

# **Expert Quiz on the US**

#### Gamification

## Political Geography

- 1. What is the full name of the United States?
- 2. How many states make up the United States?
- 3. What US state has the highest population?
- 4. Despite not being its capital, which is the most populated city in the US?
- 5. In 1959, which were the last two states to be incorporated into the United States?
- 6. Approximately how many people live in the US?
  - a. around 220 million
- b. around 330 million
- c. around 440 million

# **Natural Geography**

- 7. The United States is known for its diverse terrain. What is its largest mountain range?
- 8. At almost exactly the same length, 2,341 miles long vs 2,340 miles long (3,768 km vs 3,766 km), what are the two longest rivers in the US?
- 9. What is the name of the canyon in the Southwest of the United States which is famous for being the largest in the world and also for its layers of colorful rock?
- 10. What US state is known for its geysers and hot springs?
- 11. What is the rainiest US state?
- 12. What is the name of the sea to the south of the United States with coastline on five states: Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida?

#### Food & Drink

- 13. A poke bowl, a dish that involves diced raw fish, was popularized in which US state?
- 14. Which city is famous for its deep-dish pizza?
- 15. What company, founded in Seattle in 1971, is the largest coffeehouse chain in the world?
- 16. What is the official state fruit of Florida, often associated with breakfast juice?
- 17. The s'more, a campfire treat made of chocolate and marshmallows sandwiched between two crackers, gets its name from a contraction of what phrase?
- 18. Which southern US city is known for a stewed rice dish called "Jambalaya"?

#### Infrastructure

- 19. With more than 800 miles of track, what city boasts the largest subway system in the United States?
- 20. What is the name of the dam on the Colorado River that creates Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the United States by volume?
- 21. Which West Coast city has a famous orange-red suspension bridge known as the Golden Gate Bridge?
- 22. What is the name of the famous highway that originally ran from Chicago, Illinois, to Santa Monica, California, and was known as the Main Street of America?
- 23. What is the name of the 363-mile waterway, completed in 1825, that connected the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean via the Hudson River?
- 24. What US city is home to the world's first skyscraper, built in 1885?



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### Symbols & Folklore

- 25. Considered a symbol of freedom and power, what bird is the national bird and symbol of the United States?
- 26. The Stars and Stripes, the flag of the United States, consists of 13 horizontal stripes alternating red and white, and a blue field with 50 white stars. What do the 13 stripes represent?
- 27. What is the national flower of the United States?
- 28. The United States Great Seal features an eagle holding 13 arrows in one talon and an olive branch in the other. What do these items symbolize?
- 29. What mythical creature of North American folklore is often reported to be a large, hairy, two-legged humanoid and is also known as Sasquatch?
- 30. In New England folklore, what is the name of the ghostly figure without a head who haunts Sleepy Hollow?

#### **Culture and Festivities**

- 31. What day is celebrated annually on the fourth Thursday of November, often involving a feast of turkey and various side dishes?
- 32. What song do American people sing on New Year's Eve to ring in the new year?
- 33. Which city in the United States is famous for its annual Mardi Gras celebrations, featuring parades and masquerade balls?
- 34. In honor of Mexican-American culture, what holiday is celebrated on May 5th, often with parades, music, and dancing?
- 35. What is the name of the large music festival that takes place over two weekends in April in Indio, California, and is known for its popular and indie music performances, as well as art installations?
- 36. On which date do Americans annually celebrate Independence Day, often commemorating with fireworks, parades, and barbecues?

#### Language

- 37. Although 90% are expected to disappear over the next 100 years, how many indigenous Native American languages are spoken in the US today?
  - a. around 50

b. around 150

- c. around 500
- \*there were originally around 500 indigenous languages
- 38. What does the American slang term "bucks" mean?
- 39. What is the second most spoken language in the US?
- 40. Which American lexicographer, whose name appears on many American dictionaries today, proposed a simplified spelling system in the United States in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century?
- 41. About how many new words are added to the English dictionary every year?
  - a. around 4,000

b. around 8,000

- c. around 12,000
- 42. What does the American slang term "catch some z's" mean?



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### Heritage

- 43. Which monument in South Dakota features the carved heads of four US presidents?
- 44. In 1886, which monument was given as a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy?
- 45. When Europeans first arrived in the Americas, how many people were already living in what was to become the United States?
  - a. around 100,000
- b. around 1,000,000
- c. around 10,000,000
- 46. What is the name of the largest tribal group in the US?
- 47. What was the name of the American spaceflight that first landed humans on the Moon in 1969?
- 48. How many UNESCO World Heritage sites are there in the United States as of 2021?
  - a. 12

b. 24

c. 36

