

Name.....Class.....No.....

Violent Summer Storms

Directions: Complete the passage with the words from the box. Use each word only once.

On the evening of April 29, 2026, the northernmost province of Thailand, Chiang Rai, witnessed one of the most violent climatic events in its recent (1) _____. A “Summer Storm” (Phayu Ruedu Ron), characterized by localized supercell activity, swept across the border districts, leaving a trail of destruction that has sparked national concern over climate volatility in the Golden Triangle.

As a high-pressure system from China pushed southward, it collided with this rising pocket of (2) _____, humid (3) _____ over the (4) _____ of Northern Thailand. For the next 90 minutes, Chiang Rai was subjected to a barrage of “Downbursts”—intense, localized downward drafts of wind—reaching speeds of up to 105 kilometers per hour, accompanied by erratic hailstorms and torrential (5) _____.

The most culturally significant casualty of the April 29 storm occurred at the historic Wat Phra That Doi Wao in the Mae Sai District. Located on a (6) _____ overlooking the Thai-Myanmar border, the (7) _____ is a symbol of regional identity. For the (8) _____ of Mae Sai, the event was not merely a construction failure but a spiritual blow, leading to immediate community-led fundraising efforts to restore the “Crown of the Border.”

The wind acted with scythe-like precision, toppling over 25 high-voltage (9) _____ poles along the main arteries of Mae Sai. This triggered a cascading blackout that left approximately 15,000 households without power throughout the night of April 29. On the vital Highway 118 (Chiang Rai–Chiang Mai), the storm’s “microburst” zones caused dozens of ancient (10) _____ to collapse across the tarmac.

Meanwhile, a night of celebration turned into a scene of chaos and mourning when a violent summer storm tore through the Mueang District of Saraburi on the evening of April 30, 2026. The storm, characterized by “microburst” force winds, caused a massive entrance arch at a local (11) _____ (12) _____ to collapse, resulting in one fatality and over a dozen injuries.

The incident occurred at approximately 8:30 PM at the Pongsiri Market grounds in the Khok Sawang sub-district. Thousands of people had gathered for the “Wan Lai Songkran” concert, a delayed Thai New Year celebration featuring several high-profile musical acts.

According to witnesses, the (13) _____ turned pitch black within minutes before a sudden, torrential downpour accompanied by hurricane-force winds struck the venue. The primary casualty event happened at the main entrance, where a towering decorative metal and plywood archway—designed to welcome concertgoers—was caught by a massive gust.

Authorities confirmed the death of a 17-year-old male, identified only by his nickname “A.” He was reportedly pinned under the main steel support of the arch and succumbed to his injuries at the scene. At least 11 other individuals were rushed to Saraburi (14) _____ and nearby medical facilities. Three remain in critical condition with head trauma and (15) _____ limbs.