

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the valuable resource hidden under the Sahara?
 - Ⓐ salt pans
 - Ⓑ oil reserves
 - Ⓒ the green oasis
 - Ⓓ the Nile River
2. What is the “fascinating sort of treasure” the Gobi Desert holds?
 - Ⓐ the Nile River
 - Ⓑ excellent horse trainers
 - Ⓒ fossils
 - Ⓓ all of the above
3. What is a **nomad**?
 - Ⓐ a person who moves from place to place with no permanent home
 - Ⓑ a person who only trains horses for a living
 - Ⓒ a person who lives in the Atacama Desert
 - Ⓓ a person who searches for fossils
4. What did the author think might be a surprising fact about the Gobi Desert?
 - Ⓐ The Gobi Desert is too harsh to support cities.
 - Ⓑ The Gobi Desert is cold.
 - Ⓒ Nomads in Mongolia are excellent horse trainers.
 - Ⓓ Small rodents called *jerboa* live there.
5. What mineral do the Gobi, Sahara, and Atacama deserts share?
 - Ⓐ oil
 - Ⓑ salt
 - Ⓒ copper
 - Ⓓ all of the above

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6. What effect does the Nile River have on the Sahara Desert?

- Ⓐ The Nile's water allows animals to live nearby in the desert.
- Ⓑ The Nile's water allows crops to grow.
- Ⓒ The Nile's water allows large cities of people to survive.
- Ⓓ All of the above

7. What characteristics do all deserts share?

- Ⓐ More animals live in deserts than in any other place.
- Ⓑ All are near oceans and mountains.
- Ⓒ More water dries up than falls.
- Ⓓ All of the above

8. What is a **resource**?

- Ⓐ a supply of something valuable
- Ⓑ a solid, natural material from underground
- Ⓒ an inactive plant or animal
- Ⓓ a source of water in the desert

9. How are the Gobi and Sahara deserts alike?

- Ⓐ Both are on the continent of Asia.
- Ⓑ Both have oil as a major resource.
- Ⓒ Both contain enough food and water to support cities.
- Ⓓ Both were used by traders to bring goods from Asia to Europe.

10. What is **moisture**?

- Ⓐ a supply of water used only to irrigate crops
- Ⓑ a place in a desert where there is water
- Ⓒ a small amount of water
- Ⓓ only the water in an oasis

11. **Extended Response:** Explain one way this book might have changed how you think about deserts.

12. **Extended Response:** If you had to go to one of the three deserts discussed in the book, which one would you go to and why?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Deserts Dry

Main Comprehension Skill: Compare and Contrast

1. Ⓑ Main Idea and Details
2. Ⓒ Main Idea and Details
3. Ⓐ Vocabulary
4. Ⓑ Main Idea and Details
5. Ⓑ Compare and Contrast
6. Ⓓ Cause and Effect
7. Ⓒ Compare and Contrast
8. Ⓐ Vocabulary
9. Ⓓ Compare and Contrast
10. Ⓒ Vocabulary
11. Answers will vary. Example:
I always thought deserts were hot, but I learned the cold areas of the North Pole and South Pole are deserts too.
12. Answers will vary but should include a desert from the text supported by at least one detail about that desert.