Levels of Desert Biodiversity

Q – Explain one reason why biodiversity is low hot deserts

One reason for the low biodiversity in hot deserts is _____.

This means that biodiversity is low because…

Where can plant and animal life be found in the desert?

A desert water source

A desert fringe area

The challenges of the desert mean that biodiversity is low. Most of the desert's [ ], animals and [ ] are found around water [ ] such as ponds or rivers or along the edges/[ ] of the desert. This is because all living things need access to this water in order to survive and also because the [ ] around the fringe of a desert are typically less extreme

The limited biodiversity already faces challenges because of the extreme climate, however life in the desert is likely to become even more difficult in future because of [ ]. The desert environment is becoming [ ] and drier This is making it harder for plants to grow, and it is forcing some animals to move to look for [ ] areas. Unfortunately, in some cases, animals simply cannot find places with the conditions they need to survive and this is leading to them becoming endangered or [ ]

How the different components of the Desert are linked

The biotic components of hot deserts (plants, animals and people) and the abiotic components (climate, water and soils) are closely linked, and they are all a result of the conditions within the ecosystem. The way that the ecosystem works has an impact on the levels of interdependence within the ecosystem

In the box below

- Add as many arrow as you can to join the different parts of the hot desert ecosystem, to show that they are linked
- For each arrow, write a short explanation next to it explaining the link and the effect that this link has on these parts of the ecosystem (one has been done for you)
- Each arrow you draw basically means 'this leads to…'