



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Comprehension Check

(i) Pick out two phrases which describe the desert as most people believe it is.

Answer: The two phrases which describe the desert as most people believe it is "an endless stretch of sand where no rain falls and, therefore, no vegetation grows" and "It is dry, hot, waterless and without shelter."

(ii) Pick out two phrases which describe the desert as specialists see it.

Which do you think is an apt description, and why?

Answer: Two phrases which describe the desert as specialists see it are 'a beautiful place' and 'home of a variety of people, animals and plants'.

I think both the descriptions are apt in their own way because the description of a place is often given by people on the basis of what they have seen and experienced.

2. The phrases on the left in the following box occur in the text. Match each of them with a phrase on the right.

1. an endless stretch of sand	Nothing but sand as far as one can see
2. waterless and without shelter	No water no shade



3. an oasis	Fertile place with water and plants in a desert
4. hidden by a cover of grass	Not visible because the grass is thick.

Comprehension Check

1. A camel can do without water for days together. What is the reason given in the text?

Answer: A camel can survive without water for many days because they sweat very less. Camels can resist high body temperature, they don't sweat and therefore can retain the water they drink for long periods of time.

2. How do the smaller desert animals fulfill their need for water?

Answer: The smaller animals fulfilled their need for water by burrowing underground during the hot day and they come out at night to eat. Some of them eat other animals and get the water they need from the moisture in the meat. Others eat plants and seeds and get the water they need from plant juices.

3. In a desert the temperature rises during the day and falls rapidly at night. Why?

Answer: In a desert the temperature rises during the day and falls rapidly during the night because of the absence of moisture in desert lands. The



moisture present in the air acts as a blanket and protects the earth's surface from the hot rays of the sun but the moisture in air is absent in the desert. Therefore, the land heats up quickly during the day due to the sun's rays and cools down rapidly at night.

Exercises

Do the following activities in groups.

1. Describe a desert in your own way. Write a paragraph and read it aloud to your classmates.

Answer: A desert is a type of vegetation that lacks water resources. If found, then in very small quantities. It is too hot during daytime and too cool during the night. Also there are types of deserts Hot desert like Thar and Sahara Desert and cold desert like Ladakh.

2. Go to the library and collect information about the lifestyle of people in desert areas— their food, clothes, work, social customs, etc. Share this information with the group.

Answer: People living in Desert areas generally eat Grains like Jowar, Bajra and Ragi because these crops require less amount of water to grow. They are culturally diverse and rich. There are many folk music and dances performed by them.

