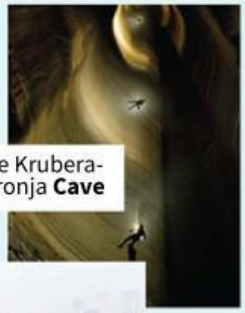
6 The physical world

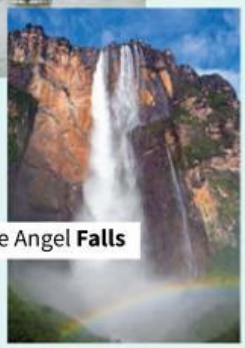
A Facts



The Krubera-Voronja **Cave**



Beijing-Hangshou Grand **Canal**



The Angel **Falls**

DID YOU KNOW...?

Two thirds of the **surface**[1] of the **Earth**[2], is **covered in**, water.

El Azizia in Libya is the hottest place **in the world**, where **temperatures** of **over**[3] 57 °C (57 **degrees** Celsius) have been recorded.

The coldest place **on earth** is probably Vostok in Antarctica, which reached a temperature of **minus** 89 °C.

The Krubera-Voronja **Cave** near the Black Sea coast in Georgia, is the deepest cave in the world. It is **over** 2000 metres deep.

The Beijing–Hangzhou Grand **Canal** is the longest canal in the world. It is 1,794 kilometres long.

The highest **waterfall** in the world is the Angel Falls in Venezuela. It is 979 metres high.

The Amazon Rainforest is the largest **rainforest** in the world, **covering** 40% of the South American continent.

The Pacifi c is the largest **ocean** in the world, and is nearly twice the size of the Atlantic Ocean.

[1] the top or outside part [2] the planet we live on [3] more than

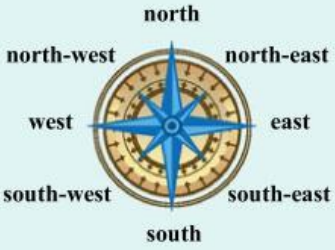
Language help

Cover can mean that something is over something else, e.g. *The surface was **covered in** water; The ground was **covered with** snow*. Cover can also refer to the size of something, e.g. *The Amazon rainforest **covers** 40% of South America*, or the distance you travel, e.g. *We **covered** ten miles in one day*.

B Geography

Switzerland **consists of** [is made or formed from] three main geographical **regions** [areas in a country or the world]: The Swiss Plateau, The Jura, and The Alps. Switzerland is a land of **contrasts** [big differences], with completely different **landscapes** [the appearance of an area of land]. The **climate** [weather conditions] can also change within a very short **distance**. For example, Ascona **in the south** has an almost Mediterranean climate, but the Dufour Peak in Valais has a very cold climate. The **distance** between the two is just 70 kilometres.





LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

6.1 **Look at the map of Switzerland and complete the sentences.**

1 Zurich is *in the north*.
2 The Jura mountains are ..... .
3 Geneva is ..... .
4 St Gallen is ..... .
5 Basel is ..... .
6 Lake Constance is ..... .
7 Locarno is ..... .

6.2 **Test your knowledge. Can you complete these sentences without looking at the opposite page?**

1 Two thirds of the *surface* of the Earth is covered in water.
2 Vostok in Antarctica is the ..... .
3 El Azizia in Libya is the ..... .
4 The Krubera-Voronja ..... is the deepest in the world.
5 The Beijing–Hangzhou Grand ..... is the longest in the world.
6 At 979 metres the Angel Falls is the highest ..... in the world.
7 The Amazon is the largest ..... .
8 The largest ..... in the world is the Pacific.
9 The ..... we live on is called the Earth.

6.3 **Complete the sentences.**

1 Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the *world*.
2 In the autumn, the ground is ..... in leaves that have fallen off the trees.
3 You find this animal in the semi-desert ..... of Australia.
4 Brazil is a country of ..... : large empty areas inland, and cities near the coast.
5 The Amazon rainforest ..... 40% of the South American continent.
6 Mountains and lakes are typical of the ..... in Switzerland.
7 It was a freezing night. The ..... was well below zero.
8 Switzerland ..... of three main geographical regions.
9 It takes the moon just under 28 days to go round the ..... .
10 People say Cape Town in South Africa has a wonderful ..... : sunny for much of the year, and never too hot or very cold.
11 The ..... from London to Paris is 340 kilometres; that's less than the ..... from London to Edinburgh.
12 When the temperature fell to ..... 10 ..... Celsius, all the schools in the town closed.

6.4 **Over to you**

Answer the questions about your country and your region.

1 What are the highest and lowest temperatures?

2 Do you like the climate?

3 Are there any regions which have a very different landscape from the rest of the country?

4 Do you have any long canals, or famous caves or waterfalls?

5 How would you describe the landscape in the region where you live?

6 What's the distance from the place where you live to the next big town?

LIVEWORKSHEETS