**1.3 *Rain Forests of Central America***

**Pg. 146-147**

Answer the following questions.

1. Why has Central America lost large amounts of its rain forest to deforestation?
2. How can economic development shape the physical geography of the region?
3. How do Central America’s rain forests contribute to the economy?
4. Based on the percentages of land covered by rain forest, in which country would you expect rain forest tourism to be most important? Explain your response. (See the map & chart on pg. 146.)
5. Using data shown on the map on pg. 146, make a bar graph on the back of this paper showing the percentage of forested land in Central American countries. Which method of showing the data do you find most clear, and why?

**2.5 *Conserving the Rain Forest***

**Pg. 178-179**

1. How does regular tourism damage forest environments?
2. What do you think will be the results of the continued growth of the ecotourism industry?
3. Pretend you are the owner of a resort in a Central American country. What would you include on your website to convince people that your resort preserves the environment and helps local people?
4. In what way is the focus of ecotourists different from that of other tourists? Provide an example.
5. From what you observe in the photos of the canopy and some of its animal inhabitants, what do you think draws ecotourists to the rain forest?
6. How does ecotourism help protect against deforestation?
7. Imagine you want to convince your parents to take you on an ecotourism vacation (or not to take you on an ecotourism vacation). Write a paragraph with a statement of your opinion and at least three reasons to support your choice. You may list personal reasons in addition to the information found in today’s lesson.