

14

The biggest and the best!

1

Geography

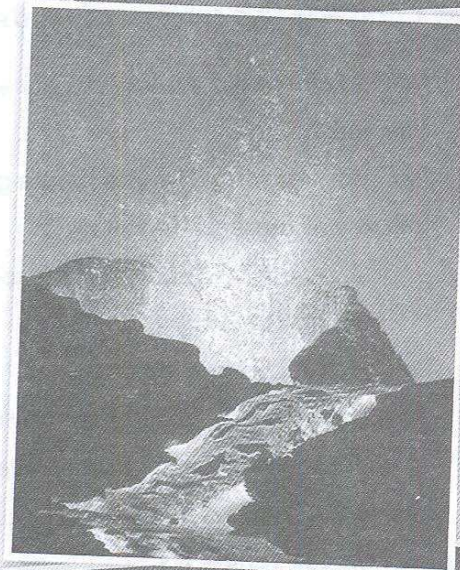
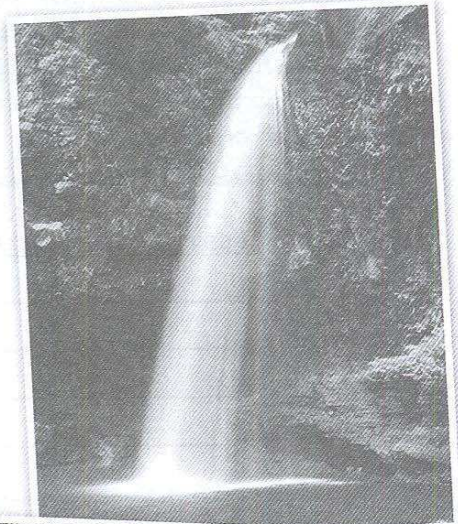
A Circle the correct word.

1. This is a stream of water occurring when a river falls from a high place.
 (a) waterfall b. ocean c. hill
2. This is a large area of land that has lots of trees on it.
 a. desert b. forest c. river
3. This is a low area of land between mountains or hills.
 a. valley b. river c. beach
4. This is an area of water with land all around it.
 a. lake b. ocean c. island
5. This is a mountain with a hole on top. Smoke and lava sometimes come out, and it can be dangerous.
 a. hill b. canyon c. volcano
6. This is a dry, sandy place. It doesn't rain much here, and there aren't many plants.
 a. desert b. sea c. volcano

B Complete the names. Use words from the box.

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canyon | <input type="checkbox"/> Falls | <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desert | <input type="checkbox"/> Mount | <input type="checkbox"/> River | <input type="checkbox"/> Sea |

1. Grand Canyon
2. Amazon _____
3. _____ Superior
4. _____ Fuji
5. Mediterranean _____
6. Angel _____
7. Pacific _____
8. Sahara _____



2

Write the comparative and superlative of the words given.

Spelling note: Comparatives and superlatives

Add -er or -est to most words.

Add -r or -st to words ending in -e.

Drop the y and add -ier or -iest.

Double the final consonant and add -er or -est.

Adjective

long

large

dry

big

Comparative

longer

larger

drier

bigger

Superlative

the longest

the largest

the driest

the biggest

1. busy busier the busiest

2. cool _____

3. friendly _____

4. heavy _____

5. nice _____

6. noisy _____

7. old _____

8. safe _____

9. small _____

10. wet _____

3

Complete this conversation. Use the superlative of the words given.

Ian: So where did you go for your vacation, Val?

Val: Italy.

Ian: How exciting! Did you have a good time?

Val: It was terrific! I think Italy is

the most exciting (exciting)

country in Europe.

Ian: Well, it certainly has some of

_____ (famous)

cities in the world – Rome, Milan, and Venice.

Val: Yeah. I had _____ (good)

time in Venice. It's _____

(beautiful) city I've ever seen. Of course, it's also

one of _____ (popular)

tourist attractions. It was _____ (crowded)

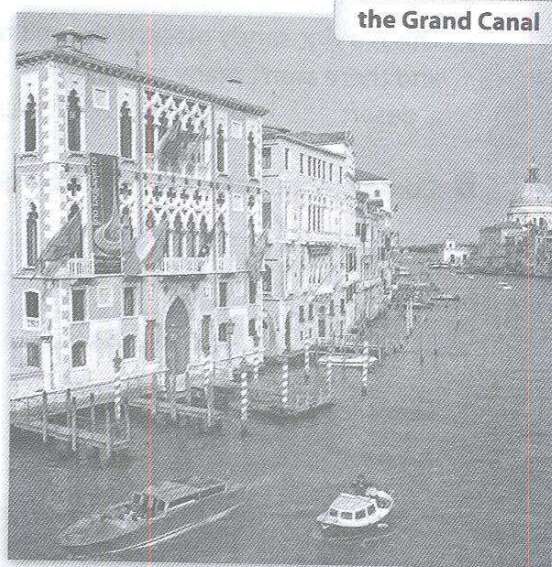
city I visited this summer, and there weren't even any cars!

