

# Five of the World's Deserts

## Questions:

1. Is there any life in Antarctica?
2. What is another name for Antarctica?
3. Find two adjectives in the superlative form in paragraph 2.
4. Find a synonym for "cold" in paragraph 2.
5. If something is "microscopic" is it very big or very small? (Par. 2)
6. From which language do we get the name "Sahara"?
7. In your own words, what is an oasis?
8. In paragraph 3 there are two synonyms for "big". What are they?
9. What does "Kalahari" mean?
10. Is the Kalahari a true desert?
11. Which group of people has lived here for a long time?
12. What is the meaning of the prefix "semi"? (Par. 4)
13. The writer describes the meerkat as "mischievous". What does this mean? (Par. 4)
14. Whereabouts is the Mojave?
15. Give the name of one of the locations in the Mojave.
16. Find an adjective in paragraph 5 that means "spectacular".
17. What is a furnace?
18. Is this statement true or false: The Judean Desert is a very large desert.
19. Name a popular tourist destination nearby the Judean Desert.
20. Find an adjective in paragraph 6 that tells us the hills are dry.
21. The word "fast" is a homograph, which means it has two very different meanings that are written and pronounced the same way. Give two of its meanings.

## **Answers:**

1. Yes, there are whales, seals, birds and microscopic life forms.
2. The South Pole
3. Any two of the following: most surprising, biggest, coldest.
4. Icy
5. Very small.
6. Arabic
7. A place in a desert that has water.
8. Huge and massive.
9. Big thirst.
10. No, it is a semi-desert.
11. The San people.
12. It means "half".
13. It means that they are intelligent and naughty.
14. In the southwest of North America.
15. One of the following: Death Valley or Furnace Creek.
16. Breathtaking
17. An oven.
18. False
19. The Dead Sea.
20. Sun-baked
21. "Fast" as an adverb means "quickly". "Fast" as a verb means to not eat for a period of time.