

## UNIT 9: NATURAL DISASTERS

### A. PHONETICS

#### I. Mark the stress on the correct syllable for the following words

- |                 |                |                  |                 |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. biography    | 6. physiology  | 11. photography  | 16. meteorology |
| 2. biology      | 7. ethnography | 12. sociology    | 17. astrology   |
| 3. radiography  | 8. ethnology   | 13. apology      | 18. zoology     |
| 4. radiology    | 9. geography   | 14. bibliography | 19. demography  |
| 5. physiography | 10. geology    | 15. climatology  | 20. psychology  |

#### II. Circle the word with a different stress pattern from the others.

- |                     |               |                 |                     |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. A. technology    | B. disaster   | C. available    | D. temporary        |
| 2. A. accommodation | B. evacuation | C. oceanography | D. environmentalist |
| 3. A. tsunami       | B. evacuee    | C. ecology      | D. volcanic         |
| 4. A. volunteer     | B. scientific | C. sociology    | D. property         |
| 5. A. electronic    | B. biology    | C. photography  | D. astrology        |

### B. VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR

#### I. Write the names of the disasters on the line, then match them to the pictures.

tsunami	earthquake	drought	avalanche	flood
tornado	mudslide	volcanic eruption	typhoon	wildfire

1. A sudden, violent shaking of the earth's surface. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Hot lava, ash and gases come up suddenly from below the earth's surface through an opening of a mountain. \_\_\_\_\_
3. A mass of snow, ice, and rock that falls down the side of a mountain. \_\_\_\_\_
4. A large amount of wet earth that suddenly falls down a hill. \_\_\_\_\_
5. A series of large ocean waves, usually caused by an underwater earthquake or a volcanic explosion. \_\_\_\_\_
6. A violent tropical storm with very strong winds. \_\_\_\_\_
7. A long period of time when there is little or no rain. \_\_\_\_\_
8. A very strong wind that goes quickly round in a circle or funnel. \_\_\_\_\_
9. A fire that starts in an area of countryside and spreads very quickly. \_\_\_\_\_
10. A large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry. \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Choose the correct answers.

- The waves of the \_\_\_\_\_ were so huge that it destroyed everything on the beach.  
A. tornado      B. hurricane      C. tsunami      D. earthquake
- Five skiers are missing after the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Alps.  
A. drought      B. landslide      C. flood      D. avalanche
- After the \_\_\_\_\_ all the houses were left under water.  
A. flood      B. tornado      C. typhoon      D. mudslide
- It took firefighters five days to put out the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. hurricane      B. forest fire      C. tsunami      D. drought
- A period of 3- 4 months without rain will cause a severe \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. typhoon      B. earthquake      C. drought      D. flood
- The \_\_\_\_\_ picked up the car and threw it 100 meters into the air. That's an incredibly strong wind!  
A. tornado      B. volcanic eruption      C. landslide      D. typhoon
- The \_\_\_\_\_ shook parts of the region around Tokyo on Saturday. It was 5 on the Richter Scale.  
A. hurricane      B. flood      C. earthquake      D. tornado
- \_\_\_\_\_ occur when a large amount of water causes the rapid erosion of soil on a steep slope.  
A. Tsunamis      B. Tornadoes      C. Avalanches      D. Mudslides
- A big storm in the Pacific is known as a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. avalanche      B. typhoon      C. tsunami      D. tornado
- Mount Merapi in Indonesia is a famous \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. landslide      B. typhoon      C. volcano      D. tornado

## III. Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

debris	tornadoes	victims	mudslide	havoc
disasters	property	accommodation	supplies	flood

- The \_\_\_\_\_ was overwhelming and the City was soon drowned.
- Teams of people are still clearing the \_\_\_\_\_ from damaged trees and houses after the tornado.
- Temporary housing can be provided to victims when natural \_\_\_\_\_ strike.
- The storm wreaked \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden, uprooting trees and blowing a fence down.
- \_\_\_\_\_ can destroy buildings, flip cars, and create deadly flying debris.
- Four people were reported killed when a \_\_\_\_\_ buried their house.

7. Many people lost their homes due to the earthquake and are staying in temporary \_\_\_\_\_ until their houses are rebuilt.
8. Food, clean water and medical \_\_\_\_\_ arrived three days after the typhoon.
9. A natural disaster can cause loss of life or damage \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The government is sending aid to flood \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. Complete the sentences with the correct tense or form of the verbs in the box.**

bury	collapse	erupt	put out	evacuate
shake	scatter	rage	strike	rescue

1. Scientists believe the volcano may \_\_\_\_\_ any day now.
2. The storm \_\_\_\_\_ outside while we were partying inside.
3. Firefighters are still trying \_\_\_\_\_ wildfires that have already burned more than 1.6 million acres of tropical forest.
4. The magnitude 6.7 earthquake \_\_\_\_\_ Japan's Hokkaido island in September, 2018.
5. Three houses \_\_\_\_\_ in a landslide that took place this morning.
6. 8,000 people had to be from their homes as floodwaters flowed through the main streets.
7. Most deaths occur during an earthquake when buildings \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The well-trained team \_\_\_\_\_ everyone after the avalanche.
9. Right now, the building \_\_\_\_\_ so violently I can't even stand up.
10. The town experienced flooding while strong winds \_\_\_\_\_ debris across the streets.

