

## TEST READING

### DISASTERS: NATURAL AND MAN-MADE ONES

When disasters occur 'due to natural forces they are called natural disasters, over which man has hardly any control. Some common natural disasters are earthquakes, landslides, floods, droughts, cyclones, etc.

An earthquake is one of the most destructive disaster!" caused by rapid movement of the earth's outer 'layer. The position of the different continents and oceans that we see today has changed a number of times under numerous earthquakes. Shaking of the ground causes to destruction of buildings, bridges, roads, canals and other structures. Earthquakes of high intensity often trigger many landslides in the 'hilly regions. The shakings of the ground and building damage often break the gas pipes and electric lines that cause fires. The surface topography of a region and groundwater conditions are changed after an earthquake. Earthquakes on the ocean floor cause tsunamis and, often, underwater landslides and volcanic eruptions. Also, earthquake's can cause floods.

Common examples of man-made disasters are industrial disasters such as 'fires and explosions; chemical, biological, radioactive accidents; traffic accidents and different kinds of air, soil, water pollutions,

Man -made disasters are the result of carelessness or human errors during technological and industrial use. The disasters are in the form of accidents, which occur all of a sudden and take a huge ton on life and property. Local disasters mostly cause injuries, diseases and casualties in places where they occur.

Another types of disasters, affected vast regions are called global, or technological ones. Some of them are due to the potential damages of nuclear fallout. An example is the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster. It is the worst nuclear disaster recorded in a nuclear power plant. Large areas of Ukraine, Bilorus, Russia and even parts of Poland, Denmark and Sweden were contaminated. Around 200,000 people had to be evacuated and resettled. The after affects lasted for many years and a rise in the incidence of blood cancer has been observed in a wide group of people.

#### I. Match the words and expressions to make each other

- |                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1) shaking of                 | a) power plant I       |
| 2) the position of continents | b) effect              |
| 3) earthquakes                | c) pollution           |
| 4) soil                       | d) has changed         |
| 5) nuclear                    | e) the earth's surface |

6) negative

f) cause flooding

## **II. Read the statements and mark them as True / False**

1. According to the text, the disasters caused by natural forces cannot be controlled by man.
2. The text contains detailed information on major natural disasters.
3. The ground plane in the disaster area and even the flow of groundwater conditions change dramatically after an earthquake.
4. Earthquakes at the bottom of the ocean lead to tsunamis, ground movements, and volcanic activity.
5. Man-made disasters aren't the result of carelessness or human errors during technological and industrial use.
6. Man-made disasters are divided into accidents and technological catastrophes.
7. Huge areas of the world ocean also suffered as a result of the Chernobyl disaster.
8. Some regions of the former Soviet Union and parts of some European countries were polluted by radiation.

## **III. Read the text again and answer the questions to find the correct option to each of them**

1. **Which of the natural disasters are NOT mentioned in the text ?**
  - a) landslides
  - b) droughts
  - c) avalanches
  - d) floods
2. **The text says that .an earthquake generally caused by...**
  - a) changing of continents and oceans
  - b) movement of the land outer layer
  - c) volcanic eruptions
  - d) landslides
3. **According to the text, breaking the gas pipes and electric lines are the results of**
  - a) fires

- b) changing of groundwater flow
- c) volcanic eruptions
- d) the earthquakes and destruction of buildings

**4. Which of these industrial catastrophes are mentioned in the text?**

- a) terrorism, radioactive and traffic accidents
- b) fires, explosions, acid rains
- c) fires, chemical and biological disasters
- d) explosions, sound pollutions, deforestations

**5. The text describes ....**

- a) the global catastrophe
- b) the accident
- c) the local catastrophe
- d) biological disasters

**6. As the text says, the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster leads to ....**

- a) air, soil, water pollutions.
- b) evacuation and relocation around 200,000 people
- c) huge toll on life and property
- d) fires and explosions