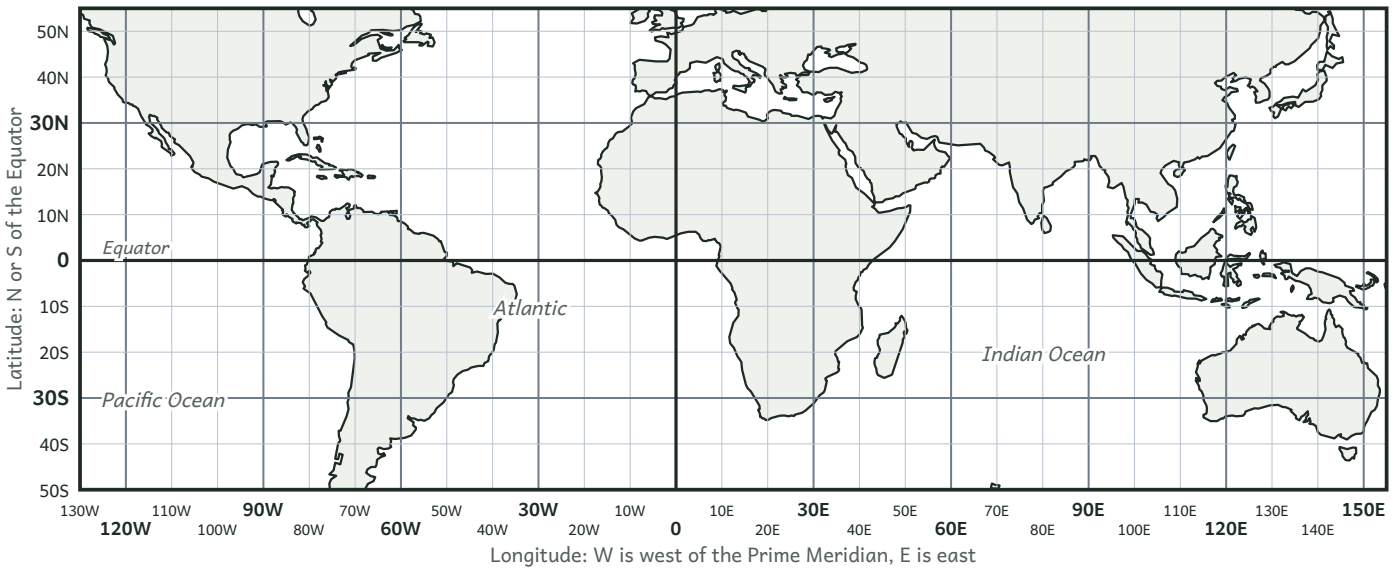
Latitude and longitude · World map

Find the World's Desert Belts

Name _____

1. Each row is one of the world's great deserts. Find its latitude on the side of the map and its longitude along the bottom, and draw a triangle where they meet. Write the row number beside it. A number that ends in 5 sits halfway between two lines. Watch the letters: N and S tell you which side of the Equator, E and W which side of the Prime Meridian.



	Desert	Lat.	Long.
1 △	Sahara	20° N	10° E
2 △	Arabian (Rub al Khali)	20° N	50° E
3 △	Syrian	30° N	40° E
4 △	Thar	25° N	70° E
5 △	Taklimakan	40° N	85° E

	Desert	Lat.	Long.
6 △	Gobi	45° N	105° E
7 △	Karakum	40° N	60° E
8 △	Sonoran	30° N	115° W
9 △	Chihuahuan	30° N	105° W
10 △	Kalahari	25° S	20° E

	Desert	Lat.	Long.
11 △	Namib	20° S	15° E
12 △	Atacama	25° S	70° W
13 △	Great Sandy	20° S	125° E
14 △	Great Victoria	30° S	130° E
15 △	Simpson	25° S	135° E

