



Living along The Amazon: Expectations and Reality

Pages 22-3.

Describe what Maia thinks the Carters' house will look like, both inside and out.

Start with:

Maia is really excited by her new environment and expects that the

Carters' house will have a tropical garden, a boat, and a hammock with baskets of kittens that the girls sit on. Maia thinks it will be a beautiful house because there is a piano that the girls play beautiful duets, on a huge deck coated in flowers and picnic tables that the Carters sat at every day for family breakfast, lunch, and dinner.



Pages 28, 30-33.

Now describe what it is *really* like (both inside and out).

Begin with these words:

In reality, the Carters' bungalow is dark, spinach green which only needs patients in stretchers and then it is a hospital. The deck is a small veranda with wire netting and glass to ensure that the salty breeze does not "affect" them on the veranda and there are no flowers on the veranda, but instead fly papers to destroy the monstrous mosquitos.



Extension

What do we learn about the Carters as people from the appearance of their house and the comments they make to Maia?

The Carters are snobby and condescending people because they call the Indians filthy. In their house, there are no pictures but Lady Parsons because they want to impress and make others feel bad about themselves because of their relations. They are germaphobes because they make everything smell like Lysol and Mrs. Carter uses it as perfume.