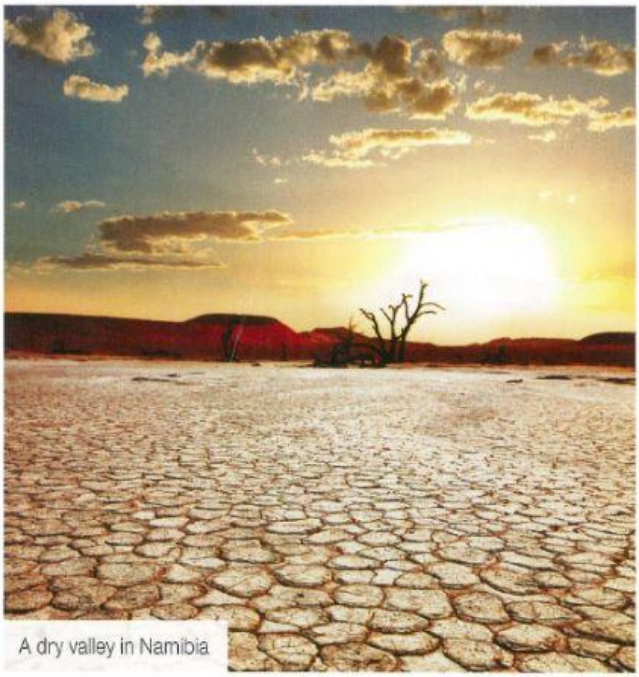
Meaning from Context. Read the magazine article. Choose the correct word in blue.

Water from the Sky: Too Much or Not Enough?

"How much rain did we get?" It's a question we often hear, and it's important because all life on Earth depends on (1) (storms/rainfall). As long as our part of the world gets the usual (2) (forecast/amount) of rain, we're happy.

The problem comes when we get too much rainfall or not enough. In Queensland, Australia, for example, March of 2011 was a month of (3) (storms/destroy) that brought far too much rain. The rain caused (4) (drought/flooding) in much of the state. Roads were closed, and thousands of people didn't have electricity.

That same spring, very little rain fell in eastern Africa. That caused (5) (drought/flooding) in Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia. The terrible conditions



A dry valley in Namibia

Flooding in Detmarovice, Czech Republic

(6) (destroyed/measured) food crops, which couldn't grow without water. There was little grass for animals as well.

The problems are different when the (7) (temperature/predict) is cold. Then, it's the amount of *snowfall* that matters. In February of 2011, a huge snowstorm hit the eastern coast of South Korea. It was the biggest snowfall in South Korea since they began to keep records in 1911!

Because rainfall is so important to us, scientists called meteorologists try to (8) (destroy/predict) the amount of rainfall different parts of the world will receive. To do this, they (9) (measure/flooding) air and ocean temperatures. They also watch weather conditions around the world to see how the air is moving.

Meteorologists then make weather (10) (storms/forecasts) to let us know how much rain to expect. They're not always exactly right, but they do know when we'll probably have large amounts of rain or not enough.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Fill in each blank with a word from the box. Use each word only once.

amount	drought	forecast	predict	storm
destroy	flooding	measure	rainfall	temperature

1. I remember the _____ of 1987. There was no rain from May through September.

2. Storms with very strong winds can _____houses. They can be very dangerous.

3. I listened to the weather_____ this morning. The meteorologist said it's going to snow this afternoon!

4. There was a very small _____ of rain yesterday. It wasn't enough to ruin our day at the beach.

5. During the _____ , Mike stayed inside the house because he is afraid of lightning.

6. There was a lot of _____ that year-up to 90 inches (229 centimeters) in some parts of the country. It caused a lot of _____ , and hundreds of homes and businesses were under water.

7. The _____ on Friday was 98 degrees Fahrenheit (37 degrees Celsius). It was too hot for me!

8. Meteorologists use special instruments to _____ changes in the weather.

9. It's difficult to _____ the weather, so meteorologists are not always correct.

LIVEWORKSHEETS