


In the Desert

Learning Objective:

To find out what deserts are and where in the world they are located.

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A young boy with short dark hair, wearing an orange t-shirt, is shown from the chest up. He has a thoughtful expression, with his right hand resting on his head and his eyes looking upwards and to the right. The background is a soft-focus desert landscape with rolling sand dunes under a clear blue sky. A large white thought bubble with a black outline is positioned to the left of the boy's head, containing the text "When you think of deserts, what comes into your head?". Two smaller white thought bubbles are connected to the main one by thin lines, one above and one to the right of the main bubble.

When you think of
deserts, what comes into
your head?

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Which of these would you say is a desert? Why?

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They are all deserts! We tend to think of deserts as being very hot places with sand dunes but there are lots of different types of desert in the world.



Sahara Desert



Antarctica



Atacama Desert



Gobi Desert

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Deserts are all very dry places. A desert is defined as a place that gets less than 250mm of rainfall a year. This means that Antarctica is a desert because even though it is a continent that is covered in ice, very little water falls from the sky. More precipitation falls in the Sahara Desert in Africa than in Antarctica!



Did you know that the UK receives around 1100mm of rain a year...definitely NOT a desert!

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Around a quarter of all the land on Earth is desert.



Where in the world would you expect deserts to be? Why?

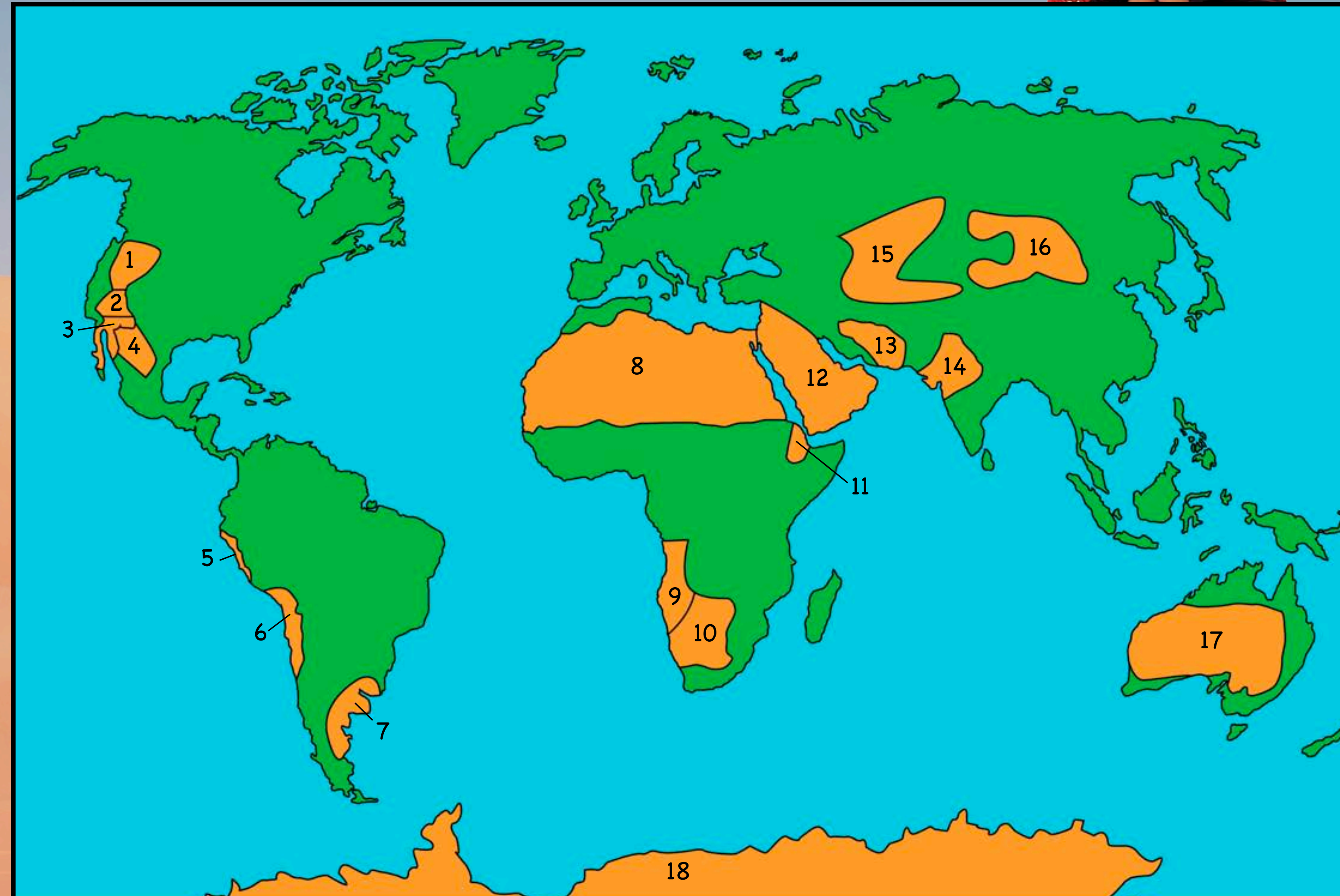
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This map shows some of the main deserts and desert areas in the world.