Ian: I've always wanted to visit Venice. What's it like in the winter?

Val: Actually, that's _____ (bad) time to visit unless

you want to avoid the summer crowds. Venice is one of

_____ (cold and foggy) places in Italy in the winter.



the Grand Canal

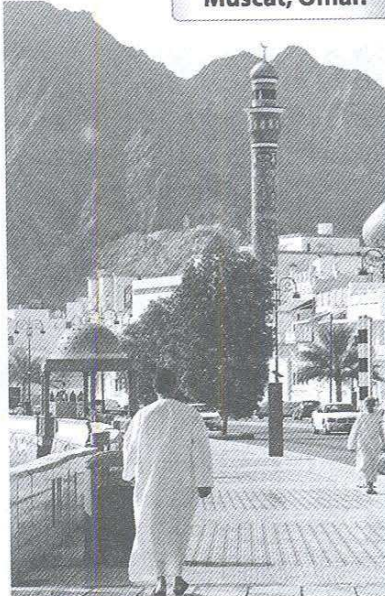
4

Complete these sentences. Use the comparative or the superlative of the words given.

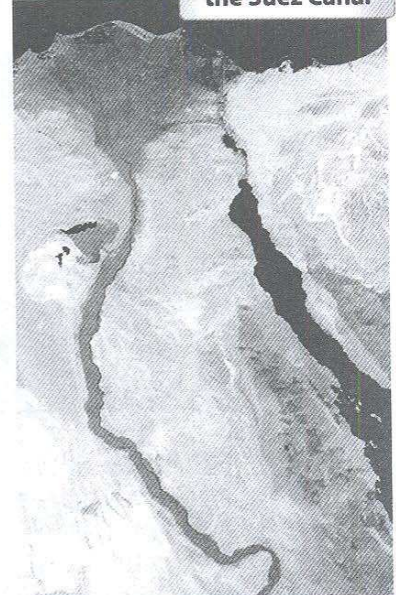
Mont Blanc



Muscat, Oman



the Suez Canal

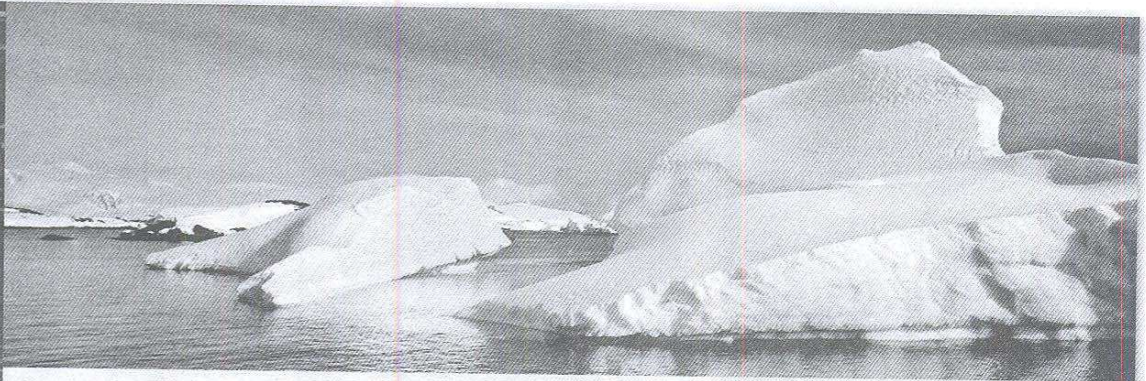


1. Mont Blanc in the French Alps is higher than (high) the Matterhorn in the Swiss Alps.
2. The hottest (hot) capital city in the world is Muscat, in Oman.
3. The Suez Canal joins the Mediterranean and Red seas. It is 190 kilometers (118 miles) long. It is _____ (long) the Panama Canal.
4. Canada and Russia are _____ (large) countries in the world.
5. Russia is _____ (large) Canada.
6. _____ (high) waterfall in the world is in Venezuela.
7. The Atacama Desert in Chile is _____ (dry) place in the world.
8. Mount Waialeale in Hawaii gets 1,170 centimeters (460 inches) of rain a year. It is _____ (wet) place on earth!
9. The continent of Antarctica is _____ (cold) any other place in the world.
10. The Himalayas are some of _____ (dangerous) mountains to climb.
11. Badwater, in California's Death Valley, is _____ (low) point in North America.
12. The Pacific Ocean is _____ (deep) the Atlantic Ocean. At one place, the Pacific Ocean is 11,033 meters (36,198 feet) deep.

