The story of the Aral Sea

Vocabulary practice

Keywords:
- deep (adj) measuring a long way from the surface to the bottom in a river, sea etc.
- desert (n) a large area of land where there is little rain and not many plants grow
- dry up (phrasal verb) if a river or lake dries up, it becomes dry because water stops coming into it
- flow (v) to move easily and smoothly in one direction
- gas (n) a substance like air that is found under the ground and is used for cooking and heating etc.
- lake (n) a large area of water with land all around it
- oil (n) the thick black liquid that is found under the ground and is used to make petrol
- salty (adj) containing salt
- sand (n) the substance usually found on beaches and in deserts that is made of very small pieces of rock
- shore (n) the land along the edge of a sea or lake

1 Complete the sentences with words from the Keywords box.

1 The river is great for kayaks because it ___________ quite fast.
2 I think it’s difficult to walk on ___________, especially if it’s hot.
3 The food tasted very ___________ and I didn’t enjoy it very much.
4 The people were waiting on the ___________ for the fishing boats to return.
5 When the price of ___________ goes up, lots of things become more expensive.
6 There’s a kind of river that has water in winter but ___________ ___________ in summer.

Grammar practice

2 Find these sentences in the article and complete them.

But it was so ___________ it was called a sea.
... which is so ___________ that no fish can live in it.

3 Look at the example. Read the pairs of sentences. Then write one sentence with so.

The lake is very salty. No fish can live in it. → The lake is so salty (that) no fish can live in it.

1 The shore was very far away. We couldn’t walk to it.
2 The pool is very deep. My feet don’t touch the bottom.
3 The land here is really dry. Nothing will grow.
4 The food in the restaurant was really good. We went back the next day.
5 I was tired after the trip. I fell asleep on the sofa.
6 We were very surprised. We didn’t know what to say.
7 The river flows really quickly. We can’t swim across it.
8 The man spoke quietly. I didn’t understand him very well.

4 Look at the example. Then write complete sentences with such.

It was a very nice day. We went to the beach. → It was such a nice day (that) we went to the beach.

1 We had a good time at the beach. We didn’t want to leave.
2 It was a big lake. We couldn’t see the other side.
3 It was an old car. Nobody wanted to buy it.
4 It’s an exciting book. I can’t stop reading it.
5 The city was an interesting place. We saw something new every day.
6 It’s an expensive shop. I don’t think I’ll come back again.