

A Herculean Atlas Quiz ★★

by Paddy Smith

The questions in this quiz range from tricky to nearly impossible. Good guessing, though, may help the less "worldly" keep up with those who study globes and atlases in their spare time.

Bonus questions add 15 points to the theoretically perfect score of 100. Score yourself as follows:

100 or more: Sir Edmund Hillary
75-99: Marco Polo
50-74: Amelia Earhart

25-49: Christopher Columbus
10-24: Dr. Livingston
0-9: Wrong-Way Corrigan

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FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS

1. If you fly due south from the western border of the state of New York to the Equator, you will just miss passing over Florida. But will you pass east or west of Florida? (2 points)
2. Which one of the following continents—Africa, Europe, or South America—is it possible to reach by sailing due south from Iceland? (2 points)
3. If you fly due west from New York City to the Pacific Ocean, will you pass over California? (2 points)
4. Match one Australian city to each of Australia's coasts (north, east, south, and west): Brisbane, Darwin, Melbourne, Perth (4 points if all four correct; otherwise 0)

UPHILL CLIMBING

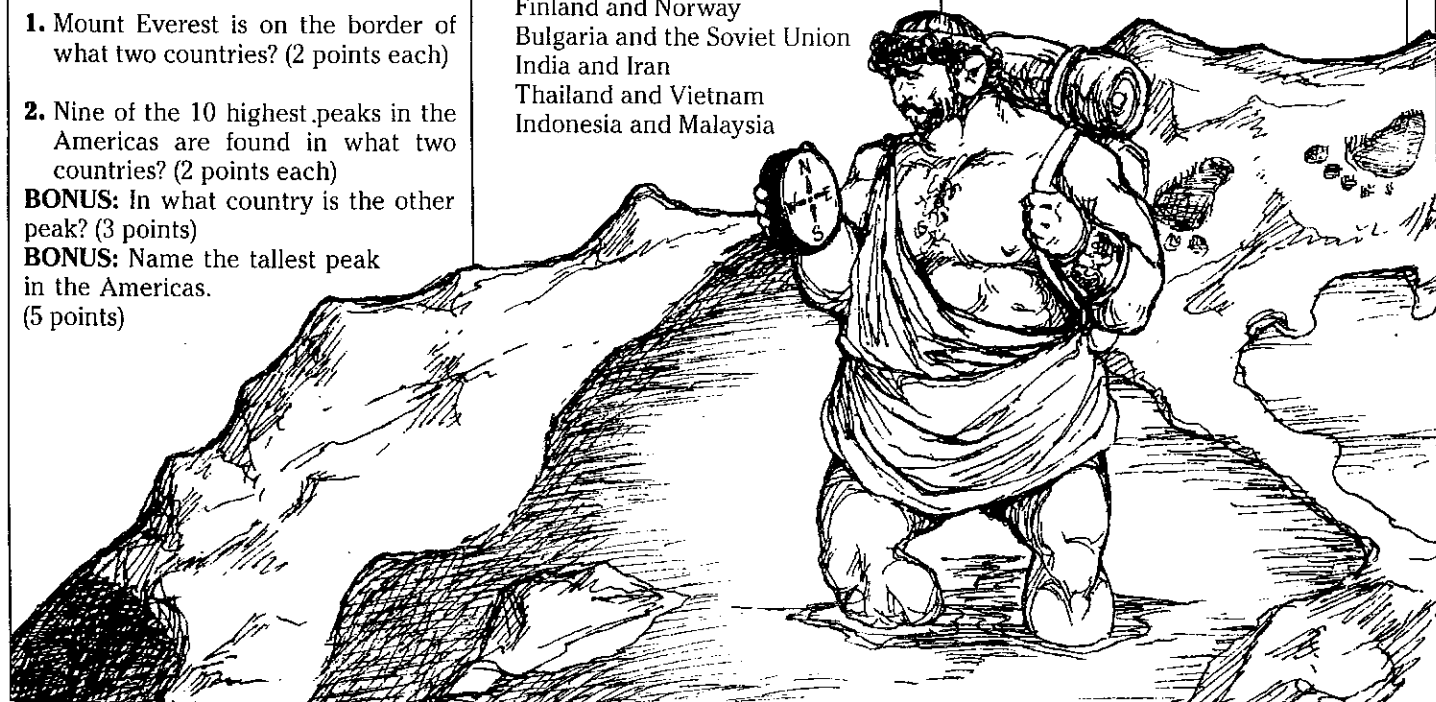
1. Mount Everest is on the border of what two countries? (2 points each)
 2. Nine of the 10 highest peaks in the Americas are found in what two countries? (2 points each)
- BONUS:** In what country is the other peak? (3 points)
BONUS: Name the tallest peak in the Americas. (5 points)

