



Name: _____

Date: _____

Level 6 Mock Paper 22 – In The Heart of the Rainforest(Answers)

Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

In The Heart of the Rainforest

Sarah is exhausted. The team have been trekking for a few hours, but it has felt like an eternity. The air is dense and humid, the path has been long and hard. Dangerous creatures and poisonous plants are everywhere in the Amazon rainforest. Surprisingly, though, Sarah feels happy.

The reason for this is that Sarah loves rainforests. Ever since she was a schoolchild she has been fascinated by them. The sheer range of plants and animals to be found captured her imagination as a young girl. Indeed, of the 10 million animal species known to humans, over half of them live in rainforests. What's more, there may be millions of species out there which we have not yet discovered, such is the size and mystery of this habitat.

What exactly is a rainforest? Quite simply, they are forests which receive a lot of rainfall. This may not sound particularly interesting in itself, but that heavy rainfall, often combined with hot temperatures, has allowed plant and animal life to flourish. Tropical rainforests exist around the equator and cover large parts of the earth. The Amazon rainforest is one of them. Less common are temperate rainforests, which are small and occur in various different places.

These amazing environments are in trouble, however. In the Amazon rainforest, for example, most of which is in Brazil, trees are illegally cut down to make space for cattle ranches. This process is known as deforestation, and it is the most significant danger faced by the rainforest. In spite of international efforts, it is extremely difficult to prevent. One strategy is to train farmers to use land in a sustainable way, which is the work of the Rainforest Alliance, the charity for whom Sarah works.

Sarah's trip to the Amazon rainforest is not work-related, but a holiday! She is never happier than when enjoying this rich and varied environment. It is both dangerous and beautiful, brutal and bewitching. Let's hope that it can be protected for future generations to enjoy.

1. Why is it surprising that Sarah feels happy? Give **two** reasons. (2 marks)

It is surprising that Sarah feels happy because she is exhausted and the path has been long and hard. (the air is dense and humid, dangerous creatures, poisonous plants)

2. What does “them” in paragraph 2 line 5 refer to? (2 marks)

“Them” in paragraph 2 line 5 refers to rainforests.

3. What word in the second paragraph means “the natural home of a plant or animal”? (2 marks)

“Habitat” in the second paragraph means “the natural home of a plant or animal”.

4. How many types of rainforest are there and what are they called? (2 marks)

There are two types of rainforest, which are called tropical and temperate.

5. What is the biggest threat facing rainforests and what can be done in order to stop it? (2 marks)

The biggest threat facing rainforests is deforestation, and farmers can be trained to use land in a sustainable way in order to stop it.

6. Which of the following statements are **TRUE**? (2 marks)

- a) Fewer than 50% of the world’s animal species live in rainforests.
- b) Sarah is employed by an organisation which supports rainforests.
- c) The Amazon rainforest lies completely within Brazil.
- d) The writer wants rainforests to be protected.

7. Would you like to trek through the rainforest? Why or why not? (2 marks)

No, I would not like to trek through the rainforest because I don’t like animals.