Module 8

Vocabulary

▪ Natural disasters

A Match the disasters to their descriptions.

1		avalanche	**a**	overflowing of a large amount of water
2		drought	**b**	storm with violent wind
3		earthquake	**c**	sudden explosion or outpouring of lava
4		flood	**d**	mass of snow falling rapidly down a mountain
5		hurricane	**e**	massive, dangerous wave of water
6		landslide	**f**	long period of time when there is no rain
7		tsunami	**g**	mass of rocks or soil falling down a cliff or mountain
8		volcanic eruption	**h**	a sudden and violent shaking of the ground

B Complete the sentences with a word/phrase from the list.

• ash • collapsed • aftershocks • underwater • rubble • overflowed

1 The main earthquake was followed by several less powerful ..... .
2 After two days of rain the river ..... its banks.
3 Rescuers have pulled several people from under the ..... .
4 The tsunami left several villages ..... .
5 The huge cloud of ..... could be seen miles away.
6 Several buildings ..... during the earthquake.

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▪ The weather

C Choose the correct item.

1 It had been a very hot day but a cool **gale/breeze** started blowing in the afternoon.
2 We were having fun on our picnic, when an unexpected **downpour/drizzle** ruined everything.
3 It was a dark night and the wind was **howling/pouring**, making the atmosphere seem like a scene from a horror film.
4 Drivers were warned that heavy **snowdrifts/snowfalls** were expected that day.
5 The **torrential/blazing** rain caused the streets of the small town to flood within minutes.
6 According to the weather forecast, temperatures will reach up to 42° C during the **heat/sun** wave.
7 The weather was getting worse so they cancelled their ski trip for fear of getting stuck in a **shower/blizzard**.
8 A glorious sun **rose/arose** after a whole night of non-stop rain.
9 A bright **clap/bolt** of lightning tore across the night sky.
10 Sarah was really upset to discover that a huge hail **stone/flake** had cracked the windscreen of her brand new car.

D Fill in: *sheet*, *gust*, *freeze*, *snowstorm*, *shine*, *flake* **in the correct form.**

Hi Marta,
Greetings from icy cold Scotland! I've been in Elgin for two weeks now, and I'm still **1)** .....!
Last night was the worst so far. The day started with a few **2)** ..... of snow falling lightly on the ground but, nearly an hour later, this turned into a severe **3)** ..... . All that snow froze overnight and so this morning everything was covered in a **4)** ..... of very slippery ice. I can't wait to get back home, where the sun **5)** ..... nearly all year round, and the most severe weather we get is a strong **6)** ..... of wind blowing our sunhats off our heads!
Anyway, enough about the weather! Write back and let me know how you're doing.
Take care,
Sonia

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E Replace the incorrect word in brackets with the correct one from the list.

• below • cool • forecast • heavy • blazing • strong

1 The open-air concert was cancelled due to ..... **(violent)** rain.
2 The airport was closed due to extremely ..... **(tough)** winds.
3 The air-conditioning system sent ..... **(chilly)** air through the office.
4 Temperatures rarely fall ..... **(under)** zero here.
5 He was very thirsty after walking miles in the ..... **(heating)** sun.
6 Do you know what the weather ..... **(prediction)** is?

F Choose the correct item.

1 A: Has Nora recovered from the accident?
B: She is still in a **condition/state** of shock, actually.

2 A: What shall we do?
B: Relax. There is no cause for **alert/alarm**.

3 A: Did Joe like your idea of a holiday abroad?
B: No, he just **swayed/shook** his head in disagreement.

4 A: Do you think we'll see any dolphins during our sailing trip?
B: Yes, it's quite **common/ordinary** to see them this time of year.

5 A: I don't want to go out in this weather.
B: OK, I'm not going to **force/urge** you.

6 A: Why did so many people lose their lives?
B: There was no time to give a tsunami **warning/notification**.

▪ Word formation

G Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in bold.

1	Trees planted along the coastline may ..... the effects of extreme weather.	**LESS**
2	The tsunami caused great ..... to a number of towns.	**DESTRUCT**
3	Air pollution contributes to ..... warming.	**GLOBE**
4	The clouds disappeared and the sky began to	**BRIGHT**
5	The new manager wants to ..... the shop to attract younger customers.	**MODERN**
6	Anna is finding it hard to ..... her lines for the school play.	**MEMORY**
7	The sky ..... as the clouds gathered overhead.	**DARK**
8	Did you see the ..... for the new shopping centre?	**ADVERT**

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▪ Phrasal verbs

H **Fill in:** *away, in, off, out, up.*

1 The volunteers were handing ..... food and water to the survivors.
2 That plant really does give ..... a lovely scent, doesn't it?
3 I hate it when people give ..... the end of a story.
4 Brad loves chasing storms and will never give it ..... .
5 The Millers finally gave ..... to their son's demands and bought a games console.

