

# Vocabulary The Natural world

• Match the words to the definitions.

Unit

riverbed

lush

mountain

dry

barren

wasteland

desert

sandy

rugged

- a.  *adj.* having lots of trees, plants, and grass
- b.  *adj.* dry land where plants cannot grow
- c.  *adj.* having a rocky, irregular surface
- d.  *adj.* with little or no rainfall or humidity
- e.  *adj.* full of or covered with sand
- f.  *n.* the ground at the bottom of a river
- g.  *n.* a large area of land with few plants and little water where the weather is always dry
- h.  *n.* a large natural elevation of the earth's surface which rises higher than the surrounding land
- i.  *n.* an unused area of land where nothing can grow or be built

Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- a. The soil near rivers is usually very , which is why many civilizations have flourished there.
- b. Wildfires can destroy acres of , especially during the dry season.
- c. It is usually humid and difficult to travel through a , as the vegetation there is very dense.
- d.  land is dry and plants cannot grow there.
- e. The surface of Mars is described as a , with features similar to those on Earth.
- f. They built a castle on a  which allowed them to see if enemies were going to attack.
- g. It is the biggest in the country and you can enjoy waterskiing, sailing, or fishing on the .
- h. It doesn't rain during the  season.

1 Match the columns to make word pairs from the article.

- a. sandy  riverbeds
- b. dry  wasteland
- c. rugged  deserts
- d. barren  vegetation
- e. lush  mountains

2 Underline the unrelated word in each group. Use your dictionary as needed.

- a. flowers    vegetation    grass    dry
- b. woods    plateau    forest    jungle
- c. mountain    lake    river    sea
- d. barren    rugged    fertile    desert