

Exercise 2: Choose the correct word A, B, C or D for each gap to complete the following passage.

More than a billion people all over the world are (1) _____ the threat of desert expansion, but few of them are aware that they themselves cause it and are also its (2) _____. People cut (3) _____ trees for fuel and farmland. Their herd eat (4) _____ the grass covering valley floors and hillsides. The climate and soil quality, therefore, are affected and forests are turned into (5) _____.

In some places, many people had to leave their homes when their wells became dry and sand buried their houses and crops. Therefore, government in nearby areas have had local people (6) _____ trees and banned burning firewood for fuel. Many techniques have been (7) _____. For example, in Iran, a thin covering of oil was poured on sandy areas to retain (8) _____ for planting trees, but this method may harm the environment. Other countries built long canals or pipelines (9) _____ water to desert areas.

Unless people find more (10) _____ methods, their homes and land will be lost. The last against the desert is continuing.

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| 1. A. of | B. in | C. on | D. under |
| 2. A. victims | B. enemies | C. friends | D. effects |
| 3. A. off | B. back | C. down | D. in |
| 4. A. up | B. away | C. into | D. out |
| 5. A. blanks | B. deserts | C. spaces | D. bareness |
| 6. A. planting | B. plant | C. to plant | D. planted |
| 7. A. using | B. use | C. used | D. uses |
| 8. A. fertilizer | B. soil | C. earth | D. water |
| 9. A. to carry | B. take | C. fetch | D. bring |
| 10. A. great | B. effective | C. major | D. useful |