

6 EXAM TASK Przeczytaj poniższy tekst i wybierz właściwą odpowiedź, zakreślając literę A, B, C lub D.

Life in a Rainforest

I arrived at the cloud forest in Ecuador ten days ago. I'm one of a group of twelve volunteers of all ages, nationalities and professions that want to save the rainforest. We're working together with local people and scientists and we're learning and seeing new things every day. Our lodge is comfortable, has breathtaking views and is in the middle of the rainforest. It's a two-hour walk from the nearest road and it's even further to the nearest village.

The rainforest is truly an astonishing place. There are thousands of species of plants here and more than 300 species of birds. There are millions of insects, and scientists think there may be around forty mammal species that haven't even been discovered. But what I am really amazed at is how everything depends on everything else for survival.

Every tree in the rainforest is covered in a species of another kind. The black wasp uses the tarantula as a nest for its eggs, plants need monkeys for seed dispersal, and the clouds are necessary for the survival of the whole rainforest. This is because they provide moisture. The problem is, climate change is causing the clouds to rise by 1-2 m every year. What will happen to the plants that need this moisture? What will happen to the animals that need those plants?

Our job as volunteers is to watch this changing ecosystem. One of my favourite projects is the bird survey. Every day a group of us set out at around five o'clock with a local scientist. At this time of the morning, the air is filled with the sound of bird song. We have to identify the birds we hear and see and write down our findings. Later, we enter all our information into a computer back at the lodge.

We also set up cameras to record pumas, spectacled bears and other large mammals. It's always exciting to see pumas because it means there are other animals around that they would normally hunt. We fix the cameras to trees around the reserve, and every day a team of volunteers collects the cameras memory cards.

There is a lot to do in the rainforest, but at least I feel like we're making a difference.

lodge domek
survival przeżycie, przetrwanie
seed dispersal rozsiewanie ziarna
moisture wilgoć
survey badanie, pomiar
set out wyruszać
identify zidentyfikować
findings wyniki

- What is true about the volunteers?
 - They are around the same age.
 - They are experienced scientists.
 - They have been in the rainforest for twelve days.
 - They are from different backgrounds.
- Where are the group staying?
 - In a village in the rainforest.
 - In accommodation close to the road.
 - Far from other people and places.
 - With different local families.
- What does the writer say about the creatures in the rainforest?
 - There are very few insects.
 - There are still a lot of unknown mammals.
 - There are more plants than birds.
 - There are less than forty types of mammal.
- Why is the rainforest in danger?
 - The clouds are higher than they used to be.
 - The monkeys are destroying some of the important plants.
 - Some of the insects are destroying the trees.
 - There is more rain than usual.
- What does the narrator say about the bird surveys?
 - She has to take a computer on the trip.
 - She reports to a scientist in the evening.
 - She has to leave very early.
 - She's the only volunteer on the trip.
- The volunteers are always pleased to see pumas because they think that
 - there are only a few pumas left.
 - they are the most interesting mammals.
 - they are more difficult to spot.
 - there will be more animals close by.

PLUS

Zbierz informacje dotyczące jakiegoś interesującego gatunku zwierzęcia i opowiedz o nim kolegom i koleżankom z klasy. W swojej wypowiedzi uwzględnij odpowiedzi na poniższe pytania.

- What does it look like?
- Where does it live?
- What does it eat?