

# Loaded Language— *Desert Landscape*

## Frightened



Deserts cover almost a fifth of the Earth's land surface. Tons of brown, densely packed sand lie in dunes and bottom-lands that stretch out for miles in some places. Thorny cacti dot the landscape. Poisonous snakes and horned lizards hide throughout the day in what little shade or darkness they can find. During the day, the full heat of the sun bakes the land. At night, extreme cold sucks the heat from the land and its inhabitants. With little or no water, chances of survival are minimal.

## Hopeful



Deserts make up a fifth of the Earth's land surface. Light brown and bright gold sand shifts with the winds, forming graceful eddies and patterns across the landscape. Cacti wait ready to bloom at the first sign of rain. Seeds lie ready in the ground; roots wait to send up shoots with the possibility of rain. Snakes and lizards bask in the sun or find cover under rocks in the heat of the day. The sun warms the desert by day. The nights are cool and offer respite from the day's heat. With little or no water, desert animals find moisture hiding in the plants.

## Lonely



Deserts encompass almost one fifth of the Earth's land surface. Vast stretches of empty sand stretch over a barren, secluded landscape. The endless sea of sand shifts constantly with the wind over the solitary scene. Scarce foliage inhabits the stark environment. The desolate land supports little life. Solitary snakes and lizards seek out enough food to exist. The extreme heat of the day withers the land, making it barren and dry. The night is cold and desolate. With little or no water, survival is rare.