

Natural wonders of the world

Read the text and do the tasks that follow.

AMAZING WORLD

On this blog we publish articles about the most amazing places on our planet.

This week's article is by Miguel Garcia.

Miguel is from Beatty, USA, a town next to Death Valley National Park, which has record-breaking high temperatures.

A dangerously hot place

What are summer temperatures like where you live? It's August, so it's forty degrees Celsius in Beatty town and forty-five degrees Celsius in Death Valley, which is absolutely boiling. When you wake up in the morning, your eyes feel dry and you don't want to move because it is hot.

Some people think it's really boring in Death Valley, but I really love outdoor adventures in the desert. We usually go on a camping trip in March or April, when it's cooler than in summer. This year we visited a huge volcano crater, about a kilometre wide. It was amazing, completely different from any other place! They filmed some famous science fiction movies there because it looks like another planet.

The night sky is so clear in the desert that you can see thousands of stars. I wanted to sleep outside, but Dad was quite worried about scorpions, so I couldn't do that. I took some great photos of the Milky Way above us, though.

Did you know that sand can make a noise? On the final day of our trip we visited sand dunes at Mesquite and heard the sound of wind blowing the sand. It was very strange. We also tried sandboarding down the dunes. It's like snowboarding down a mountain, but on the sand. It was my favourite activity on a totally awesome trip.



Task 1. Look at the photo and read the article. What does Miguel like about the place where he lives?

Task 2. Read the whole article again and choose the correct answer.

1. Miguel says that the temperature _____

- a. is the same in Beatty and Death Valley.
- b. makes you feel tired.
- c. is normal for the time of year.

2. The volcano crater was _____
- a. quite cold.
 - b. really unusual.
 - c. not very big.
3. One night in the desert Miguel _____
- a. felt worried about something.
 - b. slept in the open air.
 - c. saw something special in the sky.
4. According to Miguel, sand dunes _____
- a. look like mountains.
 - b. can make noises.
 - c. can be used for sport.
5. Which of the following is an opinion, not a fact?
- a. The trip was totally awesome.
 - b. In March or April it's cooler than in summer.
 - c. Sand can make a noise.

ANSWER KEY**Task 1.****Possible answers:**

He loves outdoor adventures in the desert. He likes going on camping trips. He enjoys watching stars in the night sky, which is very clear in the desert. He loves sandboarding on the sand.

Task 2.

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| 1. c | 2. b | 3. c |
| 4. c | 5. a | |