**V. Choose the best response for each sentence.**

1. "I saw a roof flying in the storm yesterday afternoon." - \_\_\_\_\_  
**A.** Exactly.                      **B.** That's horrible!              **C.** That's a relief.    **D.** So do I.
2. "The weather forecast says it's going to rain tomorrow." - "\_\_\_\_\_ What a pity."  
**A.** Looks great!              **B.** Not at all.              **C.** Sounds good!    **D.** Oh no!
3. "The whole village was submerged in the flood." - "\_\_\_\_\_"  
**A.** That's surprising!    **B.** My fault.              **C.** Already.              **D.** That's awful!
4. "Have you heard the news? A powerful earthquake and following tsunami hit the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia." - "\_\_\_\_\_"  
**A.** How beautiful!              **B.** Awesome!              **C.** How terrible!    **D.** No problem.
5. "Rescue workers saved a girl trapped in a collapsed school building." - \_\_\_\_\_  
**A.** That's great!              **B.** Good luck.              **C.** How convenient!    **D.** Oh dear!
6. "Forecasters say that the storm won't move toward the land." - "\_\_\_\_\_"  
**A.** What a pity!              **B.** Never mind.              **C.** That's a relief!    **D.** It's OK.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ “A tornado blew several cars in front of me off the road and into the trees.”  
- “\_\_\_\_\_”
- A.** That’s shocking!      **B.** How cute!      **C.** That’s great!      **D.** Maybe.
8. “Did you know the Amazon rainforest fires have already been controlled.”  
- “No, I didn’t.”
- A.** What a bad day!      **B.** How wonderful!  
**C.** How thoughtful it is!      **D.** Well done.

**VI. Complete the sentences with the passive form of the verbs in brackets.**

- Tsunamis \_\_\_\_\_ (**typically/ cause**) by large, undersea earthquakes.
- Nearly a quarter of all homes in the Keys \_\_\_\_\_ (**destroy**) by Hurricane Irma in 2017.
- Over the past two years, 500,000 damaged homes \_\_\_\_\_ (**rebuild**) with support from the government and donors.
- An earthquake warning System \_\_\_\_\_ (**install**) on the West Coast next month.
- An average of 10 people in Florida \_\_\_\_\_ (**kill**) by lightning strikes annually.
- Indonesia \_\_\_\_\_ (**strike**) by a tsunami a few days ago.
- An estimated 10,000 people \_\_\_\_\_ (**already/ evacuate**) due to the wildfires since Wednesday.
- Scientists predict the South coast \_\_\_\_\_ (**hit**) by a large hurricane in two days.
- After the storm, some major roads are closing because they \_\_\_\_\_ (**repair**).
- The name Heather \_\_\_\_\_ (**use**) for three tropical cyclones up to now.

**VI. Rewrite the sentences in passive voice.**

- A magnitude 7.1 earthquake shook Southern California on Friday.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- They will provide temporary housing to earthquake victims as soon as possible.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Rescue teams have saved hundreds of people from floods in Metro Manila.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- An average of 20 typhoons hit the country every year.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- A massive landslide buried dozens of homes near a Central Philippine mountain.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- They are repairing roads and bridges damaged by the hurricane.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Across the northwest Florida coast, people were clearing storm debris.  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Authorities have lifted a tsunami warning after a strong earthquake.

9. Submarine volcanic eruptions can cause tsunamis.

10. Will the government send troops to flooded regions?

**VIII. Complete the sentences with the past perfect form of the verbs in brackets.**

1. Officials said the blaze \_\_\_\_\_ (**damage**) five houses in the area.
2. Before Hurricane Sandy struck the US Northeast, it \_\_\_\_\_ (**kill**) 72 people in the Caribbean.
3. US Weather Service \_\_\_\_\_ (**not issue**) any warning by the time the tornado moved to a City nearby.
4. As of Monday night, more 10,149 people \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**) their homes across the province.
5. We \_\_\_\_\_ (**not experience**) any natural disasters before we were trapped in an avalanche last month.
6. What \_\_\_\_\_ (**the government/ do**) by the time the mudslide occurred?
7. El Nino weather \_\_\_\_\_ (**hit**) Mekong Delta as the worst drought in 90 years, report said.
8. Many local people said that they \_\_\_\_\_ (**never/ see**) such a fierce storm in their life.
9. Those evacuees \_\_\_\_\_ (**not return**) home by late December.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ (**people/ evacuate**) the area when the hurricane hit?