2. Most of the deserts sit in two bands that go across the map. Shade each band lightly.

3. Between which two latitudes is the band north of the Equator? _____ And the band south of it? _____

4. Three deserts are farther from the Equator than all the others. Name them.

_____

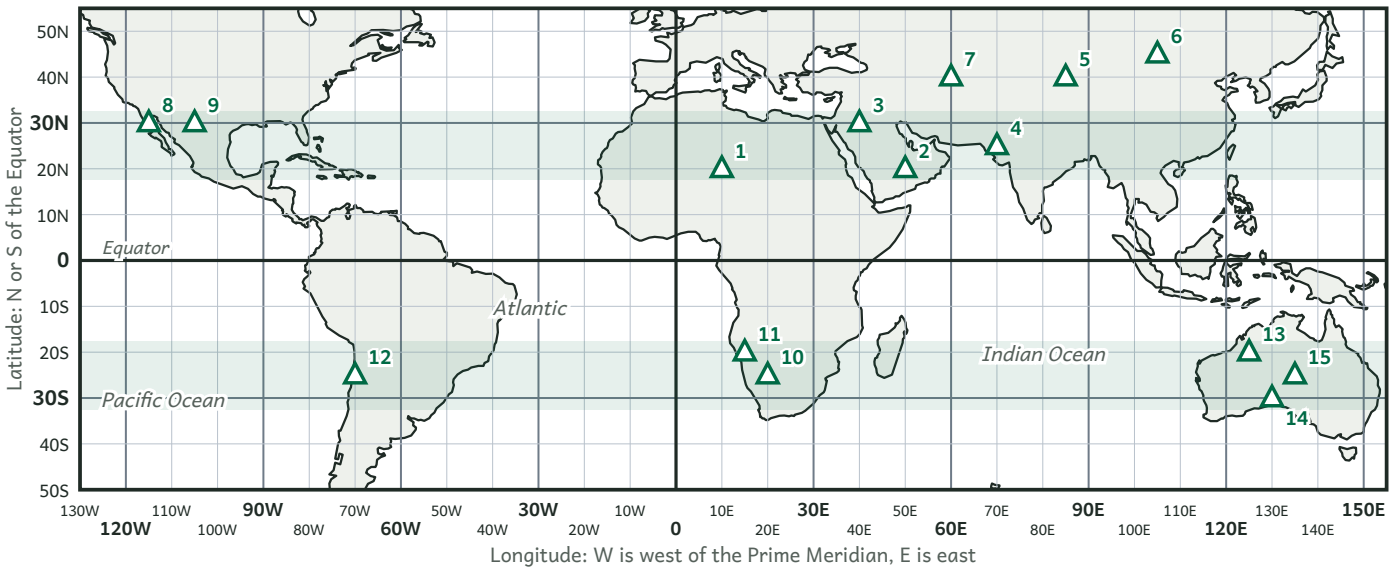
5. Which continent are those three on? _____

6. Which continent on the map has no desert on this list? _____

Deserts: the middle of each desert's outline in Natural Earth's world geography data, rounded to 5 degrees.

Find the World's Desert Belts

1. Each row is one of the world's great deserts. Find its latitude on the side of the map and its longitude along the bottom, and draw a triangle where they meet. Write the row number beside it. A number that ends in 5 sits halfway between two lines. Watch the letters: N and S tell you which side of the Equator, E and W which side of the Prime Meridian.



	Desert	Lat.	Long.
1 △	Sahara	20° N	10° E
2 △	Arabian (Rub al Khali)	20° N	50° E
3 △	Syrian	30° N	40° E
4 △	Thar	25° N	70° E
5 △	Taklimakan	40° N	85° E

	Desert	Lat.	Long.
6 △	Gobi	45° N	105° E
7 △	Karakum	40° N	60° E
8 △	Sonoran	30° N	115° W
9 △	Chihuahuan	30° N	105° W
10 △	Kalahari	25° S	20° E

	Desert	Lat.	Long.
11 △	Namib	20° S	15° E
12 △	Atacama	25° S	70° W
13 △	Great Sandy	20° S	125° E
14 △	Great Victoria	30° S	130° E
15 △	Simpson	25° S	135° E

2. Most of the deserts sit in two bands that go across the map. Shade each band lightly.

3. Between which two latitudes is the band north of the Equator? **20° N and 30° N** And the band south of it? **20° S and 30° S**

4. Three deserts are farther from the Equator than all the others. Name them. **Gobi, Karakum, Taklimakan**

5. Which continent are those three on? **Asia**

6. Which continent on the map has no desert on this list? **Europe**

Near the Equator, warm air rises and drops its rain. That air sinks back down at about 20° to 30° north and south, and sinking air is dry, so deserts form in those two bands all around the world. The Gobi, Karakum and Taklimakan are dry for a different reason: they are deep inside Asia, far from any sea, behind high mountains.

Deserts: the middle of each desert's outline in Natural Earth's world geography data, rounded to 5 degrees.