OLI: To understand what I have read

Layers of the Rainforest

- 8 Tropical rainforests are made up of distinct layers.
- 19 The forest floor is very hot and humid and little grows
- 31 there. This part of the rainforest gets less than 2% of the
- 43 sun's light. It is covered in a thin layer of fallen leaves
- 47 which rot away quickly.
- 57 Next are the shrub layer and the understory a dark
- 68 place, where lots of insects, frogs and snakes can be found
- 77 amongst the few plants which don't need much sunlight.
- 87 Above this is the canopy, where most trees stop growing
- 98 and where up to 90% of rainforest creatures can be found.
- 111 This sunny area, rich in fruit and seeds, can be as high as
- 116 thirty metres off the ground.
- 125 Finally, the few giant trees that thrust themselves above
- 134 the dense canopy layer are called the emergent layer.



Quick Questions



1. In which layer can most rainforest animals be found?



2. 'The few giant trees that thrust themselves above the dense canopy layer...'

What do you think dense means in this sentence?



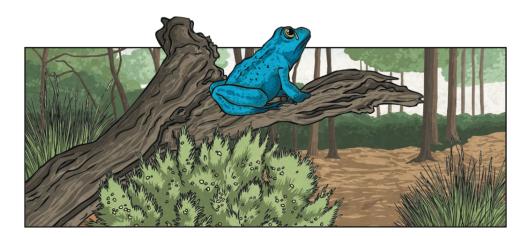
3. How is the forest floor different to the canopy? Give two reasons.



4. Why don't animals live on the forest floor?

Gary's Big Adventure

- 11 Gary knew that he needed to find a vantage a place
- 22 which would give him a good view of the entire rainforest.
- 34 Without that, a tiny frog like him would never be able to
- 45 find them. But where could he go? He was surrounded by
- 54 acres of thick, dense vegetation. No cliffs. No waterfalls.
- 65 Suddenly, he had an idea. He stretched out his toes as
- 75 wide as they would go and jumped towards the nearest
- 84 tree trunk. Clinging on, he climbed higher and higher
- 94 until he finally reached the canopy. He stood atop the
- of the designation of the design
- 101 wide-reaching fronds, looking towards the horizon in
- 111 search of two tiny, blue specks, which looked just like
- 122 him. Just as he had given up hope, an auburn orangutan
- 132 swung by, carrying two sticky, blue lumps on her back...



Quick Questions



1. Which two tall, natural features was Gary unable to go to?



2. 'Gary knew that he needed to find a vantage...'
What do you think vantage means in this sentence?



3. Who do you think Gary is looking for? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.



4. What do you think Gary will do next?

EXT:

ocuments and filenames for text of the Rainforest

- 10 We stumbled on them much by chance spotting a young
- 21 girl, no older than four, through the clearing in the trees.
- 32 She merely wore a skirt made from reeds and leaves, and
- 43 a simple cloth headband to keep the hair from her eyes.
- 52 We watched as she toddled towards the river unsteady
- 64 on her feet, but far steadier than we were. It was clear
- 70 that she knew this rainforest well.
- 82 In the river stood a man with a bow and arrow made
- 91 from forest vines. He stood, knee-high in the flowing
- 100 torrents, aiming towards the water as silently as a
- 110 cheetah stalking its prey. With no hesitation, he let the
- 120 arrow fly and, from beneath the water, he retrieved a
- 130 humongous tilapia. He passed it to the little girl, who
- 135 scurried away amongst the trees.



Quick Questions



1. What two things was the girl wearing?



2. 'He stood, knee-high in the flowing torrents...'
What do you think torrents means in this sentence?



3. What do you think a 'tilapia' is? Give a reason for your answer.



4. How do you think the girl's clothing compares to that of the explorers?