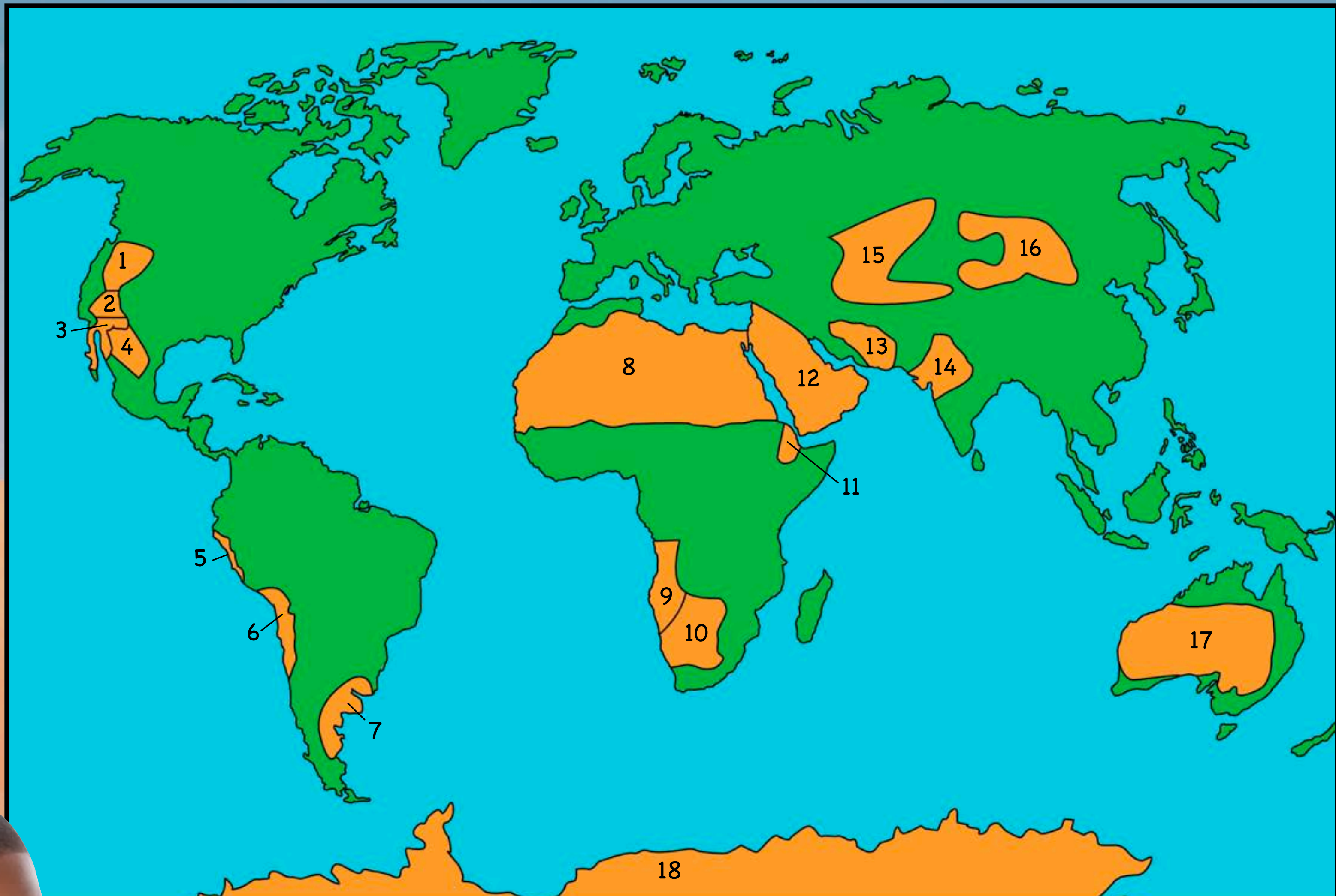
1	Great Basin Desert
2	Mojave Desert
3	Sonoran Desert
4	Chihuahuan Desert
5	Sechura Desert
6	Atacama Desert
7	Patagonian Desert
8	Sahara Desert
9	Namib Desert
10	Kalahari Desert
11	Somali Desert
12	Arabian Desert
13	Iranian Desert
14	Thar Desert
15	Takla Makan Desert
16	Gobi Desert
17	Great Australian Deserts
18	Antarctica