**IX. Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or past perfect.**

1. By the time the firefighters \_\_\_\_\_ (**arrive**), the fire \_\_\_\_\_ (**already destroy**) over 50 hectares of pine forests.
2. Two people \_\_\_\_\_ (**report**) that flames \_\_\_\_\_ (**trap**) them inside a smoke-filled apartment.
3. It \_\_\_\_\_ (**rain**) all morning before the tornado \_\_\_\_\_ (**touch**) down.
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ (**not know**) where to shelter from the storm because nobody \_\_\_\_\_ (**tell**) them.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (**you/ already leave**) the office when the fire \_\_\_\_\_ (**start**)?
6. The post \_\_\_\_\_ (**not arrive**) when I \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**) home this morning.
7. It \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) cloudy for days before it \_\_\_\_\_ (**start**) to rain heavily and \_\_\_\_\_ (**flood**) the whole City.
8. When I \_\_\_\_\_ (**get**) to the check-in desk, I realized I \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**) my ticket at home.

9. After Tom and his neighbours \_\_\_\_\_ (**put out**) the fire, the fire engines \_\_\_\_\_ (**arrive**) at the cottage.
10. She \_\_\_\_\_ (**recognize**) the warning signs that she \_\_\_\_\_ (**learn**) in a school lesson on tsunami two days before.
11. By the time the rescuers \_\_\_\_\_ (**arrive**), they \_\_\_\_\_ (**run**) out of food and water.
12. The rescue team \_\_\_\_\_ (**find**) the child after they \_\_\_\_\_ (**search**) for ten hours.

#### X. Underline the correct form.

On 26 December 2004, Tilly Smith, a 10-year-old British schoolgirl (1) **walked / was walking** on the beach with her family. Suddenly Tilly (2) **felt / had felt** that something was wrong. She could see that the water (3) had risen / was rising and waves (4) **had come / were coming** up the beach. The beach (5) **got / was getting** smaller and smaller. She (6) **didn't know / hadn't know** that there had been an earthquake in Sumatra that morning, but she suddenly (7) **remembered / had remembered** a geography lesson she (8) **was having / had had** at school just two weeks before. She (9) **told / had told** her mother what she (10) was learning / had learned about earthquake and giant waves. Tilly (11) **started / had started** screaming at her parents to get off the beach. They (12) **took / had taken** Tilly back to their hotel and (13) raised / had raised the alarm. Thanks to Tilly, everybody from that beach (14) **survived / had survived** that terrible day.

#### XI. Choose the correct answers.

1. A drought happens when there \_\_\_\_\_ no rain in a place for a long time.  
A. is                      B. was                      C. has been                      D. had been
2. A flood \_\_\_\_\_ when a large amount of water covers the land.  
A. occurs                      B. is occurred                      C. is occurring                      D. has occurred
3. The size of earthquakes \_\_\_\_\_ on the Richter scale.  
A. measures                      B. measured                      C. is measuring                      D. is measured
4. Hurricane Dorian \_\_\_\_\_ the Abaco Islands as a category 5 hurricane on September 1.  
A. strike                      B. struck                      C. had struck                      D. was struck
5. At least 200 people \_\_\_\_\_ after rivers burst their banks in Colombia mudslides.  
A. killed                      B. had killed                      C. were killed                      D. are being killed
6. Since Monday, more than a dozen tornadoes \_\_\_\_\_ down across Oklahoma.  
A. touches                      B. touched                      C. have touched                      D. were touched
7. Hurricanes and heavy rains \_\_\_\_\_ with the help of technology.  
A. predicted                      B. are predicting                      C. will predict                      D. can be predicted
8. A tornado watch is issued when there is a possibility that a tornado .  
will touch                      B. is touched                      C. touched                      D. had touched

9. Before that day in Hawaii, we \_\_\_\_\_ a volcanic eruption.  
**A.** never saw      **B.** has never seen    **C.** had never seen    **D.** were never seen
10. So far, some of the storm damaged roads and bridges \_\_\_\_\_.  
**A.** already repaired                      **B.** had already repaired  
**C.** were already repaired                **D.** have already been repaired
11. We \_\_\_\_\_ home when a hurricane hit the town two days ago. What a terrible experience!  
**A.** are driving    **B.** were driving    **C.** drove              **D.** had driven
12. Families camped out in a City park after their homes \_\_\_\_\_ by the earthquake.  
**A.** have heavily damaged                **B.** had damaged heavily  
**C.** were heavily damaged                **D.** are damaged heavily

