

NATURAL DISASTERS (UNIT 9)

A. EXERCISES

I. Circle the word with a different stress pattern from the others.

1. A. industry B. tornado C. natural D. injury
2. A. geography B. electronic C. scientific D. preparation
3. A. debris B. rainstorm C. destroy D. shelter
4. A. primary B. animal C. tropical D. volcano
5. A. climatology B. bibliography C. communication D. radiography

II. Complete the sentences with the words in the box

avalanche blizzard disaster drought eruption
evacuation explosion flood lightning tsunami

1. The soldiers have been deployed to help avert a looming environmental _____ in central provinces.
2. When I was outside in the _____, I couldn't see more than a few feet in front of me because of the snow.
3. Mum went shopping yesterday afternoon and she was very frightened. In the car park, there was an _____ and nobody knew what it was.
4. I saw on TV that yesterday there was an _____ on an island in the Pacific and hot lava came down the volcano.
5. My little sister is afraid of _____, so when there is a bad storm she always hides.
6. Last Sunday we wanted to go skiing, but we couldn't because in the mountains there was an _____.
7. Powerful earthquake off the coast in Indonesia sparked a three-metre-high _____ that killed at least 113 people.

8. If there is a bad _____ in a town, the people have to travel by boat!
9. After the harshest winter in decades, the western region is now facing its hottest summer and the worst _____ across the area in nearly 40 years.
10. People should become familiar with the guidelines for _____ because natural disasters can force them to leave their homes.

III. Give the correct form of the verbs in brackets to complete the sentences.

1. All people (go) _____ down in the cellar for protection by the time the tornado (sweep) _____ through the town yesterday.
2. Hundred of trees on streets in Ha Noi (fall) _____ in a sudden storm last night.
3. I (not seen) _____ a more horrible flood than this since I (live) _____ in this area.
4. The tourists (camp) _____ near a peaceful river, when all of a sudden, the river (flood) _____ its banks and almost (destroy) _____ their campsite.
5. When the volcano (erupt) _____, people living nearby already (move) _____ to safe places.

IV. Rewrite the following sentences in passive voice.

1. The mudslide buried five houses in a village in the eastern region.
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2. The volunteers have rescued three cats.
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3. They are cutting dead trees on some streets to prepare for the forthcoming storm.
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4. We should move the furniture to higher places because of the flood.

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5. They had repaired their house before the typhoon came.

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6. What kind of injuries do earthquakes cause?

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7. The government didn't warn the people about the possibility of a tsunami.

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8. Have the workers restored the damaged bridge yet?

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9. I hadn't put the car into the garage before the hail occurred.

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10. We will send rescue workers to the flooded villages.

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V. Choose the correct option for each gap to finish the passage

A tsunami is a chain of fast-moving waves in the ocean caused by powerful earthquakes or volcanic eruptions. Tsunami has a very long wave. It can be hundreds of kilometers (1) _____. Usually, tsunami starts suddenly. The waves travel (2) _____ a great speed across an ocean with little energy loss. They can remove sand from beaches, destroy trees, toss and drag vehicles, damage houses, and even destroy whole towns.

The water will draw back from the coast half of the wave period prior to the wave getting to the coast. If the slope of the coast is not deep, the water may (3) _____ for hundreds of metres. People who do not know of the danger will often remain at the shore. Tsunamis cannot (4) _____. However, there are ways to help stop people from dying from a tsunami.

Some (5) _____ with lots of tsunamis may use warning systems which may warn the population before the big waves reach the land. Because an earthquake that caused the tsunami can be felt before the wave gets to the shore, people can be warned to go somewhere safe.

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|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. long | B. far | C. wide | D. large |
| 2. A. from | B. of | C. at | D. in |
| 3. A. move away | B. go along | C. spread out | D. pull back |
| 4. A. prevent | B. go along | C. spread out | D. be prevented |
| 5. A. countries | B. regions | C. states | D. districts |

VI. Read the following passage about tornadoes and choose the best answer for each question.

Tornadoes

Did you ever see the movie The Wizard of Oz? A tornado sweeps up Dorothy and Toto, sending them to a new world where there are witches and talking lions! That entire story is fiction, but tornadoes are real and they are serious business. In fact, they can be the most dangerous storms of all.

Tornadoes are sometimes referred to as twisters or cyclones. They are shaped like a cylinder. They are born in thunderclouds. The winds inside a tornado swirl around and around and can be more than 300 miles per hour (mph). The winds are so strong that tornadoes can lift animals, cars, and even horses.

The United States has more tornadoes than any other country in the world. States such as Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska are hit hard by tornadoes. This part of the country is known as "Tornado Alley". Tornado season is during the springtime and summer. If the conditions are right, a tornado can happen any time of year.

1. Where do tornadoes begin?

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| A. in the ocean | B. underground | C. in cyclones | D. in thunderclouds |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|

2. Why does the author mention The Wizard of Oz at the beginning of the passage?
- A. to give a famous example of a tornado B. to give a history of tornadoes
C. to show that hurricanes are not real D. to explain why tornadoes are dangerous
3. Based on the passage, people who live in Tornado Alley should
- A. expect tornadoes only during the summer.
B. be very familiar with the movie The Wizard of Oz.
C. be prepared for the dangers of tornadoes.
D. think about moving to the United States.
4. The word conditions in the last paragraph means.
- A. preparation B. dangerous hazards
C. the way things are D. lucky feelings
5. What is the main idea of this passage?
- A. Some states get tornadoes more than other states.
B. Tornadoes are dangerous storms that affect the U, S.
C. Tornadoes are different from how they are in movies.
D. Many tornadoes do not cause a lot of damage.

VII. Find a mistake in the four underlined parts of each sentence and correct it.

1. Hundreds of houses destroyed after a tornado hit the small town of Texas.
- A B C D
2. Many people got injured in the storm because they weren't prepared for the disaster.
- A B C D
3. It is reported that six people trapped in collapsed buildings have freed so far.
- A B C D

4. The earthquake occurred at midday when many people had had lunch.

A B C D

5. Do you know that the word “tsunami” takes from the Japanese for “harbor wave”

A B C D

VIII. Complete the second sentence so that it has similar meaning to the first sentence.

1. Powerful tsunami waves carried ships many kilometers inland.

Ships

2. Many natural disasters have been caused by global warming.

Global warming

3. They provided food then cleared up the debris.

After they

4. Tornadoes can move objects as big as a car.

Objects

5. The northern part of the city wasn't struck by the typhoon.

The typhoon

IX. Use the information below to write a news report of 100-120 words about a natural disaster.

Type of natural disaster: Earthquake

What is this disaster?

Most powerful earthquake in Nepal since 1934, 7.8 on Richter scale.

When and where did the disaster occur

- On April 25th, 2015, at 11.56 NST

- In central Nepal

- Also affect India, Bangladesh, Tibet, China

What are the effects of disaster?

- More than 8,8000 people die
- Over 23,000 injured people
- Hundreds of thousands of people are homeless, and entire villages flattened
- Kathmandu Durbar Square, UNESCO World Heritage Site, destroyed
- Caused an avalanche on Mount Everest, killed at least 19 people

What has been done to help the victims of the disaster?

- 90% of soldiers in the Nepalese Army sent to stricken areas
- Many countries and international organizations sent medical experts, emergency workers, rescue staff, and money; provided medical supplies, food, equipment

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