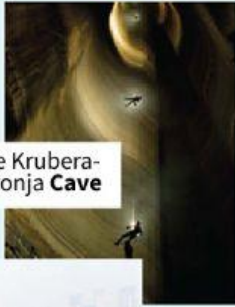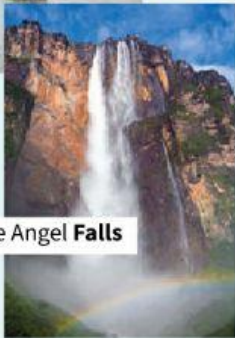# 6 The physical world

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.

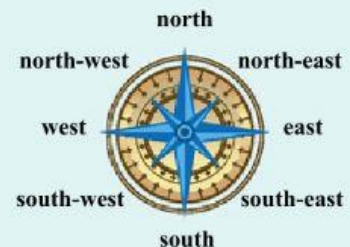[1] the top or outside part   [2] the planet we live on   [3] more than

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.

English Vocabulary in Use Pre-intermediate and intermediate

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
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Over to you
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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?

English Vocabulary in Use Pre-intermediate and intermediate **19**

LIVEWORKSHEETS