

CHARLES
DICKENS
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest

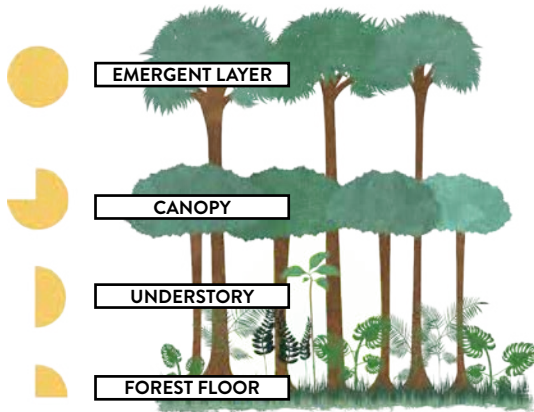


Name _____

Class _____

THE AMAZON RAINFOREST AND BRAZIL

KEY FACTS



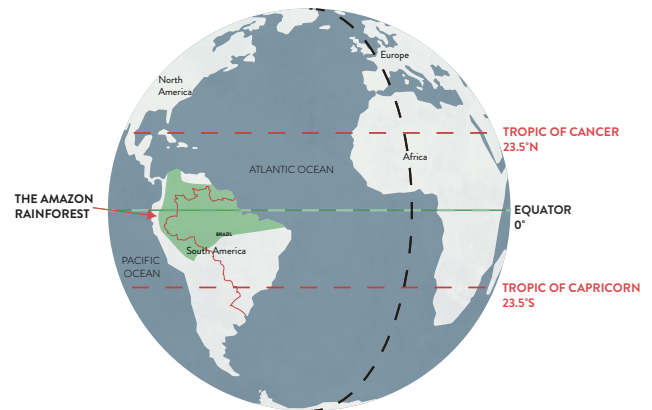
The Amazon Rainforest

- The Amazon rainforest takes its name from the Amazon, the world's largest river.
- The Amazon rainforest spans 9 countries: Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.
- Tropical rainforests are located in a band around the equator (0° latitude), mostly in the area between the Tropic of Cancer (23.5° N latitude) and the Tropic of Capricorn (23.5° S latitude).
- This 3,000 mile (4800 km) wide band is called the "tropics." Tropical rainforests thrive here because of the hot and humid climates where it rains virtually everyday.
- Rainforests cover just 6% of the Earth's land surface, but are home to over 80% of known terrestrial species.
- The rainforests are important because of the variety of life that they support (their biodiversity) and because they absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen.
- The rainforest is under threat of deforestation because of demand for wood for timber, as fuel and to make paper; clearing land for agriculture; road construction; the extraction of minerals.



Brazil

- The seven continents are: Africa, Asia, Antarctica, Australasia (Oceania), Europe, North America, South America.
- Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world, by both area and population and is located in South America.
- The capital of Brazil is Brasilia. Other major cities are Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.
- Brazil is the only country with the Equator and the Tropic of Capricorn passing through it.
- Brazil is bordered to the East by the Atlantic Ocean. and shares a land border with nine countries: Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana and Suriname.
- The official language of Brazil is Portuguese.
- Brazil is the world's most successful footballing nation, winning the World Cup a record five times.



