

Disasters



A closer look at both local and international disasters and their impact...

You must evaluate the impact of a natural disaster on the biotic factors of the environment, that is, the effect of the disaster on the people, the flora and the fauna.

In your evaluation, you must include answers to the following questions:

1. What was the disaster? How did it occur?
2. Include a map that indicates the region affected.
3. When it occurred?

4. Describe how the flora in the region was affected (damaged).
5. Describe how the fauna in the region was affected (damaged).
6. How has the disaster affected the carbon cycle and/or the water cycle?
7. Choose two ecosystems in this country where the disaster occurred and explain how they were affected. Think about all the biotic factors that make up an ecosystem, and include a description of how they were affected.

You may want to include a food chain to demonstrate the impact of the disaster.

You could consider this question from the initial or immediate impact, or what the long-term impact is going to be.

8. Anywhere else in the world that dealt with this (include information about what they did and when it occurred).
9. What recovery efforts are currently being made? (For humans, flora & fauna).
10. What is the latest update with this disaster?
11. An explanation of what can be done to prevent this from happening again.

Please see the marking guide for this assignment on the next page.



Marking Guide

	D	C	B	A
Explanation of disaster	The relevant information is too brief and has been plagiarized. No map is included	A limited explanation of the disaster has been provided. A map has been included.	All relevant information has been included with adequate detail to explain how it occurred. Some visual aids have been used to clarify understanding. A detailed map has been included.	All relevant information has been included in great detail. The student has shown evidence of their examination of other disasters to gain greater insight into how this disaster occurred. Visual aids have been used to clarify understanding. A detailed map has been included.
Flora & Fauna	A limited explanation of organisms affected has been provided, but specific examples are missing or incomplete.	Some explanation of organisms has been included but only in broad terms, specific examples are missing or incomplete.	An adequate explanation of how the flora and fauna has been affected has been provided (with two detailed examples of each organism).	A detailed explanation of how the flora and fauna has been affected has been provided (with at least three detailed examples of each organism).
Carbon cycle/ water cycle	The cycles are present but there is no explanation offered. No diagrams are included.	A brief overview of the cycles has been given but there is limited explanation of how they have been affected. No diagrams are included.	An overview of how the cycles have been affected is given. An annotated diagram has been used to assist with explanation.	A detailed overview of how the cycles have been affected is given. An annotated diagram has been used to assist with explanation.
Ecosystems	A limited explanation has been provided but an incomplete or incorrect food chain is used to clarify.	A simple explanation of how the ecosystems have been affected is given. A simple food chain is used to clarify explanations.	A detailed explanation of how the ecosystems have been affected is given. A simple food web (incorporating 4 or more organisms) is used to indicate the depth of impact on each ecosystem.	A detailed explanation of how the ecosystems have been affected is given. A food web (incorporating 7 or more organisms) is used to indicate the depth of impact on each ecosystem.
Other locations	A limited (or no) explanation of previous disasters has been given. A map has not been included.	A brief overview of previous disasters has been given. A map has not been included.	A good general overview of previous disasters has been given. A map may or may not be included.	A detailed overview of other disasters has been included. A map has been included.
Prevention	A solution for prevention is offered but the explanation is too brief and unrealistic.	A simple solution for prevention is offered but the explanation is a little too brief.	A general action plan has been cited and a simple solution has been offered.	A detailed action plan or explanation has been given. Solutions provided are practical and based in the real world.
References	1 reference has been cited.	3 or more references have been cited.	5 or more references have been cited.	6 or more references have been cited.

Some places to start...

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters/>

<http://www.channelone.com/news/specials/disaster/>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/natural-disasters>

<http://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/Naturaldisasters.html>

<http://www.stopdisastersgame.org/en/home.html>

