

**ES202 Desert Video Exercise (Earth Revealed). Watch the video, answer the following summary questions.**

1. True or False – desert regions are as sensitive to climate change as glacial environments.
2. Where are most of the worlds desert regions located? What percentage of the Earth’s surface is occupied by desert environments.
3. How are deserts defined? What is the average annual precipitation level that forms the criteria for desert environments?
4. True or False – Antarctica is an example of a polar desert.
5. True or False – the rate of precipitation is greater than the rate of evaporation in desert regions.
6. At what latitudes does the most direct solar radiation strike the Earth’s surface at a high angle of incidence?
7. What happens to atmospheric air at 30 degrees north and south latitude? Are these regions associated with dry or wet air?
8. Draw a sketch of a rain shadow desert? Where do rain shadow deserts occur? Are these the most dominant type of desert systems on the planet?
9. True or False: rain shadow deserts are present in eastern Oregon.
10. How does plate tectonic motion and continental position effect global climate?
11. True or False: continental areas on the surface of the Earth experience changing climate conditions of geologic time.
12. True or False – cold ocean circulation offshore of continental areas promotes wet, humid, tropical conditions.
13. True or False – warm air holds more water vapor compared to cold air.
14. List the five types of geologic and climatic conditions that result in desert climates.

**MORE ON BACK**

15. True or False – running water is the most effective geomorphic agent shaping the landscape in desert environments.
16. Define and sketch an alluvial fan. Why are they common in desert watersheds?
17. True or False: most desert drainage systems are connected to ocean runoff.
18. True or False – wind carries silt greater distances as compared to sand.
19. List four earth materials that are commonly carried by atmospheric winds and circulation.
20. True or False – wind blown dust is not important for soil formation on continental areas.
21. Define the term “loess” – what is it and how is it formed.
22. Define a “play lake”, what are they, where do they occur and why?
23. Describe the term “desert pavement”, what is it comprised of, how is it formed in desert environments?
24. Define the term “desert varnish”, how does it form?
25. What is desertification and why is it of social importance?