

## DC Cheat Sheet

by genius\_elffo via cheatography.com/200984/cs/42616/

## 1.2.2 Tropical Rainforests - Characteristics

climate

- · the climate is same all year round with no definite seasons
- · the temperature is generally between 20-28° and only varies by a few degrees over the year
- $\cdot$  very high rainfall, around 2000mm per year; usually rains in the afternoon everyday

soil

- · the soil isn't very fertile as heavy rain washes nutrients away
- · there are only nutrients at the surface due to decayed leaf fall, however this layer is very thin due to fast decay in warm, moist conditions

plants

- · most trees are evergreen to take advantage of the continual growing season
- · really tall trees & dense vegetation cover -> very little light reaches the forest floor
- · there are lots of *epiphytes* (plants that grow on other living plants to reach higher positions in order to absorb more sunlight) e.g. orchids & ferns

animals

- · rainforest ecosystems contain more animal species than any other
- · e.g. gorillas, jaguars, anacondas, tree frogs & sloths

people

· many indigenous people have adapted to life in rainforests, making a living by hunting, fishing, gathering nuts & berries and growing vegetables in small garden plots

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