

THE LIVING DESERT

Track 18

The Atacama Desert is in South America. It is the (1)_____ place on Earth. It gets almost no rain – about 1 centimetre each year. It is hot during the day and cold at night. Not many (2)_____ grow in the Atacama Desert.

The Sahara Desert is the (3)_____ hot desert on Earth. It is a very hot desert. The Sahara Desert is in northern Africa. It covers 12 different countries. Some parts of the Sahara are (4)_____ , but most parts are (5)_____. The name ‘Sahara’ means ‘great desert’ in the Arabic language.

The Sonoran Desert is in North America. Like all other deserts it is a (6)_____ place, but there are a few heavy rainfalls in the summer and in the winter. Grown in the Sonoran Desert, the saguaro cactus plant, the tallest (7)_____ on Earth, grows as tall as a six-storey building.

Some deserts are called ‘cold deserts.’ The Antarctic Desert is the largest cold desert on Earth. The Antarctic Desert is covered with (8)_____!

The Gobi Desert in Asia is also called a ‘cold desert’. In the (9)_____, the Gobi Desert is very cold and very windy. But in the (10)_____, the Gobi Desert can get very hot.