

**Who am I? What am I?**

Read the following paragraphs and look for hints to see what place in the world is being described. Then solve the riddle.

14. I'm deep and narrow—I'm shaped like a V.  
Weathering and erosion created me.  
My Spanish origin means "tube" or "pipe"  
And my cousin, the gorge, gets much less hype.  
For millions of years, the Colorado River wore me down.  
In one place I measure a mile from my base to my crown.

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15. I begin high in the Andes as a small stream.  
I travel eastward and reflect the sun's gleam.  
I'm the world's second largest—I'm always in motion.  
I traverse a tropical rain forest and empty into the ocean.  
One-fifth of the world's fresh water, into the Atlantic I pour.  
My mouth is located very near the equator!

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16. I'm a narrow passage of water connecting an ocean and a sea.  
Strategically, one is more powerful, so it controls me.  
My narrow body separates Africa and Spain.  
My link to the Atlantic has been of great gain.  
I have many brothers such as Messina and Hormuz.  
I'm found barely in the Eastern Hemisphere, if a map you peruse.

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17. I'm a body of water sheltered by a natural barrier.  
Into my refuge sails many an ocean carrier.  
I'm one of the finest with small tidal variations.  
I have very deep water and little current fluctuation.  
As you cross from Manhattan to Staten, you will see  
That Lady Liberty welcomes all who visit me.

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18. I'm arid and dry, subtropical in kind.  
In my landscape, an oasis is hard to find.  
I'm crossed by the tropic of Cancer and receive little rain.  
My vastness and heat can inflict immense pain.  
I'm the largest hot one in the Eastern Hemisphere.  
The Mediterranean Sea is fairly near to me here.

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19. I'm an underground chamber in New Mexico.  
Many visit me yearly- then off they go!  
My 21-mile-long passages are like a maze.  
At my stalactites, many curious visitors gaze.  
It's very dark inside me without a light.  
The bats that inhabit me can give folks a fright!

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20. I'm a large body of water.  
Completely surrounded by land.  
My area is 371,000 square kilometer;  
My "lake" standards, I'm grand.  
I'm located in the Eastern Hemisphere.  
Between two other landforms like me.  
You can stand on my shore in Iran  
And the former Soviet Union, you see.

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21. I'm a long, narrow inlet reaching far inland from the sea.  
I form in U-shaped valleys-glaciers carved the way for me.  
I form a natural harbor-my sides are long and steep.  
I'm the most famous one in Norway-my walls are 3,280 feet deep.

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22. As I die, I leave behind a colored bony legacy.  
I grow very slowly-the ocean's floor is where I'll be.  
1,250 miles is the length some have measured me.  
I'm shaped like branches and fans, and have cousins in the Florida Keys.  
I'm the greatest natural barrier between the ocean and the land "down under."  
My rough calcium-carbonated edges can tear a ship asunder!

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23. The state of California is where I can be found.  
When I'm most destructive, I'm accompanied by sound.  
I'm a break in Earth's crust; plate movement occurs along me.  
Earthquakes often result wherever I happen to be!

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24. I'm a huge landmass whose inhabitants are diverse.  
I contain the world's longest river; in its waters  
you can immerse.  
The world's largest hot desert spans the  
northern part of me,  
And a portion of my border is the  
Mediterranean Sea.  
The equator dissects me, but nearby many  
people seek  
To climb Mt. Kilimanjaro, my highest mountain peak.

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25. My bowl-like shape leaves me depressed.  
Near Winslow, AZ, is the place where I rest.  
I'm found on the earth, but others like me  
Are found on the moon where I'd like to be.  
A major high-speed force from outer space  
Has left its impression on the earth's face.

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26. I'm a body of water that can vary greatly in size.  
I'm one of the highest in the world-in the mountains,  
you may surmise.  
You'll find me in South America-floating "islands"  
are made from my reeds.  
Indians live on these islands, and I supply their every  
need!

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27. Groundwater saturates me and soaks me right through.  
From an airplane window, my wide expanse  
you can view.  
I support many plants and animals in  
my grassy habitat,  
Where ducks, turtles, and snakes manage to  
grow rather fat!  
I live in southern Florida close to the  
Atlantic Coast.  
"I'm a unique national park" is my  
primary boast!

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28. Inside my quiet refuge it's shady and cool.  
I need 30 inches yearly rainfall-that's the  
"geographic rule."  
My relatives are on most continents, and  
My foliage shades the ground. Antarctica is  
the only landmass which I cannot be found.  
I'm located in California- I stand tall above the rest.  
In my outstretched arms, you'll often find a nest.

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29. From my mouth I spew hot water from  
inside the earth.  
Magma heats me up HOT- every hour I rebirth.  
Pressure makes me explode and eject  
water into the air.  
Thousands of visitors gaze at me, for  
I'm unusually rare.  
I'm in a northwestern state- in a national  
park I reside.

When I explode toward the sky, amazement  
you cannot hide!

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30. I'm in the Southwest, once covered by a tropical sea.  
My peaks were part of a reef, but erosion uncovered  
me. In the walls of my cliffs are fossils of  
marine animals and plants.  
In my highlands you may view black bears and  
elk, by chance.  
One of my peaks, El Capitan, stands like a  
sentry guarding the plains.  
Overlooking the Chihuahuan Desert, which  
receives little rain. I'm rugged and hearty,  
and my silhouette stands bold.

Through my peaks and my valleys, my history is told!

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