

20. Unfriendly Nature



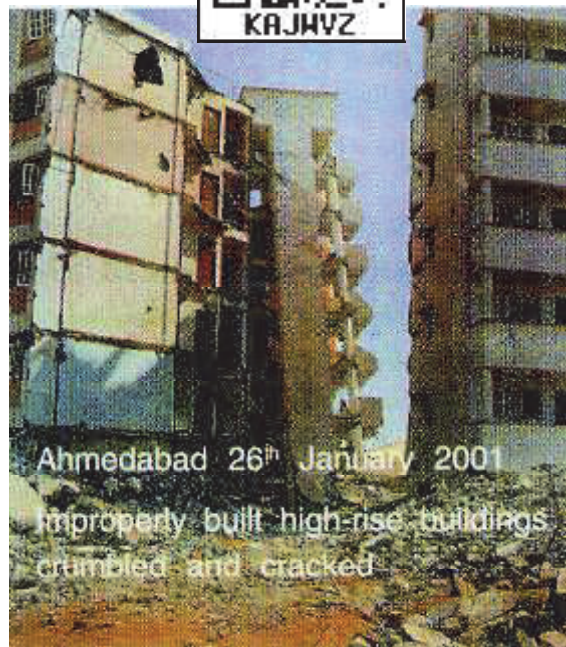
Have you ever experienced an earthquake?

Natural disasters are sudden changes in the environment, which cause damage and destruction. These include earthquakes, droughts, land slides and cyclones.

When The Earth Shook

28th Jan., 2001

More than 13,000 people were killed, at least 15 lakh injured and 7.8 lakh houses destroyed in Gujarat in the earthquake of 26th Jan, 2001.



An earthquake is a series of shocks that results from sudden movements below the surface of the earth. Earthquakes take place when large plates of land collide with each other releasing energy. The strength of an earthquake is measured using a Richter scale by an instrument called Seismograph.

What should you do for your safety during an earthquake?

Do (✓)	Don't do (x)
Bend down under a desk or cot, stay there till the shocks stop.	Do not push others or stand under fans.
Stay away from glass windows.	Don't use the lift in big buildings.
Outside, move away from trees, signboards, buildings and electric poles and stop driving during tremors.	Don't light fires.
	Don't rush out of stadiums.
	Don't travel just after an earthquake.

June 7, 2002

Indians Flee Monsoon Floods

Parts of Assam and the neighbouring state of Arunachal Pradesh remain cut-off from the rest of the country, as flooding waters have destroyed transport links. Flood affects Northeast India every year. In August 2000, floods killed 100 people and left 70,000 people homeless in Assam alone.

A flood occurs when water flows or rises above its normal level. It can be caused by heavy rainfall, high tide with a storm or melting snow flowing into the river. The Ganga and the Brahmaputra rivers cause the largest floods in India. Other areas in the west, east and south are also attacked by floods. Floods are the results of soil erosion, the silting of riverbeds or collapse of a dam.



What should you do if heavy rains cause flood in your area?

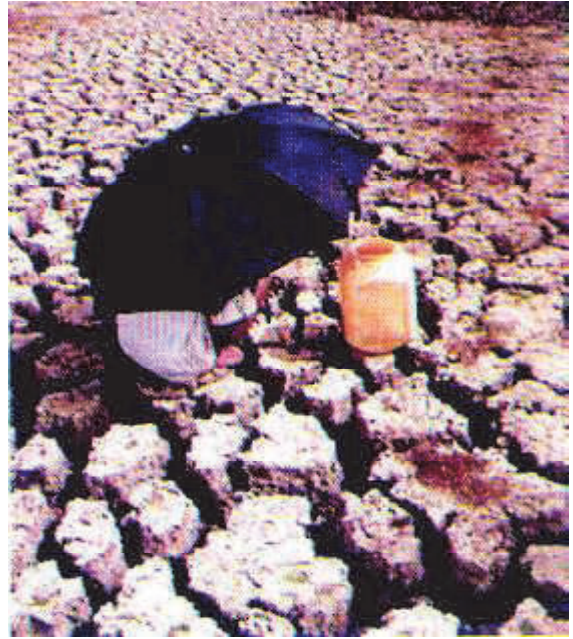
Do (✓)	Don't do (x)
Know the route to the nearest safe shelters. Keep medicines, strong ropes, radio, torch, batteries. Store clothes, dry food, fresh water, kerosene, candles and match boxes in polythene bags in a kit. Listen to the local radio and watch TV for warnings. Drink boiled water.	Don't eat food that has got wet in flood waters. Do not remain on empty stomach. Do not get into water of unknown depth and current. Do not drink tapwater without boiling.

