

Year 5 Geography Assessment: Exploring South America

Learning objective: To identify and describe the key physical and human geographical features of South America, including climate zones, biomes, and major landmarks.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of South American geography to provide full sentences where required. Finn the Dolphin has helped us map out this assessment!

South America is a vast continent located mostly in the Southern Hemisphere. It is home to the world's largest tropical rainforest, the Amazon, and the longest mountain range above sea level, the Andes. The continent experiences a wide range of climates, from the icy peaks of the southern mountains to the hot, humid conditions near the Equator.

Word bank: Amazon · Equator · Andes · Hemisphere · Biome · Rainforest · Climate · Tributary

1. Name the imaginary line of latitude that runs through the northern part of South America, which influences its tropical climate. (1 mark)

2. Identify one major mountain range found in South America and describe how its height affects the climate at the top compared to the base. (3 marks)

3. What is a 'tributary'? Explain how tributaries contribute to the Amazon River system. (3 marks)

4. South America contains many different biomes. Choose two different biomes found on the continent and list one characteristic for each. (4 marks)

5. Explain why the Amazon Rainforest is often referred to as 'the lungs of the planet' and suggest one reason why protecting it is important for the global environment. (4 marks)

6. Max the Monkey is planning a trip to South America. He has £500 to spend on travel and supplies. If he spends £245 on flights and £112 on gear, how much money does he have left for food and local guides? (5 marks)

7. Imagine you are an explorer travelling across South America. Write a short journal entry (5 sentences) describing the landscape, the weather, and one human activity (such as farming or trade) you might see in a region of your choice. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a sketch of a South American landscape. Ensure you include at least one physical feature (like a mountain or river) and one animal or plant native to the region.



Extension challenge: Total: /25