

People of the Rainforest

10 We stumbled on them much by chance – spotting a young
21 girl, no older than four, through the clearing in the trees.
32 She merely wore a skirt made from reeds and leaves, and
43 a simple cloth headband to keep the hair from her eyes.
52 We watched as she toddled towards the river – unsteady
64 on her feet, but far steadier than we were. It was clear
70 that she knew this rainforest well.

82 In the river stood a man with a bow and arrow made
91 from forest vines. He stood, knee-high in the flowing
100 torrents, aiming towards the water as silently as a
110 cheetah stalking its prey. With no hesitation, he let the
120 arrow fly and, from beneath the water, he retrieved a
130 humongous tilapia. He passed it to the little girl, who
135 scurried away amongst the trees.



Quick Questions



1. What two things was the girl wearing?



2. *'He stood, knee-high in the flowing torrents...'*

What do you think torrents means in this sentence?



3. What do you think a 'tilapia' is? Give a reason for your answer.



4. How do you think the girl's clothing compares to that of the explorers?

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Answers



1. What two things was the girl wearing?

Accept: 'skirt' and 'headband'.



2. *'He stood, knee-high in the flowing torrents...'*

What do you think torrents means in this sentence?

Accept any answer which relates to a body of water moving quickly or the water's strength being great.



3. What do you think a 'tilapia' is? Give a reason for your answer.

Accept answers which infer that it is a fish or a river-dwelling creature provided that a reasonable justification is provided, such as 'he caught it in the river'.



4. How do you think the girl's clothing compares to that of the explorers?

Accept any reasonable comparison between her lack of clothing and what it is made from, compared to their presumable hiking clothing made from modern, western fabrics.