

**Class 5**  
**Sub - SST**  
**Chapter 5**  
**THE EQUATORIAL RAINFORESTS**

**A. Fill in the blanks.**

1.	rays	2.	different
3.	emergent	4.	less
5.	surroundings		

**B. Write T for True and F for False.**

1. T                      2. F                      3. F  
4. F                      5. F

**C. Read the clues and name the following.**

1. Forest floor layer    2. Emergent layer  
3. Pygmies              4. Anaconda  
5. Shifting agriculture

**D. Answer the following questions in your exercise book.**

1. The equatorial rainforests are located on both sides of the Equator. These forests fall in the Torrid Zone.
2. Mahogany, rosewood, ebony, cinchona, fan palm, strangler fig and rubber are examples of trees that grow in equatorial rainforests.

- 3.** The Amazon Indians tribes clear a part of the forest by burning and then plant crops in that area for two or three years. This type of agriculture is known as shifting agriculture, where the soil loses fertility rapidly and the crops stop growing. The farmers then abandon the land and 'slash and burn' new areas of the forest for farming.
- 4.** The Europeans who settled in some of the equatorial regions of South- east Africa and Asia introduced plantation agriculture in these areas. Most of these tribes have either been displaced by European settlers or have been forced to change their ways of living. Many rainforest tribes also practise plantation farming. Instead of growing food crops, they grow crops such as coffee, cocoa, rubber, cotton, tobacco and palm oil. These crops are sold to earn money.
- 5.** The climate in the equatorial rainforests remains the same throughout the year. The region does not experience different seasons. The winters are not very different from summers and there is little variation in temperature. The length of days and nights does not have much variation throughout the year. The 4 o'clock rainfall makes the evenings and nights comfortable.