KEY VOCABULARY

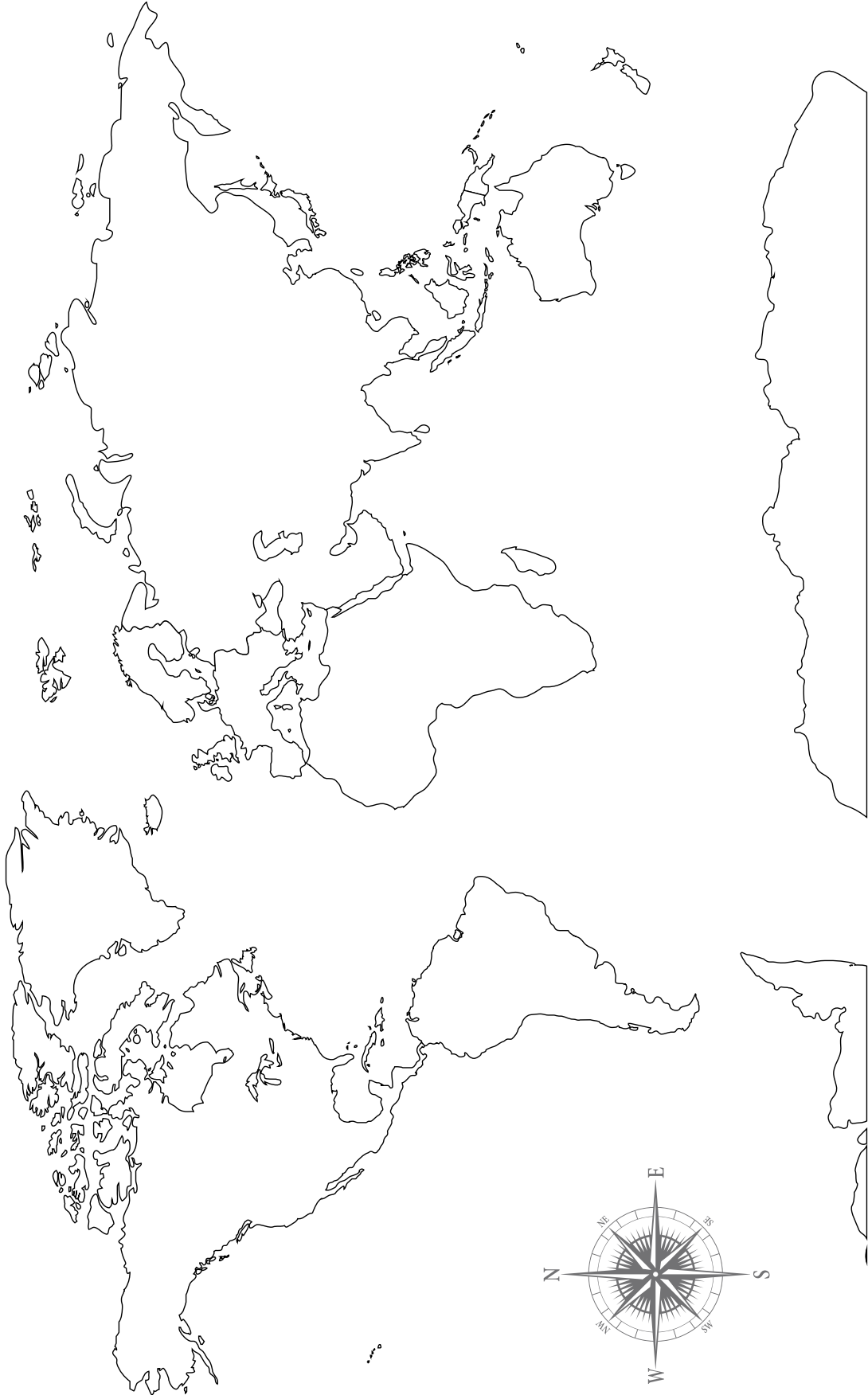


- continent:** a large land mass - one of seven in the world
- South America:** a continent - South of North America and home to Brazil and the Amazonian rainforest
- Amazon:** a South American river - the largest in the world
- rainforest:** a biome with high rainfall and warm temperatures
- hemisphere:** one half of the earth. The Northern Hemisphere is the part of the world North of the equator; the Southern Hemisphere is the half of the world South of the equator
- equator:** the imaginary line of latitude running around the centre of the earth
- biodiversity:** the variety of plants and animals on earth
- tropics:** regions spanning the equator between 23.5 degrees S and 23.5 degrees N

ASSESSMENT



Label a world map to show the continents, the Equator, Tropics and the location of the Amazonian Rainforest.





Answer questions 1 – 9

- 1) How did the rainforest get its name? _____ 1 mark
- 2) The Amazon rainforest is located in which continent? _____ 1 marks
- 3) What is the word which means 'variety of life'? _____ 1 mark
- 4) Rainforests are important because the trees absorb _____ and release _____ 1 mark
- 5) Name the rainforest layer which consists of the tops of the tallest trees. _____ 1 mark
- 6) The _____ is the name given to the upper parts of the trees (about 20-40m tall). 1 mark
- 7) Name 3 things you know about the forest floor? 3 marks
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 8) Which rainforest layer usually reaches about 12 metres. It receives only 2 to 15% of the sunlight that the canopy gets? _____ 1 mark
- 9) What is deforestation and why is it a problem? 1 mark
- _____
- _____