

Analyse & Use

Jungle Setting



Read the jungle setting description below. Analyse the vocabulary and descriptions that have been used.

In the tropical jungle, the warm rays of the early sunrise beat down through the thick, vibrant vegetation. Woody, twisted vines wrapped around towering trees as if they were climbing desperately towards the sunlight. Chattering spider monkeys leapt across the tangled maze of sun-speckled plants as they searched for delicious, fresh fruit to feast upon. In the distance, colourful macaws and parrots joined the delightful chorus of animals singing at dawn. Without warning, a heavy shower of rain lashed down upon the humid jungle. Snakes slithered across rough, damp branches while a majestic jaguar took shelter and camouflaged under bowing trees. Shallow puddles formed on the dark, decaying jungle floor. Anteaters rummaged around and devoured the squirming insects that scurried across the rotten plants.

Descriptive Settings: Rainforests and Jungles

What Can I Describe?

biodiversity
canopies
deforestation
ecosystems
fauna
flora
fruits
ground
habitats
insects
layers
plants
predators
species
swamps
temperature
thickets
vines
weather
wildlife

How Can I Describe It?

chaotic
dense
endless
exotic
hazardous
hostile
humid
impassable
impenetrable
lush
luxuriant
mysterious
remote
steamy
swampy
tangled
tough
trackless
unexplored
uninhabited

What Can It Do?

crawl
creep
disappear
emerge
escape
hide
infest
inhabit
live
lurk
melt
plunge
retreat
roam
search
survive
teem
trek
venture
wander

Examples of Effective Phrases

...lurking within the dense foliage...

Among gnarled and twisted vines...

...abundant and luscious flora...

...through the impenetrable and sinister swamp...

...previously unexplored territory...

Stifling heat made the exotic paradise extremely hazardous.



Tropical Rainforest

What Is the Climate Like?

consistently warm, equatorial, hot, humid, moist, stagnant, temperate, tropical, water-abundant, wet, year-round high temperatures

What Is the Rainforest like at Night?

awake, busy, dangerous, deadly, lively, nocturnal, noisy, pitch-black, predator-filled

What Sounds Can Be Heard?

buzzing, chattering, clicking, dripping, flapping, growling, howling, loud, rustling, scuttling, shrieking, splashing, squawking, stridulating, trickling, vocalising

How Could You Describe a Rainforest?

abundant, biodiverse, chaotic, dense, essential, impassable, impenetrable, inaccessible, luxuriant, mysterious, primitive, pristine, remote, temperate, tough, undisturbed, unexplored, vast

Descriptive Words

What Is It like in a Rainforest Canopy?

breezy, bright, elevated, leafy, maze-like, noisy, nutrient-rich, plentiful, refreshing, strong, sunlit, tangled, vibrant, warm

What Does a Rainforest Smell Like?

decaying, earthy, fetid, floral, fruity, leafy, moist, pungent, swampy, tropical, vegetation

What Is the Emergent Layer Like?

bright, broad-leaved, hardwood, looming, noisy, rainy, sunlit, top-heavy, towering, unsteady, windy

What Is the Understorey Like?

damp, dangerous, food-rich, hot, humid, leafy, lively, low-light, moist, patchy, shaded, sheltered, speckled, sun-dappled, teeming, warm, wet

How Could You Describe the Forest Floor?

dank, dark, decaying, decomposing, earthy, hot, infested, putrid, rotting, shaded, shadowy, unlit



Edit & Improve

Jungle Setting



Read the jungle setting description below. Edit and improve the vocabulary to make it more descriptive. Add different sentence starters to make the text more engaging.

It was the morning in the jungle and it was warm. The sun was shining. There were lots of different trees and plants. Some of the plants were colourful. It was busy in the jungle. There were monkeys climbing the tall trees. They looked for fruit to eat. The macaws and parrots were also in the trees. They were noisy. Then, there was heavy rain. Snakes moved across the wet branches. A jaguar walked under the trees to shelter from the rain. There were puddles. There were anteaters looking for food on the ground. There were lots of insects and rotten plants.

Setting Description Checklist

Did I...

Child

Friend

Teacher

describe what can be seen?

describe what can be heard?

describe what can be felt?

describe the time of day?

describe the weather?

use powerful adjectives to describe the atmosphere/mood?