Drought Affects

26th Nov., 2000

Every year, villages near Bikaner in Rajasthan, spend the period between July and September in waiting and praying for rains.

The villagers don't have money to buy even food. The drought directly or indirectly affects all people.



Drought happens when an area receives lesser rainfall than normal levels. It is a condition of acute scarcity of water, food, fodder and employment. The serious results of drought are crop-failure and lack of drinking water.

What can you do to fight serious results of drought?

Do (✓)	Don't do (x)
Grow plants and care for them.	Don't misuse or waste water.
Protect and restore degraded land	Don't destroy forests, pastures and trees.
Collect and store rain water	Don't let domestic animals overgraze.

Word Meanings

- Newspaper Clipping

tremor	a slight shaking movement of the earth
violent shocks	great shaking caused by an earthquake
collide	to hit something or someone that is moving in a different direction from you
tremble	to shake uncontrollably
seismograph	an instrument that measures and records the movement of the earth during an earthquake
soil erosion	process of soil being gradually destroyed by rain, wind, the sea etc.

silting of river beds	sand, mud, soil etc. that settles in the bed of a river
get cut-off	get disconnected, separated from other places
restore	to make something return to its previous condition.
degraded	a situation or condition of something made worse
fodder	food for cattle
scarcity	situation in which there is not enough of something
crop failure	state of crop not growing due to lack of water
overgraze	to let animals eat grass from the same piece of land

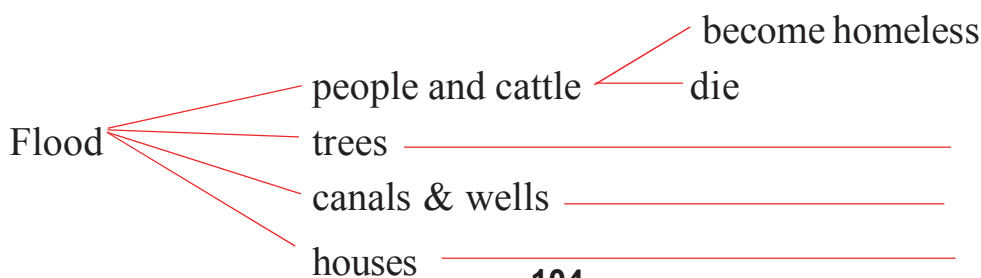
Reading Comprehension

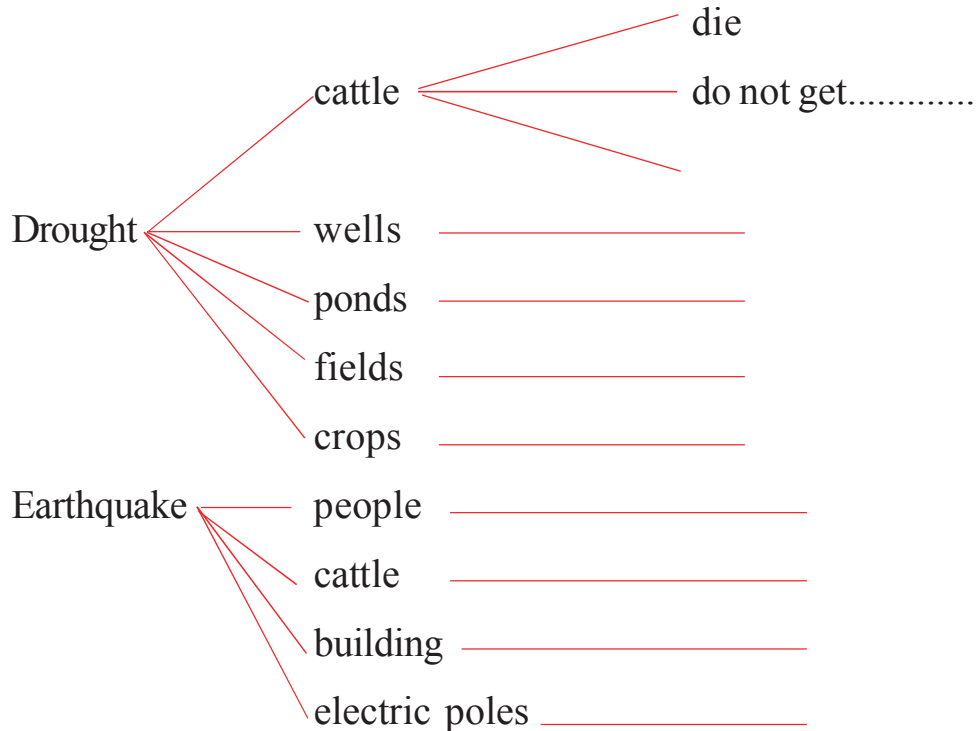
1. Complete the table with the help of the information in the lesson.