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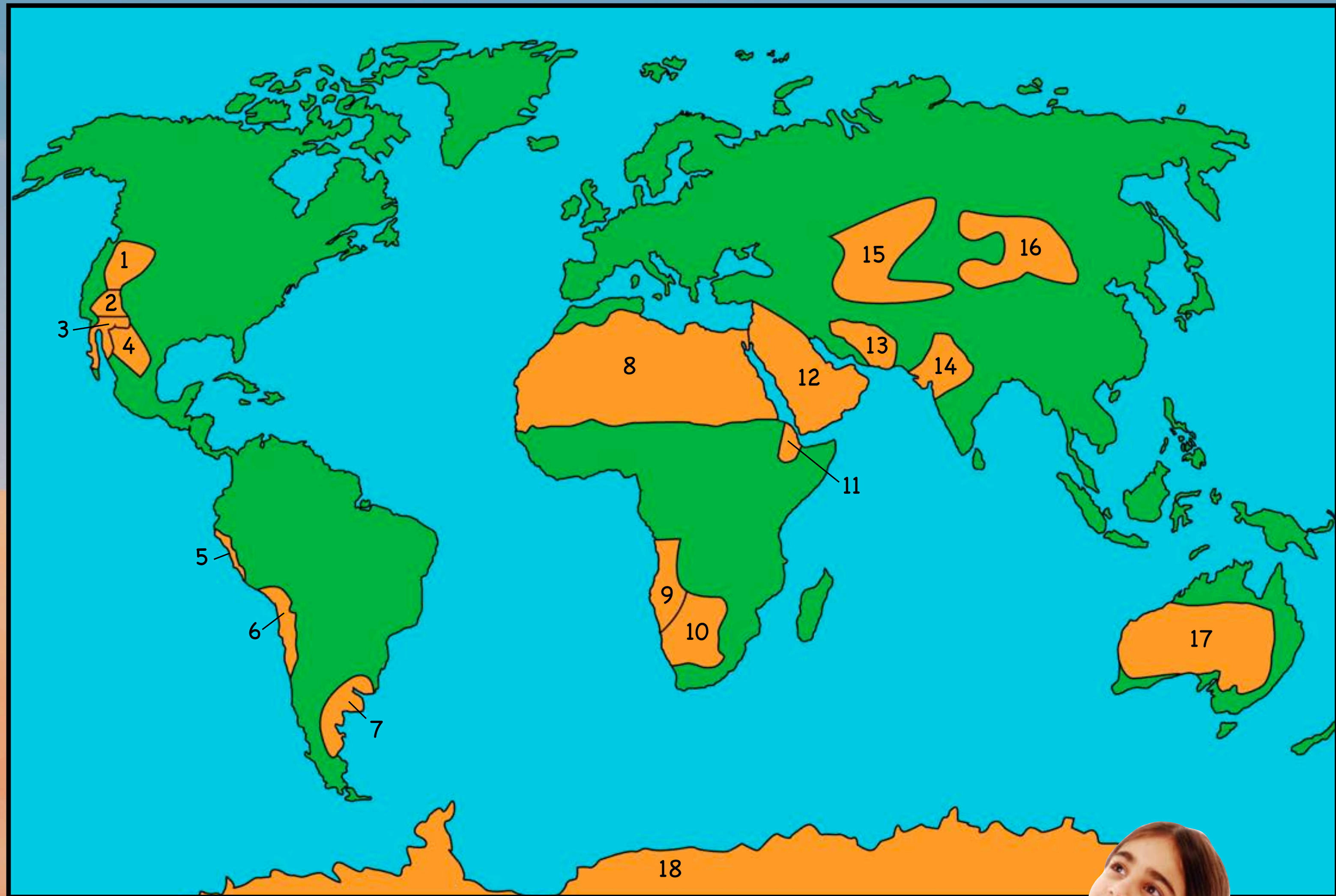


What is the largest desert in Africa called?

