a) Read the text quickly and write the names of the places under the pictures.

Seven wonders of the natural world

The **Grand Canyon** is in the state of Arizona in the U.S.A. The Colorado River, which runs through the Canyon, has gradually made the impressive formations visitors see. The Grand Canyon is 277 miles long, up to 18 miles wide and has a depth of over 5,250 ft. The many layers of rock in the Canyon are thought to be over two billion years old!

Mount Everest is part of the Himalayan mountain range in Asia. Standing at about 5.5 miles, it is the highest mountain in the world and also one of the youngest. Scientists believe the Himalayan mountains were created millions of years ago when India, which was then a separate continent, and Asia crashed into each other.

Victoria Falls is a magnificent waterfall. It is 5,577 ft. wide, making it the largest curtain of water in the world. The falls are on the Zambezi River, which marks the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe in Africa. You can see and hear the roaring of the falls from many miles away. The people of that area call it *Mosi-oa-Tunya* which means "smoke that thunders."

The **Great Barrier Reef** is close to the north-eastern coast of Australia. It is made of living coral, sand and rock. The Great Barrier Reef is home to lots of amazing sea creatures. What makes it so unique is the fact that it stretches for more than 1,240 miles across the ocean. It is the world's largest living structure and can be seen from outer space!

The **Northern Lights**, also called the *aurora borealis*, is a natural light display that dances across the night sky. You can see this impressive light show, particularly in the skies of the northern region. It is most intense from December to March when nights are longer, the sky is clearer and darker. The Northern Lights give off colors that include red, green, blue and violet, and a single display can last 10 to 15 minutes. The lights are created by storms on the sun which affect the magnetic poles on Earth.

Paricutin is a volcano located in Michoacán, Mexico. On February 20th 1943 the ground under a cornfield cracked open and out of it exploded a volcanic cone made of rock and lava. The amazing event was actually witnessed by an Indian farmer. The eruptions continued and the cone reached more than 1,100 ft. high within a year. The cone continued to grow for another 8 years but added only another 288 ft. It is now about 9,840 ft. high.

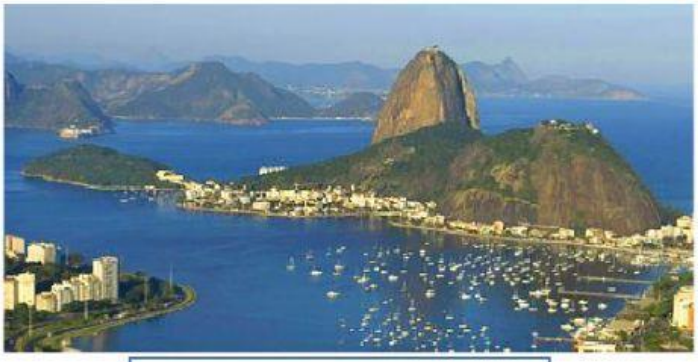
The **Harbor of Rio de Janeiro**, located in Brazil, is one of the largest natural harbors in the world. The dark blue water of the harbor is surrounded by spectacular mountains including the famous Sugar Loaf Mountain and Corcovado Mountain. The natural harbor also has some of the world's most beautiful and famous beaches such as Copacabana and Ipanema.















B. Read the text again and write T for True, F for False or NM for Not Mentioned.

1. The Grand Canyon was created 2 billion years ago. ○
2. Mount Everest was created millions of years ago making it one of the oldest mountains in the world. ○
3. Victoria Falls is between the countries of Zambia and Zimbabwe. ○
4. The Great Barrier Reef is unlike other reefs because of its size. ○
5. You can only see the Northern Lights in December and March. ○
6. The creation of Paricutin was a fairly recent event. ○
7. Visitors enjoy the view of the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro from the top of Corcovado Mountain. ○