The Rainforest

Exercises

1 Which word does not belong?

1 mist latex moisture humid
2 tropical Equator Amazon North Pole
3 macaw parrot caiman hummingbird
4 branches claws trunks buttress roots
5 adapt camouflage canopy mammals

2 Draw a line to match the descriptions with the layers.

1 Here dead leaves form a soft carpet for insects.
2 Here there are lots of branches, leaves, vines, flowers and fruit.
3 This layer has giant trees which can grow over 30 metres high.
4 Here there are leafy bushes and the tops of small trees.
5 It is quiet and very hot here.

3 Make a poster for a ‘Save the Rainforests’ campaign. Why are the rainforests important? What will humans lose if the rainforests disappear? How can we help?
4 Read the sentences. Write T (true) or F (false).

1. Half of all the plants and animals in the world live in the tropical rainforests. ___
2. In the emergent layer, jaguars spend their whole lives up in the trees. ___
3. Thick clouds hang over most rainforests, which keep the rainforests warm and wet. ___
4. Plants adapt to life in the shade in the understorey. ___
5. Plants need insects and animals to pollinate their roots. ___

5 Read the descriptions and write the names of the animals.

1. I am a colourful bird that lives in the top two layers of the rainforest. _________
2. I am one of the world’s longest snakes and I can squeeze a caiman to death and then swallow it whole. _________
3. I use my long beak to reach fruit. _________
4. I live in an underground nest and I eat fungi. _________
5. I hunt alone at night, can swim and climb trees. _________

6 Match 1–5 with a–e to make sentences.

1. The Amazon rainforest has 1,000 different types of bat ___
2. Armadillos forage for food ___
3. Capybaras are large rodents with partly webbed feet ___
4. The ocelot is now endangered because ___
5. People in rainforest villages ___

   a. on the rainforest floor.   d. people hunt it for its fur.
   b. so they walk like ducks.   e. wear face paint in ceremonies.
   c. but only the vampire bat feeds on blood.
Choose a, b or c to complete the sentences.

1. Rainforests grow in areas of the world called the tropics ___.
   a. where it is very warm.
   b. where is very warm.
   c. is very warm.

2. The tallest trees have small, thick leaves that help to stop them ___
   a. become too dry.
   b. becoming too dry.
   c. to become too dry.

3. Many types of fungi grow here, ___ to rot the fallen leaves.
   a. to help
   b. are helping
   c. helping

4. More types of birds ___ in the tropical rainforest than anywhere else in the world.
   a. live
   b. lives
   c. living

5. A toucan’s beak ___ difficult to fly.
   a. makes it
   b. makes
   c. is making

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

1. The ___________ (blue, head) parrot has green feathers on its body.

2. ___________ (long, nose) Amazon river dolphins search the muddy river bottom for food.

3. Manatees are ___________ (slow, move) mammals that swim in rivers.

4. The ___________ (three, toe) sloth sleeps for about 16 hours a day.

5. Scarlet macaws have a ___________ (metre, long) tail.