

Name: _____

Date: _____

Complete the passage by filling in the blank with the most appropriate sentence.

1. The Amazon rainforest is a moist broadleaf tropical rainforest that covers most of the Amazon basin of South America. ---- The greater part of the forest, some sixty per cent, lies in Brazil, followed by Peru with thirteen per cent and Colombia with ten, while smaller portions fall within Bolivia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Suriname and Venezuela. Four of these nations have given the name Amazonas to one of their first-level administrative regions.

- A)** That basin covers some seven million square kilometres, of which six million are forested, and it takes in territory belonging to nine nations and more than three thousand indigenous territories.
- B)** The region represents over half of the planet's remaining tropical rainforest and holds the largest tract of such forest anywhere in the world.
- C)** Deforestation there has been driven above all by cattle ranching, by soya cultivation and by the roads built to serve them both.
- D)** These reserves were established in the second half of the twentieth century and are now administered by a patchwork of federal agencies.
- E)** The climate of the basin is remarkably uniform, and rainfall varies hardly at all between one part of it and another.

2. Air pollution is the presence in the air of substances that are harmful to human beings, to other living things or to the environment. The pollutants may be gases, such as ozone or the nitrogen oxides, or small particles such as soot and dust, and both outdoor and indoor air can be affected. Outdoor pollution comes from burning fossil fuels for electricity and transport, from wildfires, from certain industrial processes and from agriculture, while indoor pollution often comes from burning firewood or agricultural waste for cooking and heating. ----

- A)** Dust storms and volcanic eruptions are further sources, and they can carry material across whole continents within a matter of days.
- B)** Regulation has therefore concentrated on transport, since vehicles are the source over which governments have the most direct control.
- C)** Such measurements are taken at fixed monitoring stations, whose readings are published by national environmental agencies each year.
- D)** Because these particles settle quickly, their effects are confined to the immediate neighbourhood of the source that produced them.
- E)** Many of these sources, and burning fossil fuels above all, also release the greenhouse gases that cause global warming, although air pollution may at the same time limit warming locally.