	DISASTER	CONDITIONS	RESULTS
1.	Earthquake	large plates of	violent shocks, release of energy
2.	using lift in big buildings	could be dangerous.
3.	Flood	heavy rainfall	results in.....
4.	Drought	less.....	acute scarcity of water, food and fodder.
5	Flood	using.....	cholera and dysentery in people especially, children.

2. Write phrases or words to tell how the following are affected during natural calamities.

One is done for you.



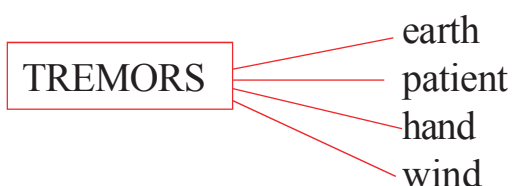


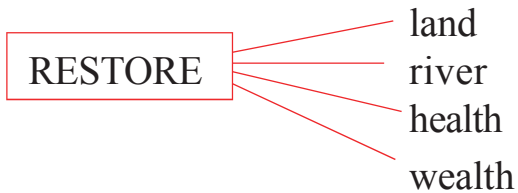
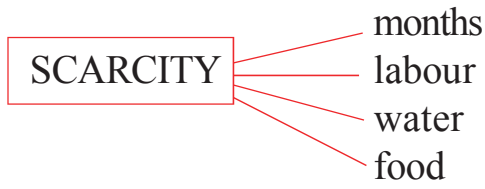
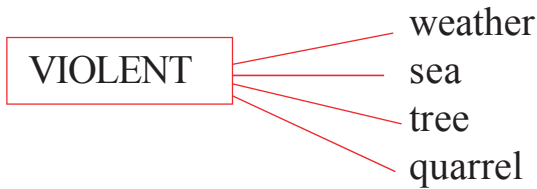
3. State True or False.

- (i) The earthquake in Gujarat in 2001 killed 13,000 people. ()
- (ii) We should run out of homes as soon as we feel tremors. ()
- (iii) We should bend down under cots and desks during floods. ()
- (iv) 70,000 people became homeless in Assam due to earthquake. ()
- (v) Eating food that has got wet in flood water is harmful. ()
- (vi) The local radio warns us about earthquakes and floods. ()
- (vii) People in Bikaner always enjoy rains. ()
- (viii) The villagers become poor and unemployed due to drought. ()

Vocabulary

Tick (✓) the word that is not related to those written in capitals.





Grammar

Write your sentences using 'must'. What could you suggest in the following situations?

Example is given for you.

Example: I worked hard today. I feel tired now.
You must take rest now.



1. My mother will get angry. I am getting late.
2. I have a headache. I can't work now.
3. She wants to be a singer in future. She doesn't sing very well now.
4. She is a very naughty girl. She doesn't obey elders.
5. My younger brother is looking for a good job. He has no job now.
6. My handwriting is very poor. I feel it.

Writing

Write slogans on "Disaster Awareness" on sheets of coloured paper to display in your class.

Activity

1. Listen to the story carefully and fill the columns of the table given below to match with the describing words. One is done for you.

See Appendix 1, Lesson 20

Persons	Things	Describing words
A wood cutter and his wife.		old and poor
	forest	thick and deep
		tired and thirsty
		cold and sweet
		young and handsome
		happily

A wood cutter and his wife.		little
		tall, green
		surprised
		helpless
		clear
		sad

2. Tick the correct answer for the questions asked as you listen to the story a second time.

- (i) near a pond, near a forest, near a park
- (ii) hot and tired, tired and hungry, tired and thirsty
- (iii) his wife's face, a different face, a happy face

Project

Look at the maps carefully and write the cards.

- The states where there is a danger of earthquakes.
- The states generally affected by floods.
- The rivers that generally cause floods.
- The states that face droughts.
- States that are likely to face drought and flood both.
- States where earthquakes and flood both can happen.

Example: The states where there is a danger of earthquakes are Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and

