

Unit 6 Is The Earth In Danger?

1 Complete the sentences by changing the form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 If I ... (be) taller, I would play in a basketball team.
- 2 If they were more careful, that Monday accident ... (happen).
- 3 If I were you, I ... (do) this work yesterday.
- 4 If I ... (meet) him, you will be the first to know.
- 5 If our guests ... (stay) a bit longer, they will be able to meet our parents.
- 6 If you were not in a hurry, they ... (explain) everything to you.
- 7 They ... (not, invite) you to join the English club, if they had known you do not speak English.
- 8 If you ... (see) them tomorrow, please, let them know I am coming this weekend.

2 Complete the text with the words in the box.

reduce, causes, occur, fires, natural, destroy, accident, guard

FOREST FIRES

This summer there will probably be a lot of forest ... as always during the hot weather. These fires will not only ... thousands of trees but could destroy homes as well. What are the ... of forest fires?

Some fires will simply be the result of ... causes, particularly in hot, dry weather. But this can't explain why fires ... at other times, when the weather is not so hot. For example, when a fire starts in several different places at the same time, it can't be an ...; it must be because someone started it.

We can ... the number of fires by employing more people to ... the forests, but this can't be something the government can't afford.

3 Complete the text with the words from the box.

destroyed (3 times), withstand, natural, damaged, damage, earthquake, earthquakes (twice), hazards

_____ hazards have been important in Central American history. Guatemala's capital has been moved twice because of natural _____. Ciudad Vieja, the first capital, was _____ in 1541 by a giant landslide. Many people were killed, including the governor and his servants. The capital was moved to Antigua, about 10 miles away. That city was _____ many times by earthquakes and _____ by a severe _____ in 1773. A few years later the capital was moved to Guatemala City. The new capital has had many _____, too. Today, however, buildings can be built in ways that help them withstand _____. In the Guatemalan earthquake of 1976, no large modern buildings were _____. Most of the serious _____ was to the houses of poor people. Their houses are not enough to _____ earthquakes.



4 Read and refer the paragraphs (A-E) on pages 163-164 with the questions (1-5) below.

A When the floods are a surprise, many people can drown. Every year people lose their houses and their furniture. When floods happen every year, some people are ready for them.

- ☐ 1 What are they?
- ☐ 2 Why do they happen?
- ☐ 3 Where do they happen?
- ☐ 4 How do they affect people?
- ☐ 5 What can people do?

But many people (and governments) do not prepare properly.

B If there is a lot of rain, or very strong winds, floods can happen.

C Dams can reduce floods but some dams can cause them!

There are often 'flood warnings' on the radio.

D The water in rivers, lakes or the ocean rises above its normal level and goes onto the land.

E Some rivers in Bangladesh and India flood every year. People expect it, so there is no panic. When the floods go down, there are lots of minerals on the soil. They can grow good plants.