

DESERTS – WORD LIST

- **among** = belong to
- **average** = normally, usually
- **BC** = before the birth of Jesus Christ
- **Berbers** = group of people who live in northern Africa
- **blossom** = when a plant produces flowers
- **certain** = special
- **common** = something that can be found very often
- **consist of** = to be made up of
- **copper** = soft , reddish- brown metal used for wires
- **cover** = here: make up; spread over
- **create** = make
- **crops** = a plant like wheat or corn that farmers grow for food
- **cut off** = here: separated, divided
- **cut** = hack, chop
- **date** = a sweet, sticky brown fruit with a long hard stone inside
- **destroy** = damage completely, ruin
- **develop** = grow, exist
- **distance** = space from one place to another
- **drop** = go down
- **dryness** = the situation of being dry, without any water
- **dune** = hill made up of sand
- **entirely** = all of it
- **equator** = line around the middle of the Earth
- **evaporate** = when water changes into a cloud of air
- **fertile** = good, productive
- **fit** = here: good enough; the right ones
- **fog** = cloudy, wet air near the ground, which is difficult to see through
- **get used to** = here: to be in a new place so long that you can live there without any problems
- **glacier** = a large mass of ice which moves slowly down a mountain valley
- **gravel** = small stones
- **heat** = very high temperatures
- **heavy** = very strong
- **height** = how high something is
- **hump** = the high part of a camel
- **ice sheet** = a plateau-like area that is covered with masses of snow
- **in search of** = to look for
- **iron ore** = rock which has iron in it
- **landmass** = area of land
- **landscape** = an area or countryside of a special type
- **little** = not very much
- **lose** = here: it doesn't have something any more
- **mammal** = an animal that drinks milk from its mother's body when it is young
- **moisture** = small parts of water that exist in the air or on the ground
- **mountain range** = group of mountains , mostly in a single line
- **mountainous** = with a lot of mountains
- **mud** = wet earth that is soft and sticky
- **needle** = special kind of leaf that is very sharp
- **nomad** = a person who travels from place to place to find grass and water for animals
- **northwards** = to the north

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- **oasis - oases** (plural) = a place with water and trees in a desert
- **on average** = normally, usually
- **peak** = the top of a mountain
- **plains** = a large area of flat land
- **plant crops** = to grow plants like wheat or corn which farmers use as food
- **plateau** = a large area of flat land that is higher than the land around it
- **precipitation** = rain or snow that falls to the ground
- **protect** = defend, guard
- **raise** = to look after animals and feed them
- **raw materials** = things that exist in nature and which we use every day, like coal, oil, water
- **reach** = get to
- **reptile** = an animal that changes its body temperature, like a snake
- **rise** = move up
- **rocky** = full of rocks and stones
- **root** = the part of a plant or a tree that grows under the ground and gets water there
- **sediment** = small stones and sand that rivers carry with them
- **seed** = a small hard object of a plant; a new plant can grow from this
- **shade** = out of the sunlight
- **spot** = place, area
- **stem** = the long, thin part of a plant
- **store** = to put something away until you need it
- **stream** = a very small river
- **surface** = top layer of the Earth
- **survive** = here: exist, live in extreme conditions
- **tent** = a shelter you put up when you go camping; it is covered with cloth and you hang it to the ground with ropes and poles
- **threaten** = endanger; put at risk
- **thunderstorm** = a storm with thunder, lightning and sometimes heavy rainfall
- **trade winds** = tropical winds that blow to the equator from the northeast or the southeast
- **tribe** = a group of people who have the same skin colour, language and religion. They live in a small area
- **Tropic of Cancer** = a line around the world that lies 23½° north of the equator
- **Tropic of Capricorn** = a line around the world that lies 23½ ° south of the equator
- **wandering dunes** = mountains of sand that move from one place to another
- **water hole** = small area in the desert where animals can drink
- **well** = a deep hole in the ground that has water in it
- **wheat** = a plant that you make white bread from
- **wool** = the soft, thick hair of some animals