



QUICK COMPS - DESERTS



Deserts are found on all seven continents, but what is a desert? A desert is a region that receives less than 25 cm of rain per year. They can be 'hot and dry', 'semi-arid', 'cold' or 'coastal' and make up one third of our planet's land area. Deserts are also called 'arid areas' which comes from the Latin word 'aridus' meaning dry. Approximately one billion people live in the desert regions on Earth. Only 20% of the world's deserts are made up of sand; most deserts are icy or made up of rocks and gravel. The largest hot desert in the world is the Sahara in North Africa which is almost as large as Europe. The Sahara desert is also the hottest desert in the world. The driest desert in the world is the Atacama Desert in South America where no rain fell for 401 years, between 1570 and 1971!



Five W's - Write the correct answer in the box.

What fraction of the Earth's land area is desert?	
What does 'aridus' mean?	
How many main types of desert are there?	
Where is the largest hot desert?	

Matching - Draw lines to join the information.

Driest desert	made up of sand
Sahara Desert	as large as Europe
20% of deserts	Atacama

True or False - Write T (True) or F (False).

The Sahara desert is a cold desert.	
The Atacama desert once had no rain for 1570 years.	
20% of the world's deserts are icy and rocky.	
Deserts have less than 25 cm of rainfall per year.	

Fill in the Gap - Write the missing word from the text.

Deserts are also called 'arid areas' which comes from the _____ word 'aridus' meaning dry.
_____ one billion people live in the desert regions on Earth.
Only 20% of the world's deserts are made up of sand; most deserts are _____ or made up of rocks and gravel.
The _____ desert is also the hottest desert in the world.

Multiple Choice - Approximately how many people live in desert regions on Earth? (Circle the correct answer)

20 million	1 billion	401 million	1971
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Sequence in Order - In what order do these appear in the text? (Write 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the smaller boxes)

gravel		continents		semi-arid		North Africa	
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Circle the Word - Circle the word that means to get or be given something.

A desert is a region that receives less than 25 cm of rain per year.

Find and Copy - Write the word that suggests that it may be surprising that only 20% of deserts are sandy.

Only 20% of the world's deserts are made up of sand; most deserts are icy or made up of rocks and gravel.



QUICK COMPREHENSION - ANSWERS



Deserts are found on all seven continents, but what is a desert? A desert is a region that receives less than 25 cm of rain per year. They can be 'hot and dry', 'semi-arid', 'cold' or 'coastal' and make up one third of our planet's land area. Deserts are also called 'arid areas' which comes from the Latin word 'aridus' meaning dry. Approximately one billion people live in the desert regions on Earth. Only 20% of the world's deserts are made up of sand; most deserts are icy or made up of rocks and gravel. The largest hot desert in the world is the Sahara in North Africa which is almost as large as Europe. The Sahara desert is also the hottest desert in the world. The driest desert in the world is the Atacama Desert in South America where no rain fell for 401 years, between 1570 and 1971!



Five W's - Write the correct answer in the box.

What fraction of the Earth's land area is desert?	One third ($\frac{1}{3}$)
What does 'aridus' mean?	dry
How many main types of desert are there?	4
Where is the largest hot desert?	Sahara

Matching - Draw lines to join the information.

Driest desert		made up of sand
Sahara Desert		as large as Europe
20% of deserts		Atacama

True or False - Write T (True) or F (False).

The Sahara desert is a cold desert.	F
The Atacama desert once had no rain for 1570 years.	F
20% of the world's deserts are icy and rocky.	F
Deserts have less than 25 cm of rainfall per year.	T

Fill in the Gap - Write the missing word from the text.

Deserts are also called 'arid areas' which comes from the _____ word 'aridus' meaning dry.
_____ one billion people live in the desert regions on Earth.
Only 20% of the world's deserts are made up of sand; most deserts are _____ or made up of rocks and gravel.
The _____ desert is also the hottest desert in the world.

Multiple Choice - Approximately how many people live in desert regions on Earth? (Circle the correct answer)

20 million	1 billion	401 million	1971
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Sequence in Order In what order do these appear in the text? (Write 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the smaller boxes)

gravel	3	continents	1	semi-arid	2	North Africa	4
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Circle the Word - Circle the word that means to get or be given something.

A desert is a region that **receives** less than 25 cm of rain per year.

Find and Copy - Write the word that suggests that it may be surprising that only 20% of deserts are sandy.

Only 20% of the world's deserts are made up of sand; most deserts are icy or made up of rocks and gravel.

only