3. Outside the Soviet Union, what is the tallest peak in Europe? (1 point)
The peak is near the borders of what three countries? (1 point each)
4. Mt. Ararat, famous for expeditions to find Noah's Ark, is near the border of what three countries? (1 point each)
5. In what country is Mt. Ararat's peak? (1 point)

BETWEEN THE LINES

1. Which of the following pairs of states, provinces, or countries share a border? Don't count members of a pair as bordering one another if they are separated by a lake, sea, or ocean. (1 point each)
Michigan and Illinois
Colorado and Nebraska
British Columbia and Montana
El Salvador and Nicaragua
Austria and Switzerland
Finland and Norway
Bulgaria and the Soviet Union
India and Iran
Thailand and Vietnam
Indonesia and Malaysia

2. Each of the following countries—Colombia, El Salvador, Nicaragua—has at least one coastline. But which of them have coastlines on the Atlantic (or Caribbean) side, which on the Pacific side, and which on both sides? (2 points each)
3. If you drove from Mexico to Colombia, you would pass through Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama—but in what order? (5 points for all correct; 0 otherwise)
4. All the following can be found in one geographical location: Princess Elizabeth Land, Rockefeller Plateau, General Belgrano, Leningradskaya. What is the location? (3 points)



GOING THE DISTANCE

1. Rank the following places in distance from the Equator, from closest to farthest away: Australia, Ecuador, Tahiti, the Philippines, Mexico. (5 points if all are correct; otherwise 0)
2. Rank the following places in distance from the Equator, from closest to farthest away: the northern tip of Antarctica, the northern tip of the Soviet mainland, the northern tip of Alaska. (3 points if all are correct; otherwise 0)
3. Of the five cities that follow, which two are the farthest apart? (5 points)
Auckland, New Zealand
Beijing, China
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Philadelphia, U.S.A.
Stockholm, Sweden

TROPICS TOPICS

1. The Tropics, or Torrid Zone, is the region between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn, each of which lies approximately $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ from the Equator. Which of the Tropic lines is north of the Equator? (1 point)

2. Nearly 2,400 miles of one of the Tropic lines lies within a single country. What's the country? (5 points)
3. Only one of the following countries—India, Madagascar, Mexico, Paraguay, the Philippines—lies completely within the Tropics. Which one? (2 points)
4. Only one of the following countries—Chile, China, Libya, Pakistan, South Africa—lies completely outside the Tropics. Which one? (2 points)

AS BIG AS ALL OUTDOORS

1. The largest U.S. state in land area is Alaska, followed by Texas. What is the third largest? The fourth? The fifth? (1 point each)
2. The Soviet Union has the largest area of any country in the world. What are the second and third largest countries, in order? (2 points each)
3. The Soviet Union also borders (along with Iran) the world's largest lake, the misnamed Caspian "Sea." What are the second and third largest lakes in the world, in order? (2 points each)

HINT AND BONUS: Two countries border the second largest lake, and three countries border the third largest lake. For each of those five countries you can name, take 1 point.

ISLAND-HOPPING

1. The world's largest island, by far, is Greenland. A single country owns parts of both the second and third largest islands in the world. Name the country (3 points) and the two islands, in order. (2 points each)
2. The distance between Cuba's western and eastern tips is about the same as the distance between New York City and which one of the following: Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, or Chicago? (2 points)
3. In which ocean is each of the following? (1 point each)
Easter Island Christmas Island
Seychelles Galapagos Islands
Canary Islands
4. When this island gained home rule in 1979, its official name changed to Kalaallit Nunaat, and its capital's name changed to Nuuk. By what name is the island better known? (2 points)
BONUS: What is the older, better-known name of its capital? (2 points)

