

# Natural Disasters

## Teacher's Notes

**Description:** Though they may be something very few of us ever wish to face, Natural Disasters are a grim reality of our world which seem to pop up all too frequently in the news. And regardless of whether one's life has been directly affected by them or not, knowing the vocabulary associated with them is essential. This activity sheet helps to familiarise students with the most common Natural Disasters, offering them fun and varied practice through a series of written and communicative exercises.

**Aim:** To practise language associated with Natural Disasters through a variety of written and spoken exercises.

**Procedure:** Give each student a copy of the two-page activity sheet.

**Exercise A:** Students begin by completing the sentences using a suitable word, then underlining the Natural Disaster in each sentence.

answer key: (Natural Disasters written in italics below.)

- |                            |                           |                               |                                 |                                  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. crops<br><i>drought</i> | 2. see<br><i>blizzard</i> | 3. wave<br><i>tsunami</i>     | 4. shelves<br><i>earthquake</i> | 5. blown<br><i>hurricane</i>     |
| 6. water<br><i>flood</i>   | 7. away<br><i>tornado</i> | 8. buried<br><i>avalanche</i> | 9. ground<br><i>volcano</i>     | 10. flames<br><i>forest fire</i> |

**Exercise B:** Next, students match the Natural Disasters with their definitions.

answer key:

- |              |              |            |               |                |
|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. hurricane | 2. avalanche | 3. tsunami | 4. earthquake | 5. forest fire |
| 6. drought   | 7. volcano   | 8. tornado | 9. blizzard   | 10. flood      |

**Exercise C:** Students then chat with a partner and decide which Natural Disaster each piece of advice is for.

answer key:

- |            |            |             |               |              |
|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. volcano | 2. drought | 3. blizzard | 4. earthquake | 5. avalanche |
|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|

**Exercise D:** Following this, students complete the trivia questions with the correct Natural Disasters, then chat with their partner and decide which multiple-choice answer is correct.

answer key:

- |                   |                |                 |                |                    |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. avalanches, c  | 2. tsunami, c  | 3. volcano, b   | 4. floods, a   | 5. tornadoes, a    |
| 6. earthquakes, b | 7. droughts, b | 8. hurricane, c | 9. blizzard, c | 10. forest fire, c |

**Exercise E:** Lastly, students work in pairs and ask each other the conversation questions.