

Year 5 Geography Assessment: The Tropical Rainforest Biome

Learning objective: To demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the physical geography, climate, and human impact on tropical rainforests.

Read each question carefully. Use your geographical knowledge to provide detailed, accurate answers. Ensure your writing is clear and uses appropriate terminology.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the world's great river systems. He recently travelled up the Amazon River, observing the dense vegetation and the humid, tropical climate. He noted that the rainforest acts as the 'lungs of the Earth', playing a vital role in the global water cycle and oxygen production. However, Finn also observed areas where the trees had been cleared for cattle ranching and timber, which threatened the delicate balance of the ecosystem.

Word bank: Equator · Canopy · Deforestation · Biodiversity · Emergent · Precipitation · Sustainable · Understory

1. Identify the invisible line of latitude where the majority of the world's tropical rainforests are located. Explain why the climate here remains hot all year round. (2 marks)

2. Describe the four distinct layers of the rainforest. Which layer receives the most sunlight? (3 marks)

3. Explain why tropical rainforests have such high levels of biodiversity compared to other biomes. (3 marks)

4. Define the term 'deforestation' and list two major reasons why humans clear these forest areas. (3 marks)

5. Compare and contrast the impact of sustainable forestry versus commercial logging on the local ecosystem. (4 marks)

6. Justify why protecting the rainforest is important for people living thousands of miles away from them. (5 marks)

7. What might happen to the global climate if the Amazon Rainforest were significantly reduced in size? Use evidence from the passage to support your answer. (5 marks)

Draw: Create a cross-section diagram of a tropical rainforest. Label the four layers and draw one animal or plant species that is specifically adapted to survive in each layer.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an environmental scientist. Write a persuasive letter to a government official explaining why rainforest preservation should be prioritised over economic development. Include at least three geographical arguments. Total: /25