 **Speak like a geographer**

**The Living World – Hot deserts**

The keywords and definitions below, that cover hot deserts, are provided by AQA. There are more than those listed on your Get into Geography sheet. Start with those listed then build up to the others.

# Appropriate technology

(Also called Intermediate technology) Technology that is suited to the needs, skills, knowledge and wealth of local people in the environment in which they live. It usually combines simple ideas with cheap and readily available materials, especially for use in poorer countries, and is environmentally friendly.

# Biodiversity

The variety of life in the world or a particular habitat.

# Desertification

The process by which land becomes drier and degraded, as a result of climate change or human activities, or both.

# Hot desert

Parts of the world that have high average temperatures and very low precipitation.

# Mineral extraction

The removal of solid mineral resources from the earth. These resources include ores, which contain commercially valuable amounts of metals, such as iron and aluminium; precious stones, such as diamonds; building stones, such as granite; and solid fuels, such as coal and oil shale.

# Over-cultivation

Exhausting the soil by over-cropping the land.

# Overgrazing

Grazing too many livestock for too long on the land, so it is unable to recover its vegetation.