



A Cuban wades through a flooded street in Havana, on September 10, 2017. Yamil Lage, AFP/Getty Images

**How did hurricanes use to be IDed?**

**What names can't be given to hurricanes?**

**Why naming storms was practical for military forces?**

**1\_A Read out the expressions in the left column. Listen to the clip and try to match each expression with the correct definition.**

to mince words

extremely annoyed at something that someone has done on several different occasions

beat you down

extremely ambitious, energetic

to grant maternity leave

to be careful about what you say in order to be polite or not offend someone

had it up to here

to give a woman a period of absence from work before and after the birth of the child

hard-driving

tire or wear you down, especially to the point of defeat or surrender.

**1\_B Unjumble the sentences and find the place for each one in the transcript (there's one extra box).**

1. / law enforcement/she/ to prioritize/ pushed her/ rape cases/.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. / have the truth/ never let them/ on your side,/ beat you down/ if you/.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. / the way/ she spoke/ I mean,/ that/ listen to/.

\_\_\_\_\_

The letter came from two members of the National Organization for Women. One of those members was Roxcy O'Neal Bolton. And Roxcy, not one to mince words. **A** \_\_\_\_

**ROXCY O'NEAL BOLTON:** **B** \_\_\_\_ Never let them see you cry. Warriors don't cry. **C** \_\_\_\_



Roxcy died in 2017. This is tape from an oral history conducted by the Florida State Library and Archives in 2001. The Miami Herald once called Roxcy the founding mother of Florida's feminist movement. **D** \_\_\_\_ She got an airline to grant maternity leave to pregnant flight attendants. But in the '70s, she was all about Hurricane sexism. And Roxcy had it up to here with how the media talked about storms.

**ROXCY O'NEAL BOLTON:** Carol destroyed Louisiana or whatever. It was always a hard-driving headline with a woman's name, and I didn't like that one darn bit.

Listen and check \_\_\_\_\_

**1\_C\_ Listen to the clip and fill each gap with two words** \_\_\_\_\_



News sources and politicians were calling hurricanes, among other lovely descriptors, \_\_\_\_\_, acting like \_\_\_\_\_ in labor, \_\_\_\_\_. I mean, listen to this 1971 documentary that the Department of Agriculture made about Hurricane Camille.

- For three days now, a new hurricane has been running loose along the southern coast, a lady called Camille, supposedly headed toward the Florida panhandle but, like \_\_\_\_\_, perfectly capable of changing her mind.

**2. Read out the prompts. Listen to the snippet and report back the summary using these prompts**

the director of the National Weather Bureau

this annual conference

three years in a row

it was funny as heck

anything she said

take her seriously

completely overhaul this naming system

these names are just for fun

United States senators

name hurricanes for birds

Audubon Society and United States senators



The **National Audubon Society** (**Audubon**; [/ˈɔːdəbɒn/](#)) is an American non-profit environmental organization dedicated to conservation of birds and their habitats. Located in the United States and incorporated in 1905, Audubon is one of the oldest of such organizations in the world. "



3. Read the chunks and try to find the correct place for each one. Drag and drop. Listen and check.

female names

job discrimination

every facet of our lives

pretty small potatoes

a better alternative

generic pronoun

hitting a wall

Feminist groups

All right, I get that this might all seem like some \_\_\_\_\_ in the grand scheme of feminist issues. Also some women liked that hurricanes had \_\_\_\_\_. The Weather Bureau said it got letters from women requesting that a hurricane be named after them. But this was a period of time when people were really starting to pay attention to sexism in language like, why was it that we used he as the \_\_\_\_\_? And why did men get to be called mister whether or not they were married but women were so transformed by having a husband that they went from miss to Mrs?



"She's fed-up because there still hasn't been a Hurricane Leanne."

\_\_\_\_\_ argued that sexism, it wasn't just about \_\_\_\_\_. It happened all the time, seeping into \_\_\_\_\_, including our language. And Roxcy's argument



"I SEE UNDER 'AWARDS AND HONORS', YOU HAD A HURRICANE NAMED AFTER YOU."

about Hurricane names was that words matter.

Yeah, the panel at the hurricane naming conference didn't see it that way, though.

Roxcy just kept \_\_\_\_\_. The panel kept telling her, you want to get rid of female names? Then come up with \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Roxcy

never did find the answer, but someone else did.

4. Listen to the next clip and answer the questions \_\_\_\_\_ :

1. Who was Juanita Kreps, and what did she do?
2. What was Kreps' solution to naming hurricanes, and when was it approved by the World Meteorological Organization?



3. When was the first hurricane given a male name, and what was the name?
4. Did Hurricane Bob cause significant damage or loss of life?
5. How have people reacted to the naming of hurricanes with both male and female names?
6. Why are the names of hurricanes useful?
7. What is the host's opinion on naming hurricanes?

Read out the phrases. Can you explain the meanings?

sign off

lost steam

poking fun

silly and arbitrary

ruins names

gender binary

Read the transcript of the clip and try to find the correct place for each collocation. Type them in.