5

The coldest and the windiest!

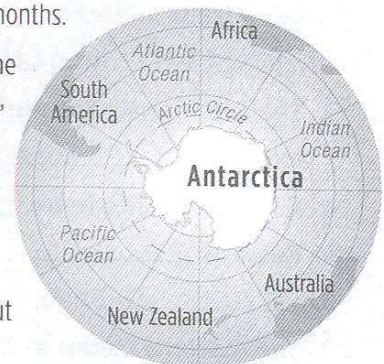
A Scan the article about Antarctica. In what ways is it different from other places on earth? Why do scientists work there?



ANTARCTICA is the most southern continent in the world. It's like nowhere else on earth. It's much larger than Europe and nearly twice the size of Australia. It's an icy plateau with the South Pole at its center. Antarctica is the coldest and windiest place in the world, even colder and windier than the North Pole. Although 98 percent of Antarctica is covered in ice, it is considered a desert. Along the coast, annual precipitation is only 200 millimeters (eight inches) a year. Very few plants grow there, but there is some wildlife, including whales, seals, and penguins. In the summer, the sun shines for 24 hours a day, but in the winter, it's completely dark for about three months.

When Captain James Cook sailed around the continent in the 1770s, he found no one living there. Today, a few scientists work in Antarctica, but they only spend fairly short periods of time there. Many of these scientists live and work on the Antarctic Peninsula. This area is the closest part of Antarctica to South America, the continent's nearest neighbor. Many of these scientists are studying the effects of climate change there.

Scientists think that this cold and lonely place can teach us a lot about the earth and how to keep it safe.



B Read about Antarctica. Check (✓) True or False.

	True	False
1. Europe is bigger than Antarctica.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The North Pole is the coldest place in the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The coasts in Antarctica get a lot of snow.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. In Antarctica, it never gets dark in the summer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Captain Cook found a few people living in Antarctica.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The South Pole is the closest part of Antarctica to South America.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Scientists there are studying changes in climate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

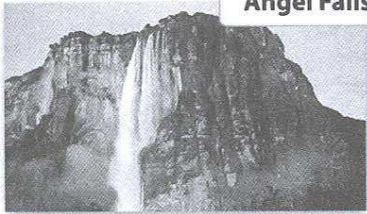
6

Geography quiz

Use the words in the box. Write questions about the pictures.
Then circle the correct answers.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> How big | <input type="checkbox"/> How deep | <input type="checkbox"/> How long |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How cold | <input type="checkbox"/> How far | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> How high |

Angel Falls



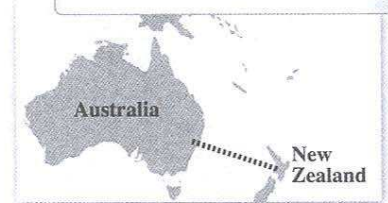
1. How high is Angel Falls?

- a. It's 979 meters (3,212 feet) tall.
b. It's 979 meters high.

2. _____

- a. It's about 2,000 kilometers (1,200 miles).
b. It's about 2,000 square kilometers.

Australia to New Zealand



the Yangtze River



3. _____

- a. It's 6,300 kilometers (3,917 miles) long.
b. It's 6,300 kilometers high.

4. _____

- a. It gets up to -88.3 degrees Celsius
(-126.9 degrees Fahrenheit).
b. It gets down to -88.3 degrees Celsius.

Antarctica



the Amazon Rain Forest



5. _____

- a. It's 6 million square kilometers (2.5 million square miles).
b. It's 6 million kilometers long.

6. _____

- a. It's about 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) big.
b. It's about 1.6 kilometers deep.

the Grand Canyon



7

Answer these questions about your country.

1. How big is the largest city?

2. What's the wettest month?

3. What's the driest month?

4. How hot does it get in the summer?

5. How cold does it get in the winter?

6. How high is the highest mountain?

7. What's the most beautiful town to visit?

8

Write the opposites to complete the crossword puzzle.

Across

- 2 biggest
- 6 bad
- 7 shorter
- 8 worse
- 9 worst
- 10 near
- 11 lowest
- 13 driest
- 14 hot
- 15 shortest

Down

- 1 hotter
- 3 smaller
- 4 least crowded
(2 words)
- 5 coldest
- 9 smallest
- 10 not famous
- 11 cold
- 12 best

