

Rainforest Diary – Comprehension

Section A

1. How do we know that this is a diary?
2. Why did the diarist need to sleep in a hammock?
3. What different modes of transport has the diarist used to get to the village?
4. If large numbers of trees get cut down, how do you think this will affect the plants and animals?
5. Why did the children need to use sign language and mime?

Section B

6. How much rain has there been today and how do you know this?
7. Why is the diarist worried about the boat sinking?
8. In what ways has the day been tough for the diarist?
9. The tribe have had to learn how to use plants as medicine. Why is this?
10. What is the purpose of the brackets?

Section C

11. Why isn't the diarist at school?
12. What does the word 'tributary' mean?
13. 'Nevertheless, the rainforest is a truly magnificent place.' Is this sentence a fact or opinion?
14. Why do you think the river is a good place to hunt for food?
15. Do you think the diarist plans to go back to the Amazon rainforest again?

Section D

16. Why do you think they are going into the rainforest?
17. Why is there a change of tense within the entry for Tuesday 2nd August?
18. What does the phrase 'pretty tough terrain' suggest about the walking conditions?
19. The tribe are described as being 'self-sufficient'. What does this mean?
20. Why do you think the diarist wrote the word 'Bliss!' as a one word sentence?

Rainforest Diary – Challenge Activity

Section A

Circle the correct answer.

The distance from London to Manaus is... 6822km 8266km 8262km 8622km

Their guide was called... Martin Mattie Matthew Matheus

On Wednesday 3rd August, the humidity was... 84% 88% 82% 28%

Dad spent a lot of time talking to the... shaman healer witchdoctor elder

Dad thought the cure for many diseases and ailments could be found in the... animals water air plants

Section B

Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

Dad calls Manaus 'the gateway to the Amazon rainforest' as it's the perfect place to begin our expedition.

The Amazon rainforest is so big that the UK and Ireland can fit into it 71 times!

They spotted plenty of caiman (a member of the monkey family) sunning themselves on the banks of the river.

The hammock will hopefully help the diarist avoid the many snakes, spiders and insects that wander around the forest floor.

Loggers and developers are wanting to cut down vast numbers of trees in the area.

Rainforest Diary – Challenge Activity

Section C

Complete the chart using information from the text.

Date	temperature	Summary of events
Wed 3 rd Aug		
	27 deg	
		Spent morning playing with the children Travelled in 4x4 to Alter de Chao
Tues 2 nd Aug		
		The diarist learnt lots about the Wajapi people Dad was given some plant eggs to take home.

Section D

These people are completely self-sufficient. They grow their own crops and eat the edible plants that grow naturally around them. The river also acts as an important lifeline. They use it for drinking water, as a means of transport and as a place to hunt fish, turtles, capybara and caiman. I admit to being a little disappointed by the lack of poisoned darts being used for hunting. Guns now appear to be the weapon of choice. This remote village must have some links with the outside world.

FIND and COPY a word in the text that means:

- to carry people from one place to another
- a mammal that looks like a giant guinea pig
- needing no outside help to satisfy needs
- a place located far from main centres of population
- pursue and kill for sport or food
- fit to be eaten