

# Video: Report Units 4–6

## The Atacama Desert

### Before You Watch

Answer the questions.

1. Are there any deserts in your country?
2. What kind of animals live in a desert?
3. Do you know a desert in South America or Africa?

### Comprehension Check

#### 1. Watch the Report. Choose the correct answers.

1. What is the name of the river in the Atacama Desert?  
a. San Sebastian.                      b. San Antonio.                      **c. San Pedro.**
2. What is the village of Toconao famous for?  
a. A volcano.                      b. A church tower.                      c. A museum.
3. What is ALMA in the Llano de Chajnantor Observatory?  
a. It's a natural history library.                      b. It's a huge telescope project.                      c. It's a scientific laboratory.

#### 2. Watch the Report again. Put the statements in the order you hear them.

- \_\_\_ They visit El Tatio, a huge geyser field.
- \_\_\_ There are now 66 large antennae here, and the project cost over US \$1 billion.
- 1** \_\_\_ Have you ever heard of the Atacama Desert?
- \_\_\_ This beautiful village is in the middle of the desert, and it is famous for its church tower.
- \_\_\_ In fact, some parts of the Atacama Desert haven't had any rain for hundreds of years.
- \_\_\_ The Atacama Desert is a hot, dry, and sometimes, dangerous place.
- \_\_\_ Today, about 5,000 people live here and it's very popular with tourists.

#### 3. Complete the statements with the correct words.

1. It is the driest / the widest desert in the world.
2. Most of the Atacama Desert is in **Brazil** / **Chile** but it stretches into Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina, too.
3. People lived here **hundreds** / **thousands** of years ago in forts or *pukarás*.
4. Most people come to San Pedro to explore the amazing **landscape** / **observatory** outside the town.
5. The church tower in Toconao has been there since **1750** / **1815**.

#### 4. Watch the Report again. Circle T (true) or F (false).

1. Some parts of the Atacama Desert haven't had any rain for hundreds of years.                      **T** / F
2. There isn't any water in the Atacama Desert.                      T / F
3. People live here but there are no plants or animals.                      T / F
4. The village of Toconao is five kilometers north of San Pedro.                      T / F
5. ALMA, the largest telescope project in the world, has been there for ten years.                      T / F
6. People have never found ways to survive in the desert.                      T / F

# Language Check

5.  Look at the chart. Then watch the Language Check.

The present perfect
Affirmative
People <b>have</b> always <b>found</b> a way to survive.
Negative
In fact, some parts of the Atacama Desert <b>haven't had</b> any rain for hundreds of years.
yes / no questions
Have you <b>ever heard</b> of the Atacama Desert?
Information questions with <i>How long</i>
How long have people lived here for?
for and since
They <b>have lived</b> here <b>for</b> hundreds of years.
It is famous for its church tower. It's made from volcanic stone and <b>has been</b> here <b>since</b> 1750.

6. Write complete present perfect questions.

1. you / ever / travel / across a desert

Have you ever traveled across a desert?

2. your friends / ever / climb / a volcano

\_\_\_\_\_

3. your mom / ever / swim / in a lagoon

\_\_\_\_\_

4. your parents / ever / see / a geyser

\_\_\_\_\_

5. your dad / ever / go / to the Atacama Desert

\_\_\_\_\_

6. you / ever / look / through a telescope

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Match the questions (1–6) with the answers (a–f).

1. How long have people lived in San Pedro?

2. How long has it been dry in the desert?

3. How long has there been a church in Toconao?

4. How long have your parents been in Cuenca?

5. How long has the observatory been in the desert?

a. There's been a church there since 1750.

b. It has been there for about ten years.

c. They've been there since August 24th.

d. They've lived there for hundreds of years.

e. It has been dry since 2011.

## About You!

8. Answer the questions about you.

1. Do you think you could live in a desert? Why / Why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you think deserts are beautiful or ugly places? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Where would you like to visit in the Atacama Desert? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_