



## LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. How is the rainforest of the Amazon basin rich in fauna?

Answer: The rainforest of the Amazon basin is very rich in fauna. A variety of birds such as toucans, humming birds, bird of paradise with their brilliantly coloured. Plumage and oversized bills for eating are found here.

These birds also make loud sounds in the forests. Animals like monkeys, sloth and ant-eating tapirs are found here. Various species of reptiles and snakes also thrive in these jungles. A number of crocodiles, snakes and pythons are also found here. Anaconda and boa constrictor are some of the species. The basin is also the home to thousands of species of insects. Several species of fishes including the flesh-eating Piranha fish is also found in the river.

2. What do you know about the people of the rainforest? [V. Imp.]

Answer: The people of the Amazon basin practise slash and burn agriculture. They grow most of their food in small areas after clearing some trees in the forest. Men hunt and fish along the rivers and women take care of the crops. They mainly grow tapioca, pineapple and sweet potato. As hunting and fishing are uncertain it is the women who support the family. They feed them the vegetables that they grow. Their staple food is manioc, also known as cassava that grows under the ground like potato. They also eat queen ants and egg sacs. Cash crops like coffee, maize and cocoa are also grown.

People get wood for their houses from the rainforests. They build thatched houses shaped like beehives. There are also malocas there which are large apartmentlike houses with a steeply slanting roof.

The Amazon basin is developing day by day. In 1970 the trans Amazon highway made all parts of the rainforest accessible. With the change of time the people's life style is also changing gradually.

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