Chile's Weather

Read the text and answer the questions

The South American country of Chile has a diverse climate with equally varied weather. One area, the Atacama Desert, located in northern Chile, is considered to be the driest non-polar place on earth. It is so arid in some parts that it is thought that there was no significant precipitation from 1570 to 1971, a period of over 400 years! The **absolute** aridity of the desert is explained by the fact that it sits between two mountain ranges creating a two-sided rain shadow, which is an area located on the leeward side of a mountain, protecting it from rainstorms and keeping it very dry. **Extreme** droughts are common, which is why the population is small for such a large area, with only around 300000 people. Easter Island, located in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, is unique in Chile as it is the only region in the country classified as a tropical rainforest. The temperature is warm, averaging around 20-25°C, with 1118 mm of rain annually. This weather, along with the *moai*, or giant carved stones, makes Easter Island a popular tourist destination for people from all over the world.

1. Where is the Atacama Desert located?

A) Southern Chile
B) Northern Chile
C) Central Chile
D) Western Chile

2. Why is the Atacama Desert so arid?

A) It is surrounded by mountains
B) It is located near a polar region
C) It receives heavy rainfall throughout the year
D) It is a tropical rainforest

3. Why is the population of the Atacama Desert small?

A) It is a popular tourist destination
B) Extreme heat makes it difficult to live there
C) There are frequent rainstorms
D) Extreme droughts are common

4. Where is Easter Island located?

A) In the Atlantic Ocean
B) In the Indian Ocean
C) In the Pacific Ocean
D) In the Mediterranean Sea

5. What is unique about Easter Island in Chile?

A) It is a desert
B) It is a tropical rainforest
C) It has a large population
D) It is known for its giant carved stones

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