

# THE PEOPLE OF ASIA

## Directions

Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

Contest 1: Population Distribution		
<p>1. More people live in Asia than on any other continent. About (<u>35%</u>; <u>60%</u>) of the world's population reside there.</p> <p>10 _____</p>	<p>2. If Asia's people were distributed evenly throughout the continent, there would be (<u>less than 500</u>; <u>more than 3,000</u>) persons per square mile.</p> <p>10 _____</p>	<p>3. The two countries that rank first and second in the world in population are located in Asia. They are China and (<u>Japan</u>; <u>India</u>).</p> <p>10 _____</p>
<p>4. About one out of every five people on earth lives in China. The country's population is (<u>about 500 million</u>; <u>more than 1 billion</u>).</p> <p>20 _____</p>	<p>5. Areas that are hot and dry (like the Arabian Desert) or are very cold (like Siberia in northern Russia) are (<u>sparsely</u>; <u>densely</u>) populated.</p> <p>20 _____</p>	<p>6. Population distribution within a country is most influenced by that nation's (<u>geography</u>; <u>government</u>).</p> <p>20 _____</p>
<p>7. The overwhelming majority of Asians live where there is good farmland — in (<u>mountains and plateaus</u>; <u>river valleys and coastal areas</u>).</p> <p>30 _____</p>	<p>8. Bangladesh, Singapore, eastern China, much of India, most of Japan, and the island of Java in Indonesia rank among the world's most (<u>thickly</u>; <u>thinly</u>) populated areas.</p> <p>30 _____</p>	<p>9. Millions of people are crowded together in Asia's big cities. Even in many rural areas, where there are countless small villages, the population density is (<u>50 to 75</u>; <u>hundreds of thousands of</u>) people per square mile.</p> <p>30 _____</p>
<p><b>Total Points Scored</b> <span style="border: 1px solid white; display: inline-block; width: 50px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></span></p>		

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Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

<b>Contest 2: Ethnic Groups</b>		
<p>1. Asia has a wide variety of ethnic groups. The members of an ethnic group may be united by such things as the same religion, the same language, or a common (<u>ancestry</u>; <u>political party</u>).</p> <p>10 _____</p>	<p>2. Asia has dozens of ethnic groups. Some are large and others are small. A single nation (<u>always has one ethnic group</u>; <u>may have several groups</u>).</p> <p>10 _____</p>	<p>3. The largest ethnic groups on the continent include the Chinese in East Asia and the (<u>Sikhs</u>; <u>Arabs</u>) in Southwest Asia.</p> <p>10 _____</p>
<p>4. Ethnic groups have (<u>jobs</u>; <u>rules of conduct</u>) for their members and preserve artistic, religious, and other traditions.</p> <p>20 _____</p>	<p>5. In many parts of Asia, neighboring ethnic groups dislike and distrust each other. These feelings (<u>often</u>; <u>occasionally</u>) lead to violence between groups.</p> <p>20 _____</p>	<p>6. Fighting between ethnic groups has included Arabs and Jews, Greeks and Turks, Malays and Chinese, and (<u>Hindus and Muslims</u>; <u>Protestants and Buddhists</u>).</p> <p>20 _____</p>
<p>7. Fighting between the various ethnic groups in Asia strains relations among the countries. Such fighting also causes a lack of unity within (<u>nations</u>; <u>each ethnic group</u>).</p> <p>30 _____</p>	<p>8. Asia's people have many different physical characteristics. Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, and Southeast Asians have coarse hair and a fold of skin across the inner corner of their (<u>ears</u>; <u>eyes</u>).</p> <p>30 _____</p>	<p>9. Unlike other Asians, ethnic groups in Southwest Asia have fine hair. They include Arabs, Indians, and Turks. Small groups of (<u>North</u>; <u>Southeast</u>) Asians are dark-skinned and have curly hair.</p> <p>30 _____</p>
<p><b>Total Points Scored</b> <input type="text"/></p>		

Directions

Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

**Contest 3: Religions and Languages**

1. All the world's major religions began in Asia — Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shinto, and (animism; Taoism).

10 \_\_\_\_\_

2. More Asians practice Hinduism than any other religion. Hinduism is the major faith in (Pakistan; India).

10 \_\_\_\_\_

3. After Hinduism, Islam has the largest number of followers in Asia. Most of the people of Southwest Asia and Central Asia are (Muslims; Irians) — followers of Islam.

10 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Buddhism is the chief religion of Southeast Asia. Confucianism and Taoism have many followers in China, and Shinto is important in (Japan; Indonesia).

20 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Christianity, which has more followers than any other religion in the world, has never been a major faith in Asia. Judaism is the chief religion in only one nation — (Iran; Israel).

20 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Experts have grouped all languages of the world into nine major language families. Languages of all these groups except (African; European) have wide use in Asia.

20 \_\_\_\_\_

7. The many languages and dialects (local forms of languages) spoken in Asia cause communication problems. In one of India's states, for example, the people speak (more than 375; about 15) languages and dialects.

30 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Arabic and Hebrew are the chief languages of Southwest Asia, and Russian is the principal language in North Asia. Most East Asians speak Chinese, Japanese, or (Korean; Pakistani).

30 \_\_\_\_\_

9. Burmese, Lao, Thai, Khmer, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Malay, and Filipino are all spoken in Southeast Asia. In South Asia, India has two official languages — Hindi and (English; Nepalese).

30 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Points Scored**

## The People of Asia

### Multiple-Choice

- (1) \_\_\_\_ The percentage of the world's population living in Asia is about: (a) 15% (b) 35% (c) 60%
- (2) \_\_\_\_ The number of people that live in a given area is influenced most by factors related to: (a) history (b) geography (c) government
- (3) \_\_\_\_ Two parts of Asia that are sparsely populated are: (a) Siberia and the Arabian Desert (b) Bangladesh and Singapore (c) Japan and Java
- (4) \_\_\_\_ In Asia's most densely populated places, hundreds of thousands of people are crowded together within: (a) 1 square mile (b) 10 square miles (c) 100 square miles
- (5) \_\_\_\_ Members of an ethnic group usually have a common religion, language, and: (a) occupation (b) ancestry (c) political party

### Completion

- (6) The Asian nations that rank first and second in world population are \_\_\_\_\_ and India, respectively.
- (7) The country where Confucianism and Taoism have many followers is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (8) Communication problems have resulted from the large number of \_\_\_\_\_ and dialects.
- (9) \_\_\_\_\_ has relatively few followers in Asia, but is a major religion elsewhere in the world.
- (10) Conflicts between \_\_\_\_\_ groups has included Hindus and Muslims and Arabs and Jews.

### Matching

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| (11) ____ Asia           | (a) where all of the world's major religions began               |
| (12) ____ India          | (b) most of the people living there are Arabs who practice Islam |
| (13) ____ Southwest Asia | (c) where Judaism is the principal religion                      |
| (14) ____ Israel         | (d) where Hindi and English are the official languages           |
| (15) ____ Southeast Asia | (e) Filipino, Malay, Thai, Lao, and Khmer are spoken there       |

### True-False

- (16) \_\_\_\_\_ Asia's population is distributed evenly across the continent.
- (17) \_\_\_\_\_ The main reason why the majority of people live in river valleys and coastal areas is the good fishing there.
- (18) \_\_\_\_\_ Each country in Asia has one ethnic group.
- (19) \_\_\_\_\_ People throughout the continent have the same physical characteristics.
- (20) \_\_\_\_\_ Large numbers of Southwest Asians speak Arabic and Hebrew.