**XII. Use the correct form of the words in brackets.**

- Earthquakes cause the ground to move and shake \_\_\_\_\_. (**violent**)
- Rescue experts can identify \_\_\_\_\_ victims with modern methods. (**bury**)
- Mount Mayon volcano caused a major \_\_\_\_\_ in the Philippines. (**erupt**)
- Volcanic tremor is the rhythmic ground \_\_\_\_\_. (**shake**)
- Despite all the modern technology available to us, we're still \_\_\_\_\_ against earthquakes. (**help**)
- The remove of \_\_\_\_\_ debris can be rapidly finished by machines. (**scatter**)
- Indonesia orders immediate \_\_\_\_\_ as highest alert issued for Bali volcano. (**evacuate**)
- We assisted them with the \_\_\_\_\_ of food and clothing. (**provide**)
- Linda was the most \_\_\_\_\_ typhoon to ever hit Southern Vietnam. (**destroy**)
- Medical \_\_\_\_\_ were sent to the earthquake victims yesterday. (**supply**)

**C. SPEAKING**

**I. Make questions for the underlined words.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ If I knew a tornado was Corning, I **would immediately and safe shelter.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ Earthquakes are becoming more frequent these days **because of excess use of underground materials.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Dozens of** people were buried under a massive landslide in Natonin town.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Rescue crews** have helped people from flooded homes and cars.
- \_\_\_\_\_

A 6.9 magnitude earthquake struck the Indonesian island of Lombok on August 5.

6. \_\_\_\_\_

Hurricane Dorian is currently hurtling towards Florida.

7. \_\_\_\_\_

These eruptions have lasted from a few hours to 145 days.

8. \_\_\_\_\_

Tornadoes generally travel at an average speed of 30 miles per hour.

9. \_\_\_\_\_

The Amazon is on fire as a result of illegal forest clearing to make more farms.

10. \_\_\_\_\_

When it rains for a long time, floods could happen.

## II. Complete the dialogue with the appropriate phrases or sentences (A - H).

**A.** You're right. Current technology helps to rapidly deliver the news, but couldn't prevent a rage of nature.

**B.** Hi, Sang. I'm not playing game, but reading the news.

**C.** Yes. TV can only report what already happened,

**D.** Hope so.

**E.** Yeah. A lot of things to talk.

**F.** Maybe because it was so big and so sudden that they didn't have enough time to deal with it.

**G.** Exactly! 9.1 is the largest in Japan and 4th most powerful in the world.

**H.** "A memory of deaths in 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami"

Sang: Thien! Playing mobile game is not good. Drop the phone, buddy.

Thien: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: What news is it?

Thien: (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: Oh, I'm sorry. That was a terrible disaster. People talked about it all the time.

Thien: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: A 9.1 Richter quake followed by a tsunami, double damage.

Thien: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: I've never stayed in either earthquake or tsunami. I only see it on TV.

Thien: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: Even Twitter or Facebook can't do anything else.

Thien: (6) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: Why did so many people die although Japan was famous for living with earthquakes?

Thien: (7) \_\_\_\_\_

Sang: Hope they won't meet anything like that again.

Thien: (8) \_\_\_\_\_

## D. READING

### I. Complete the passage with the words from the box.

flooding	mudslide	avalanche	twister
result	famine	volcanic	plates

Mother nature can be a bit scary at times. These days there seem to be more and more occurrences of natural disasters happening around the world.

An (1) \_\_\_\_\_ is the large movement of snow down the side of a mountain. They occur when the snow becomes too loose and as it slides down it mixes with air and water to cause a powerful and dangerous disaster. A drought happens when there has been no rain in a place for a long time.

A drought may result in a (2) \_\_\_\_\_; this is when there is not enough food to feed the people and they start to starve.

An earthquake occurs when the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth start to move and the ground begins to move and shake. The size of earthquakes is measured on the Richter scale.

A flood occurs when a large amount of water covers the land. Too much rain usually causes floods. As sea levels continue to rise, the risk of (4) \_\_\_\_\_ increases.

A hurricane originally means 'big wind'. Hurricanes are caused by low air pressure and thunderstorms and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in strong winds and heavy rain. When they happen in the Atlantic Ocean we call them Hurricanes; however, they are called Typhoons when they happen in the Pacific Ocean.

A landslide happens on a slope like a mountain or a hill. The rocks and earth become loose and fall down the slope. When soil on the slope is wet, a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ may occur.

A tornado, which is casually known as a (7) \_\_\_\_\_, is a very large column of wind that spins around very quickly. The power of a Tornado can cause the winds to destroy houses and pick up and throw heavy items.

(8) \_\_\_\_\_ eruptions are caused by the plates of the earth moving and the pressure makes magma push up through the cracks in the earth.