▪ Prepositions

I **Choose the correct preposition.**

1 People are always complaining **about**/**for** the weather.
2 My dog is very frightened **about**/**of** thunder.
3 Skiers need to beware **for**/**of** hidden dangers on the slopes.
4 The earthquake caused damage **to**/**in** many buildings.
5 The tsunami swept away everything **in**/**on** its path.
6 Many elderly people have difficulty coping **with**/**about** the heat.

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Grammar

A Choose the correct item.

1 A: Did you **tell**/**say** that it would rain tomorrow?
B: Yes, that's right.

2 A: I'm sorry I went out in that rain.
B: I **told**/**said** you it would get worse, didn't I?

3 A: Was that John on the phone?
B: Yes, he **asked**/**said** for Sally, but she isn't here.

4 A: I hate this freezing weather.
B: **Tell**/**Say** no more. I feel exactly the same way.

5 A: I should've worn better shoes on the hiking trip.
B: I **asked**/**told** you so!

6 A: What did that woman want?
B: Nothing, she just **told**/**asked** me the time, but I didn't know.

7 A: Is that Marianne over there?
B: I think so, but I can't **say**/**ask** for sure.

8 A: Alex **says**/**tells** he wants to speak to you.
B: I hope he doesn't **say**/**ask** for another favour!

B Rewrite the statements in reported speech.

1 "We are going sailing tomorrow," Sam said.
.....
.....

2 "The weather forecast isn't good for later today," Paul said.
.....
.....

3 "I hate the rain," Larry said.
.....
.....

4 "I called you at 2 pm, yesterday," Ian told Sue.
.....
.....

5 "It will be a difficult trip," Nigel told us.
.....
.....

6 "We were trying to find shelter to protect ourselves from the blizzard," they told the reporter.
.....
.....

7 "The authorities have issued a tsunami warning," John said.
.....
.....

8 "This volcano erupted hundreds of years ago," the expert told us.
.....
.....

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▪ Reported questions

C Write the questions in reported speech.

1 "What is the weather forecast for tomorrow?" Brian asked.
.....
.....

2 "Is it going to rain today?" asked Rob.
.....
.....

3 "Did you find any survivors?" the reporter asked the rescuers.
.....
.....

4 "Could you lend me an umbrella?" Zita asked Joe.
.....
.....

5 "How old is this statue?" she asked the museum guide.
.....
.....

6 "Will you be in the school team next year?" Mike asked Laura.
.....
.....

7 "Have you ever seen a tornado?" Tim asked Mark.
.....
.....

8 "Where did you buy your ski equipment?" Ray asked Stephen.
.....
.....

▪ Indirect questions

D Turn the following into *indirect questions*.

1 "What were you doing when the earthquake struck, Liam?"
I wanted to know .....
.....

2 "Will there be any snow tomorrow?"
I wondered .....
.....

3 "How far is it to the nearest petrol station?"
Could you tell me .....
.....

4 "How can we get the flood waters out of our home?"
Do you know .....
.....

5 "Is this the right answer?"
I doubt .....
.....

6 "Where is my anorak?"
Can you tell me .....
.....

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- **Reported commands/requests/suggestions/orders**

E Report the following sentences using the verbs in brackets.

1 "Go the third floor now," the Chief Fire Officer said to the firefighters. **(commanded)**
.....
.....

2 "Don't go skiing after sunset," Dad said to us. **(told)**
.....
.....

3 "Turn on your torch, please," Debora told Vicky. **(asked)**
.....
.....

4 "Step away from the scene," the police officer told the reporters. **(ordered)**
.....
.....

5 "You should check the weather before you go on your mountain hike," Ann said to me. **(advised)**
.....
.....

6 "Why don't we have a fundraiser for the flood victims?" Miriam said. **(suggested)**
.....
.....

F Rewrite the following in reported speech.

1 "I'll help you make a snowman later," Lee said to Anna.
.....
.....

2 "You should wear your overcoat," my mum said.
.....
.....

