

## “CLASSIC” ANSWERS ON GEOGRAPHY TESTS

### AT QUEEN OF THE ROSARY (QRS) SCHOOL

Geography is a major subject in the British curriculum. Sierra Leone schools adhered to the British system. The high school grades were called forms. Forms I to IV were equivalent to our grades 7 to 11. Students had to pass an exam after elementary school to qualify for secondary school, and an exam after completing form III to go on to form IV. Much time was spent teaching to the exams using questions from old exams.

The following are answers from some of my form I and II students.

#### FORM I

1. The word ocean is, ocean is a very big water. And is bigger than the sea.
2. Latitude is the wideness of the world and the longitude is the longness.
3. The word ocean is a boundary round the countries.
4. The major climatic regions are catholic and Mohamedan.
5. The word ocean is a big and wide place taking all by water.
6. The major climatic regions are wind, clouds, and rain.
7. An ocean is pieces of land which is surrounded or almost surrounded by water.
8. A continent is a very large city which has many other countries around it.

#### FORM II

9. All the people in Egypt live in the equator because they are equatorial people.
10. All the people in Egypt live in Argentina where they are cattle grazers.
11. A karoo is a wide treeless forest. (FYI: A karoo is an arid plateau of southern Africa.)

#### FORM I

12. Isotherm is the altitude of the climate.
13. Weather is the hot and cold gas we get.
14. The lower the temperature, the warmer the climate.

15. Isotherms are lines consistising temperature.
16. Isotherm is a season that accuse in winter.
17. Isotherm is heat of sun and temperature.
18. Altitude is a line connecting with the surface of the sea.
19. Climate is the mixture of water and wind.
20. Altitude is a temperate climate has a large range of temperature.
21. The nearness of the sea has such a marked effect on climate because the sea level is very low.
22. Weather is the season when there is too much heat.
23. Climate is a cause of weather.
24. An isotherm is the connection of the sun and wheather.
25. The nearness of the sea has such a marked effect on climate because the climate is change, when the northern hemisphere is on the sun, the southern hemisphere won't be there.
26. Weather is the daily change of climate.
27. Man can live comfortably in uplands of the tropical regions because the sun is not vertical in the uplands.
28. Altitude is a line drawn over the tropic of Cancer.
29. Altitude is the height in temperature of the day.
30. An isotherm is places near the equator.
31. Climate is places near the sea.
32. The nearness of the sea has such a marked effect on climate because the climate is colder than the weather.
33. An isotherm is the climate of places near the sea.
34. All places between the 10 degree F and 20 degree F isotherms are going to have temperatures between \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ degrees. (Only 2 out of 50 students got this correct.)

## FORM II

35. The tropical rainforest and the hot dry desert are differ because there is not dry desert. The place is very wet.
36. The tropical monsoon area's climate is in the savanna. There is no grass and the areas has no season. The savanna has no short grasses unless tall trees but the grassland has no dry season.

37. The vegetation of the tropical is 20"-70" in the hot deserts the place is cool. The place is cool because of the tropic. They are different because in the cool desert the place is hot and in the hot deserts the place is cool.
38. The tropical monsoon and the tropical grasslands are different because the tropical monsoon have daylight.
39. The climates of the tropical monsoon areas have no rainfall and tropical grasslands have less rainfall.

#### FORM I

40. Gum arabic is the language of the arabs.
41. Three groups of desert people are dates, figs, and vegetables

#### More but from unknown Form

42. \_The great plains are called that because they are so flat that even the largest planes can land there.
43. Greece is just a little spot on the map.
44. Food can be grown in dry areas if you irrigate the land.
45. Belgium is found between France and Germany on most maps.
46. The globe comes to a point as you reach either pole because everything shrinks in the cold.
47. Until the missionaries came the cannibals ate each other.
48. The two main products of cattle are
  - a) \_sheep and goats;
  - b) Cotton and wool; or
  - c) Maple sugar and eucalyptus.

Now in my students' defense, you must remember that their total life experience was life in a bush village or the town of Bo where they lived in a Catholic girls' dormitory. They had no access to television or newspapers. They had never seen the sea or experienced winter. They had no concept of the size of the world, Africa, or an ocean. So learning all these geographic terms was akin to learning a foreign language. And they learned by rote.

Thirty years later I was astounded to learn that there were over 50 QRS graduates in the Washington metropolitan area at that time.

