainforests, and holds the bulk of its biodiversity.

35. B — Lying about 400 km east of Mozambique across the Mozambique Channel, Madagascar separated from the African mainland roughly 160 million years ago, allowing its plants and animals — including lemurs, fossas, and baobabs — to evolve in isolation. Around 90% of its wildlife is found nowhere else on Earth, though deforestation and poverty pose severe ongoing threats to that unique biological heritage.