3 "I must go to the bank," Nelly said.
.....
.....

4 "You may be right," Bill told Mary.
.....
.....

5 "I can't come over to your house tonight," Emily said to them.
.....
.....

6 "You needn't bring anything for tomorrow's party," Sandra told me.
.....
.....

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- **Special introductory verbs**

G Complete the sentences.

1 "I'm sorry I dropped your MP3 player in the pool," Tom said to Lisa.
Tom apologised .....
..... .

2 "I did not say anything bad about Stan," Tonia said.
Tonia denied .....
..... .

3 "What should I take on the trip with me?" Joseph asked himself.
Joseph wondered .....
..... .

4 "You shouldn't take the boat out in this weather," Roger told us.
Roger advised .....
..... .

5 "I am the best skier in the group," Chris said.
Chris boasted .....
..... .

6 "You always blame everything on me," Paul said to Zoe.
Paul accused .....
..... .

7 "OK, I'll pick you up from the train station tomorrow," Andrew said to me.
Andrew agreed .....
..... .

8 "I really want to speak to the manager," Mr Reid said.
Mr Reid insisted .....
..... .

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Module 8

Reading

Read the text and choose the best answer, A, B, C or D.

The World's Deadliest Earthquake

The Shaanxi Earthquake occurred in China's Shaanxi Province (formerly Shensi) on the morning of the 23rd January 1556 killing approximately 830,000 people. No one knows the exact force of the earthquake or at what time it struck but due to the number of fatalities, it is considered the deadliest earthquake in recorded human history and the third deadliest natural disaster. Modern estimates give it a magnitude of around 8.7 on the Richter Scale but it is possible that it was even stronger. The Shaanxi earthquake's epicentre was in the Wei River Valley in Shaanxi Province, near the cities of Huaxian, Huayin and Weinan.

Writers of the time describe how the ground shifted and formed hills where **none** had been before. Huge holes as deep as 20 metres opened up in the ground and swallowed buildings. Rivers were said to have changed course, and roads and bridges fell apart. The city walls of most towns collapsed and many of the towns reported fissures with water gushing out. In Huaxin, every single building and home was destroyed and half of the hundreds of thousands of residents killed. In Weinan, the same loss of life was recorded and the ground sank more than 3 metres. The Small Wild Goose Pagoda in Xian, a temple built in 707 CE and a popular tourist attraction today, shrank from 45 metres to 43.4 metres in height. Aftershocks were felt several times a month for six months.

The extent of the damage was overwhelming. An area of about 840 kilometres was flattened and the effects of the earthquake were felt 500 kilometres away. Stronger earthquakes have been recorded and have caused far less damage. According to experts, one of the main reasons for such a high death toll is thought to have been the living conditions of the residents and in particular the structure of their homes. At the time, instead of living in villages, many people lived in artificial caves that they cut into the cliffs, which were very prone to wind and water erosion. During the earthquake, the caves collapsed and were washed away by landslides. One contemporary writer suggested that many people were killed trying to flee their homes while those who stayed inside survived. Not surprisingly for the time, some people thought the earthquake was punishment for people's sins and associated it with another sign of great calamity, the Great Comet of 1556.

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1 The Shaanxi earthquake

A is the strongest every recorded.
B is the most written about.
C caused more damage than any other earthquake.
D caused more fatalities than any other earthquake.

2 In the first sentence of the second paragraph, what does 'none' refer to?

A buildings
B hills
C holes
D rivers

3 In Xian, a famous temple

A was destroyed by the earthquake.
B was rebuilt after the earthquake.
C was reduced in size by the earthquake.
D was built after the earthquake.

4 Experts believe fewer people would have died if they had

A stayed indoors.
B had different types of dwellings.
C had more time to flee.
D had lived further from the river

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Listening

Listen, and for questions 1-5 choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

1 **A hurricane is forecast for**
- **A** Louisiana and Mississippi.
- **B** Louisiana.
- **C** Mississippi.

2 **The hurricane is most likely to hit land on**
- **A** Wednesday.
- **B** Thursday.
- **C** Friday.

3 **People have been told**
- **A** to evacuate immediately.
- **B** to evacuate within two days.
- **C** to be prepared to evacuate.

4 **Which of the following are people NOT required to bring to a shelter?**
- **A** food and water
- **B** a mobile phone
- **C** a torch

5 **At the moment, the risk of flooding is**
- **A** low.
- **B** moderate.
- **C** high.

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