

## Hot deserts

### Word list

#### desert

an area of very dry land that is usually covered with sand and is very hot

- Many settlers died while trying to cross the *desert*.
- the Arabian and African *deserts*
- The region is mostly *desert*.
- often used before another noun
- the shifting *desert* sands
- a study of *desert* plants
- stranded on a desert island  
[=an island where no people live]

#### hot desert

Hot deserts are mostly located near the Tropics of Capricorn or Cancer. The average temperature is about 22 °C (72 °F), with a daily range of 40 °C (104 °F) to 7 °C (45 °F) or even lower. The rainfall is very low, especially in winter, and may come in the form of a very occasional heavy downpour.

#### equator

an imaginary circle around the middle of the Earth that is the same distance from the North Pole and the South Pole

- The city of Quito, Ecuador, lies very close to *the equator*.
- Is it near *the equator*?

#### precipitation

water that falls to the ground as rain, snow, etc.

- The weather forecast calls for some sort of frozen *precipitation* tomorrow—either snow or sleet.
- a 50 percent chance of *precipitation*

#### sand

very tiny, loose pieces of rock that cover beaches, deserts, etc.

- The beaches are covered with pinkish *sand*.
- a grain of *sand*
- I have *sand* in my shoe.

#### frost

**1** a thin layer of ice that forms on the ground, on grass, etc., when the air becomes cold

- The grass was covered with *frost*.
- light/heavy *frost*
- *Frost* formed on the window.

**2** the occurrence of weather that is cold enough to cause water to freeze and frost to form

- These plants should bloom until the first *frost* of the season.
- We had an early/late *frost*.
- a killing *frost* [=weather that is so cold that the frost kills plants]

**valley**

an area of low land between hills or mountains



**camel**

a large animal of Africa and Asia that has a long neck and one or two large humps on its back and that is often used for desert travel

**cactus**

a plant that lives in the desert and that has many sharp points (called spines)

**reptile**

an animal (such as a snake, lizard, turtle, or alligator) that has cold blood, that lays eggs, and that has a body covered with scales or hard parts



**elf owl**

a nocturnal bird that lives in the southwestern United States and Mexico. It is the world's smallest owl.



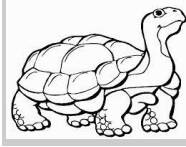
**snake**

an animal that has a long, thin body and no arms or legs



**lizard**

a type of reptile that has four legs and a long body and tail



**tortoise**

a kind of turtle that lives on land

**sub-tropical**

relating to or living in an area that is close to tropical parts of the world

- a *subtropical* [=semitropical] region
- *subtropical* vegetation
- a *subtropical* bird

**sub-arctic climate**

(also called boreal climate) is a climate characterized by long, usually very cold winters, and short, cool to mild summers.

