Subject: Geography

Topic: “What are deserts?”

Sub-topic: Vegetation characteristics of tropical deserts

Level: S.2

Background information:
This activity is in the sixth lesson of the topic 'What are deserts?' in the second term of S2. Students have already learnt the characteristics of deserts, in terms of location and climate. This activity requires students to write short paragraphs to explain how desert vegetation adapts to the hot and dry environment.

Learning objectives:
1. Content:
Students should be able to explain how desert vegetation adapts to the hot and dry environment.

Language:
Students should be able to write a short paragraph to explain how desert vegetation adapts to the hot and dry environment in the following form:

Cactus can survive in a hot and dry environment because it has spiny leaves to prevent the loss of water through transpiration. It also has a swollen stem to store water and long roots to obtain more water from the ground.

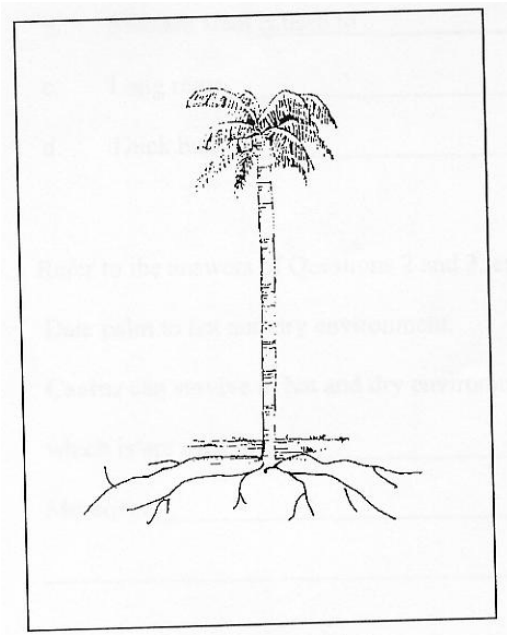
Date palm can survive in a hot and dry environment because it has thick bark to protect it from strong winds. It has long roots to obtain more water from the ground.

S.2 Geography
Vegetation Characteristics of Tropical Deserts
Worksheet 2

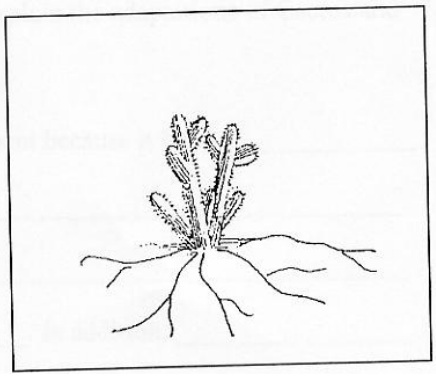
Name:_____ Class:_____ No._____ Date:_____

Writing

Refer to the diagrams below and complete the activities that follow.



Plant A



Plant B

Desert Vegetation

1. Name the plants marked A and B.

_____

_____

2. Put a '✓' in the appropriate boxes below to show the characteristics of Plant A and Plant B in tropical deserts.

Plant	Vegetation Characteristics			
	Spiny leaves	Swollen stem	Long roots	Thick bark
A				
B				

3. Write down the functions of the following desert vegetation characteristics.

   a. Spiny leaves are to _____

   b. Swollen stern is to _____

   c. Long roots _____

   d. Thick bark _____

1. Refer to the answers of Questions 2 and 3, explain how the two plants adapt to a hot and dry environment.

   Cactus can survive in a hot and dry environment because it has

   _____ to _____.

   It also has _____ to

   _____

   and _____ to _____.

   Data palm can survive in a hot and dry environment because

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____