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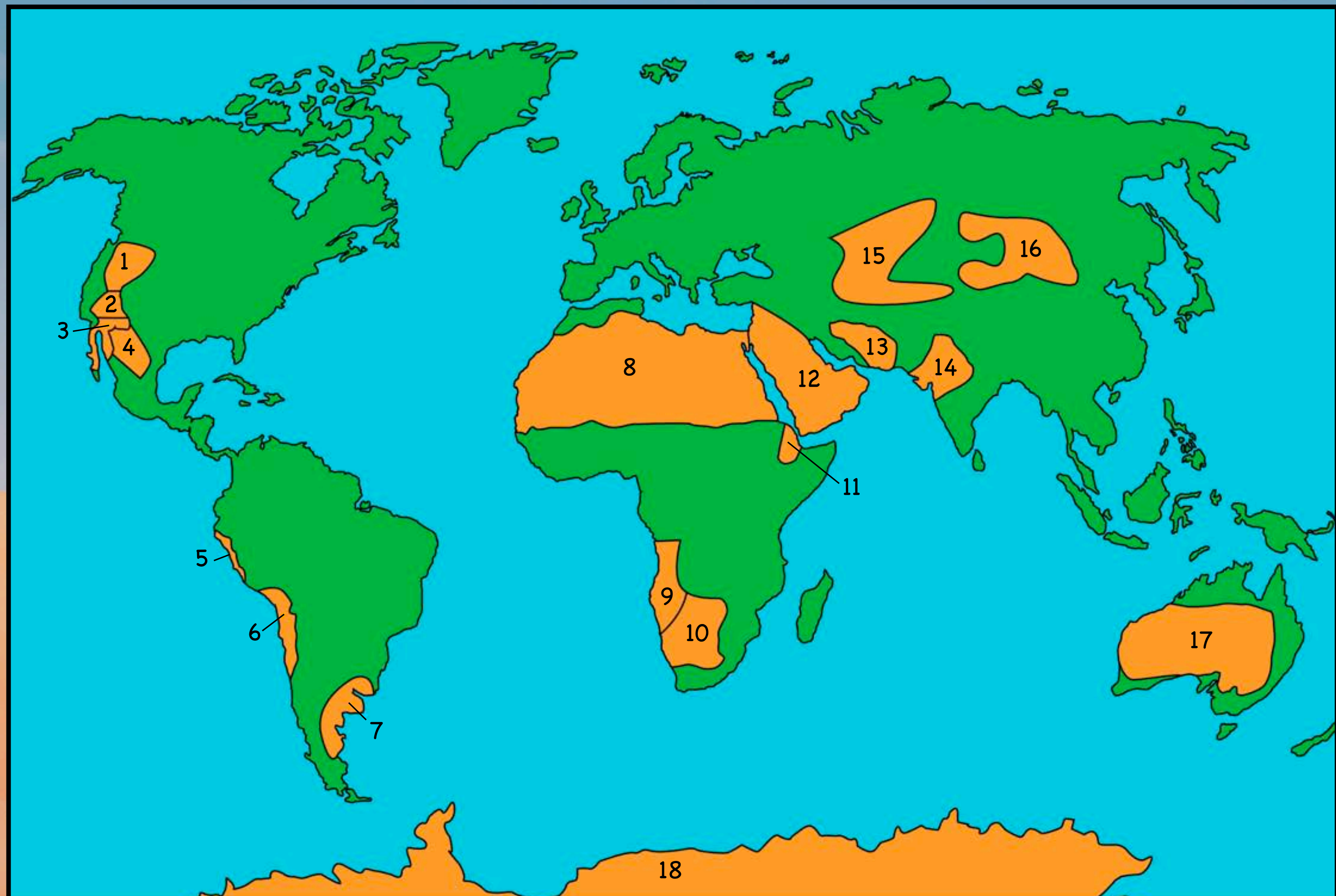
Can you name a desert in North America?



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Can you name a desert in Asia?

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Good work
everyone!

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Plenary:

Oh no! The letters of these deserts have been muddled up! Can you identify which desert each one is?



T A C A A M A

B I G O

H A A R A S

N A R B I A A

R A T H

I A N P T A O G N A

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How many did you get right?

TACAAMA

Atacama

BIGO

Gobi

HAARAS

Sahara

NARBIAA

Arabian

RATH

Thar

IANPTAOGNA

Patagonian

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