"There's a storm in my tea cup,  
I wonder if it has a name?"

Her name was Juanita Kreps, and she was the first woman ever elected as the US Secretary of Commerce. Her solution, rotate male and female names. Pretty obvious in retrospect – well, obvious if you believe in the \_\_\_\_\_ (1). Kreps got the World Meteorological Organization to \_\_\_\_\_ (2) on this new system, and, in 1978, they gave a hurricane its very first male name – hurricane Bob.

Bob \_\_\_\_\_ (3) after hitting land. It did kill one person, but that's about it. One Louisiana newspaper gave it a nickname, Bland Bob. I guess people can't resist \_\_\_\_\_ (4) at hurricanes no matter what the gender. We've been giving storm's male and female names ever since. So this year, we've had Hurricane Dolly and Hurricane Marco, hurricane. Paulette and Hurricane Teddy, a system that regularly \_\_\_\_\_ (5) for people of all genders. These names, they might sound \_\_\_\_\_ (6), but they are useful.

Listen again and check \_\_\_\_\_

relief effort: aid to help people and repair damages

5.\_A\_ Listen to the first part of the clip and fill the gaps with numbers







Back in \_\_\_\_\_, there were some intense flooding in Louisiana, \_\_\_\_\_ times as much rain as Hurricane Katrina. \_\_\_\_\_ people died. More than \_\_\_\_\_ homes were damaged. Tens of millions of dollars in relief efforts, and I do not remember any of this. I only learned about it while researching this episode. The floods didn't come from a hurricane. It was just a storm without a name.

**\_B\_ Read out the chunks, then listen to the clip and number them in order of appearance \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ easier to hold our attention when the storm passes

\_\_\_\_\_ makes it easier for the media to report on storms

\_\_\_\_\_ makes it feel real and more memorable

\_\_\_\_\_ easier to talk about them on social media

\_\_\_\_\_ it's time for relief efforts

\_\_\_\_\_ is useful for tracking them

**Report back**



**\_C\_ Listen to the snippet. Who is the host talking to? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Try to put the lines in order, listen again and check.**

- With force and fury – [ Wow, this hurricane is no joke!] - hurricane Sally made landfall along the coast of Alabama just after 6:00 AM, bringing some of the Gulf of Mexico with it.

JOHANNA MAYER: I have an aunt named Sally.

\_\_\_\_\_ JM: My aunt isn't seeing too many people these days, not going to work, not socializing as much. And when Hurricane Sally brewed up, all these messages started pouring in.

\_\_\_\_\_ S: Hello.

\_\_\_\_\_ S: Yes, I did like it because, you know, I recently retired.

\_\_\_\_\_ JM: Wait, so you liked it?

\_\_\_\_\_ JM: I called her up to see if the storm named Sally annoyed her, but it didn't, actually the opposite.

\_\_\_\_\_ JM: You liked the attention.

\_\_\_\_\_ S: I just heard from a lot of people I hadn't heard from in a while, saying, oh, Hurricane Sally, oh, you're doing so much damage. You're so powerful, blah, blah, blah.



\_\_\_ JM: Hurricane Sally did end up causing some serious damage, but, even though it's only been a couple of months, it has already become a blip in our national memory, totally eclipsed by the election, and COVID, and a hurricane season with at least 30 named storms. But I'll always remember it.

\_\_\_ S: Well, yeah, I mean, you know, I don't see a lot of people anymore, so it was just nice to reconnect.



6. Read the short summary on the subject I asked AI to write for you. Find the correct place for each missing word and type them in.

rotating

crucial

retired

destructive

male

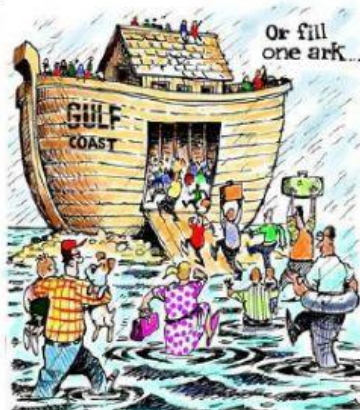
female

cause

loss

alternate

Hurricanes are \_\_\_\_\_ (1) natural disasters that \_\_\_\_\_ (2) damage to infrastructure and homes, as well as \_\_\_\_\_ (3) of life. They are given names by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), using a six-year \_\_\_\_\_ (4) list of easy-to-pronounce and culturally sensitive names for the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. When a hurricane causes significant damage or loss of life, its name is \_\_\_\_\_ (5) and replaced with a new one. The first hurricane name was given in 1953, using only \_\_\_\_\_ (6) names, but \_\_\_\_\_ (7) names were added in 1979. Nowadays, the names \_\_\_\_\_ (8) between male and female, and there are six lists of names in rotation. In 2020, the WMO had to resort to using Greek letters after running



out of names due to the high number of storms that formed in the Atlantic basin. With the number of storms increasing, having a reliable system for naming hurricanes is \_\_\_\_\_ (9) for better preparation and response.