**climate**

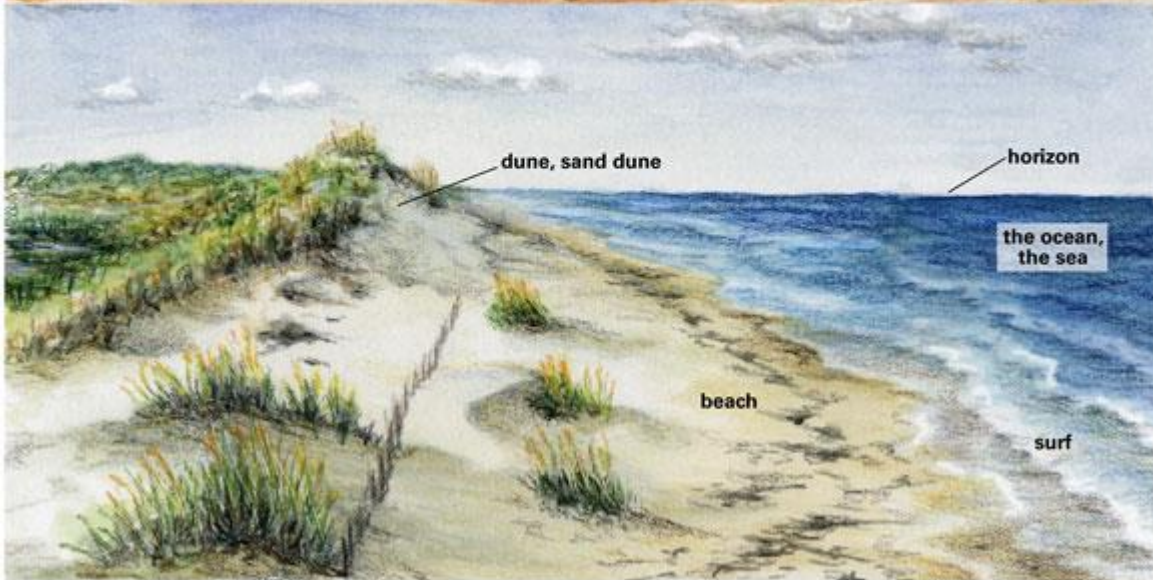
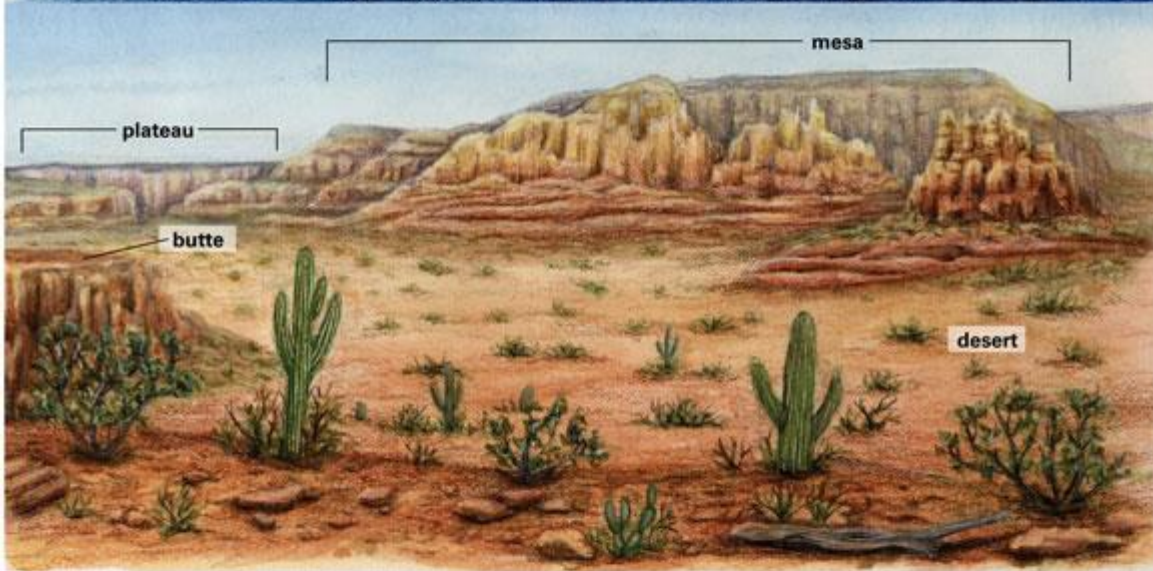
the pattern of variation in temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, wind, precipitation, atmospheric particle count and other meteorological variables in a given region over long periods. Climate can be contrasted to **weather**, which is the present condition of these variables over shorter periods.



<b>Tropical</b>	<b>Dry</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Continental</b>	<b>Polar</b>	
Tropical wet	Semiarid	Mediterranean	Humid continental	Tundra	Non-permanent ice
Tropical wet and dry	Arid	Humid subtropical	Subarctic	Ice cap	
		Marine west coast		Highlands	

Worldwide Climate Classifications, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate>

# Landscapes



# Plants

