

BASIC GEOGRAPHY CONCEPTS

DESERTS

- 1) Deserts are characterised by,
 - a) So much rain fall, dryness, high temperatures.
 - b) Little rain fall, more evaporation and less precipitation, high temperatures.
 - c) Thick bushes, heavy rain fall, and very low temperatures.

- 2) Why does sunlight penetrate the ground in the desert?
 - a) Because there are no clouds in the desert.
 - b) Because there is no grass on ground.
 - c) Because of lack of moisture in the soil and low humidity in the atmosphere.

- 3) Why does temperatures in the desert drop to almost freezing point at night?
 - a) The desert floor radiates heat back to the atmosphere.
 - b) The atmosphere radiates heat to the desert floor.
 - c) Ice is found on the desert floor at night.

- 4) Deserts are caused by a combination of climate patterns and geological features.
 - a) False
 - b) True
 - c) Don't know

- 5) Which desert doesn't support life?
 - a) All deserts.
 - b) Saharan desert.
 - c) Arid desert lands.

- 6) Deserts are caused by a combination of
 - a) Dry lands and hot water bodies.
 - b) climate patterns and geological features.
 - c) Desert winds and clouds.

- 7) How do plants in the desert react to water scarcity?
 - a) They die.
 - b) They wither.
 - c) They have evolved ways of conserving and efficiently using the water available to them.

- 8) No flowering plants are found in the desert.
 - a) True
 - b) False
 - c) Don't know

- 9) Some flowering desert plants are able to live for as long as,
- a) A few days at most.
 - b) Months
 - c) Years
- 10) How do woody desert plants adapt to little water in the desert?
- a) They have long root systems that can reach deep water sources.
 - b) They have spreading shallow roots that are able to take up surface moisture quickly from heavy dews and occasional rains.
 - c) a and b are correct.
- 11) Most desert plants carry out photosynthesis using their,
- a) Leaves
 - b) Roots
 - c) Stems
- 12) ----- is an example of a desert animal.
- a) Goats
 - b) Camels
 - c) Elephant
- 13) Most desert animals mature rapidly, mate, and lay eggs during the dry season.
- a) True
 - b) False
 - c) Don't know
- 14) Desert plants growing on saline soil have a tendency of concentrating salt in their sap.
- a) True
 - b) False
 - c) Don't know.
- 15) What is referred to as desertification?
- a) Changing a desert to a plain land.
 - b) Burning and overgrazing of semiarid lands on the periphery of deserts leading to encroachment on arable land.
 - c) Cutting trees in a desert.

Valid answers in green

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