

5. Nature's Message to Mankind

WORKSHEET

1

COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and answer the questions the follow.

England, Scotland and Scandinavia and now Germany are bracing themselves as the worst tidal surge in more than 60 years hits. The death toll from the storm has reached 10 it is reported.

About 10,000 homes have been evacuated along the Eastern English coast, while tidal floods – large amounts of seawater that swell onto land – surge through coastal towns. Some residents in South Wales had to be rescued by lifeboats from deep water that covered the towns in that region, the BBC reports.

Excess water is not the only result of the storm, Xaver. Hurricane-like winds as high as 140 mph have interrupted travel through Scotland, Wales and parts of England. Flights across Northern Europe have been cancelled. Train services in Scotland were cancelled Thursday morning as a result of debris blown on to the tracks. It will be many hours before services return to near normal levels. Power for more than 100,000 homes in Britain has been lost, Reuters News reports.

Northern Europe responded to the storm by cancelling flights and schools and by closing one of its longest bridges which connects Sweden to Denmark. People have been warned to stay indoors and travel only if it is absolutely necessary.

A Answer the following questions.

1. Which countries have been affected by the rains and the tidal surge?

2. How many homes have been evacuated from the Eastern English coast?

3. What are tidal floods?

4. Describe at least two effects of the storm Xaver.

5. Which are the two news agencies which have given inputs for this report?

B Make sentences using the following words.

1. Surge 2. Evacuated 3. Hurricane 4. Debris 5. Warn

C Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the passage.

1. Countries are _____ themselves for the worst _____
_____ in 60 years.
2. Tidal floods _____ through _____ towns.
3. _____ in South Wales had to be rescued by _____.
4. _____ winds have _____ travel.
5. People have been _____ to stay _____.

GRAMMAR

A Circle the right verb that agrees with the subject.

1. The man and his brother [fights/fought] in the war.
2. English [are/is] one of her optional subjects.
3. We [understands/understand] Miss Grace's reasons very well.
4. Ramlal's shop [am/is] at the corner of the street.
5. The crows [makes/make] a terrible amount of noise.

B State whether the verbs underlined below are transitive or intransitive. If they are transitive, circle the direct object.

1. Animals sense the approach of an earthquake much more quickly than humans.
2. The chickens flapped around in circles.
3. Grandmother heard a noise like the approach of a train.
4. I put my hand on the railing.
5. Reema wrote a poem for the morning assembly.

B Underline the non-finites in the sentences below, and state if they are infinitives, gerunds or participles.

1. Megan has learnt to swim now.
2. Giving is greater than receiving.
3. The puppy sneezed, sniffing at the flowers.
4. He fell asleep, having eaten a large meal.

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A Give the opposites of the following by adding prefixes to them.

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|-------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. Prudent | _____ | 2. Legal | _____ |
| 3. Violence | _____ | 4. Ordinary | _____ |
| 5. Secure | _____ | 6. Loyal | _____ |
| 7. Content | _____ | 8. Regular | _____ |
| 9. Tie | _____ | 10. Kind | _____ |
| 11. Judge | _____ | 12. Tolerant | _____ |

B Words and phrases are used as similes [brave like a lion; proud like a peacock, etc.]; as metaphors [The camel is the ship of the desert]; or as a personification [The earth swallowed her.]. Say which of the following sentences have a simile, a metaphor or a personification and underline it.

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|---|-------|
| 1. The trees were singing in the breeze. | _____ |
| 2. They speak like saints. | _____ |
| 3. Rumours floated in the air. | _____ |
| 4. Knowledge is proud, but wisdom is humble. | _____ |
| 5. The waves thundered on the stone. | _____ |
| 6. She strutted around like a peacock in her new dress. | _____ |