



Challenge
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Hot Topics



Children, play these games and test how much you know about this topic!

“**W**ORLD Day to Combat **Desertification** and Drought” falls on 17 June. It is a day declared by the United Nations General Assembly to promote public awareness to combat desertification. What is desertification? Learn more about this hot topic now!

(Reuters)

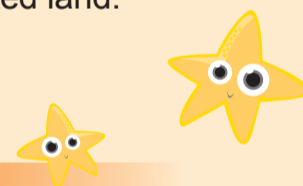


▲ A woman walks in the Sahara Desert in south-western Algeria.

Q1 Pick the right answer

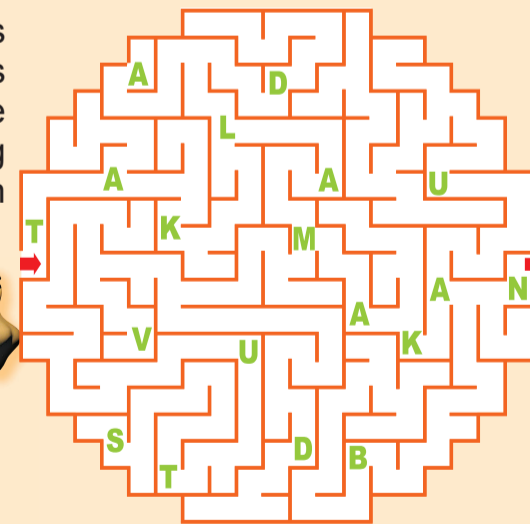
DEFORESTATION is one of the reason causing desertification. What does deforestation mean? Pick the right answer below.

- A It is defined as the destruction of forested land.
- B It is the process of planting trees.
- C It is defined as building factories.



Q2 Hidden answer

DESSERTIFICATION is **widespread** in many areas of China. Can you name the biggest desert in this big country? A hint is hidden in the maze on the right.



Let's take the challenge



Q3 Riddle

GUESS the answer of this riddle. It is related to a desert.

It is an isolated area in a desert.
It is green.
Water source is usually found nearby.
What is it?



Answers: Q1. A; Q2. Taklamakan Desert; Q3. An oasis.

Desertification threats

About desertification

DESSERTIFICATION is a process by which an area of land is **degraded** and becomes dry and **unsuitable** for growing trees or crops. In other words, it is a process of how an area is turning into a desert. Desertification can be caused by several factors, such as **overgrazing**, over-cultivation, **deforestation**, overdrafting of groundwater and global climate change. It can become a threat to the **agriculture**, water supply and **infrastructure** of the affected area.



(Reuters)

A general view of sandy soil threatened by desertification in the Homokhatsag region in southern Hungary.



(Reuters)

A picture showing a view of the desertification transformation project in Kubuqi Desert in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China.

Vocabulary

desertification (n) 沙漠化
degrade (v) 剝蝕

unsuitable (adj) 不合適的
overgrazing (n) 過度放牧

deforestation (n) 砍伐森林
agriculture (n) 農業

infrastructure (n) 基礎建設
widespread (adj) 廣泛的