

LISTENING COMPREHENSION



Listen carefully to the audio and complete all the tasks that follow.

You will hear a report about extreme weather conditions and natural disasters in different parts of the United States and Vanuatu.

Read each task carefully and choose, write or match the answers according to the information you hear.

1 Choose the correct answer.

1

What happened in Vanuatu during one year?

- ☐ A. There were several hurricanes and a volcanic eruption.
- ☐ B. The country experienced an earthquake, a volcanic eruption and a tropical storm.
- ☐ C. A tropical storm caused an earthquake and destroyed a volcano.
- ☐ D. People had to leave the country because of a volcano.

2

Why are the forest fires in California spreading so quickly?

- ☐ A. There are not enough firefighters.
- ☐ B. The public services started the fires accidentally.
- ☐ C. The vegetation is very dry and there are strong winds.
- ☐ D. People are refusing to leave their homes.

3

What problem are the firefighters facing?

- ☐ A. They cannot find enough water.
- ☐ B. There are too many fires to deal with at the same time.
- ☐ C. The public services are preventing them from working.
- ☐ D. They do not know where the fires started.

4

According to Rachel, how did the fires probably start?

- ☐ A. Lightning caused them.
- ☐ B. Strong winds caused them.
- ☐ C. People deliberately started them.
- ☐ D. The dry weather caused them automatically.

5

What has the governor of Florida ordered?

- ☐ A. People must stay indoors until 5 o'clock.
- ☐ B. Firefighters must leave Orlando.
- ☐ C. Everyone in Orlando must evacuate by 5 p.m.
- ☐ D. Emergency accommodation must be provided by 5 p.m.

6

Why are some residents of Orlando unable to leave immediately?

- ☐ A. They do not have transport.
- ☐ B. They have nowhere to stay.
- ☐ C. They want to protect their houses.
- ☐ D. They are waiting for the hurricane to change direction.

7

Who is helping people who have nowhere to stay?

- ☐ A. The governor personally.
- ☐ B. The firefighters.
- ☐ C. Florida State.
- ☐ D. The public services in California.

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2 Are the statements True, False or Not Given?

- | | | | | |
|----|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 8 | Vanuatu is located in the South Pacific Ocean. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 9 | The tropical storm destroyed many houses in Vanuatu. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 10 | California's public services have been criticised for their slow response. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 11 | The strong winds are helping the firefighters control the fires. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 12 | Some of the fires were deliberately started by people. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 13 | All residents of Orlando support the governor's evacuation order. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 14 | Florida State has arranged temporary places for some evacuees to stay. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |
| 15 | Hurricane Camilla has already reached Florida. | ☐ True | ☐ False | ☐ Not Given |

3 Vocabulary in context

Choose the option closest in meaning to the underlined word/phrase.

- | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|
| 16 | "several forest fires are <u>spreading rapidly</u> " | ☐ A. disappearing quickly | ☐ C. moving towards the sea |
| | | ☐ B. becoming larger very quickly | ☐ D. becoming less dangerous |
| 17 | "The public services have been <u>criticised</u> " | ☐ A. praised | ☐ C. blamed for problems |
| | | ☐ B. warned | ☐ D. replaced |
| 18 | "These situations are very difficult to <u>deal with</u> ." | ☐ A. avoid | ☐ C. predict |
| | | ☐ B. manage | ☐ D. report |
| 19 | "The governor has given a <u>deadline</u> " | ☐ A. a final time by which something must be done | ☐ C. a place where people can stay |
| | | ☐ B. a warning about bad weather | ☐ D. a decision about the hurricane |
| 20 | "a <u>complete evacuation</u> " | ☐ A. a temporary closure of the city | ☐ C. protecting houses from a storm |
| | | ☐ B. moving everyone away from a dangerous area | ☐ D. sending firefighters to another area |

4 Read between the lines

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|--|
| 21 | Why does Rachel suggest that preventing all the fires may be impossible? | ☐ A. The weather is impossible to predict. | ☐ C. People can deliberately start fires if they choose to. |
| | | ☐ B. There are not enough firefighters. | ☐ D. The public services do not have enough equipment. |
| 22 | What can we <u>understand</u> about the situation in Orlando? | ☐ A. Most residents are taking the evacuation seriously. | ☐ C. The hurricane has already destroyed most houses. |
| | | ☐ B. Almost nobody wants to leave the city. | ☐ D. The government has cancelled the evacuation. |
| 23 | Why does Martin say "It's difficult to say" when John asks which island the hurricane is heading for? | ☐ A. The hurricane has already disappeared. | ☐ C. The governor has not made a decision. |
| | | ☐ B. Its exact direction is uncertain. | ☐ D. The reporter has no information about Florida. |

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5 Match the cause and effect

Match 24–28 with A–E.

24

The vegetation is very dry.

☐

25

Strong winds are blowing.

☐

26

There are many fires.

☐

27

A hurricane is gaining strength.

☐

28

Some residents have nowhere to stay.

☐

A

Some people need emergency accommodation.

B

The fires become more difficult to control.

C

People in Orlando are being evacuated.

D

Fires can spread more easily.

E

Firefighters have difficulty deciding which fires to tackle.