Global problems

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

ADVANCED | C1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each risk concept with its precise meaning.

1 hazard	____	a adjustment to actual or expected conditions
2 exposure	____	b susceptibility to suffering harm
3 vulnerability	____	c potential source of harm
4 resilience	____	d linked breakdown spreading across systems
5 mitigation	____	e inability to obtain sufficient reliable food
6 adaptation	____	f people or assets located where harm may occur
7 cascading failure	____	g steps reducing likelihood or severity
8 compound crisis	____	h capacity to absorb, recover and adapt
9 humanitarian access	____	i practical ability to reach people needing help
10 food insecurity	____	j interacting emergencies that intensify one another

2 Complete the risk and response collocations.

access | **capacity** | **crisis** | **failures** | **insecurity** | **measures** | **risk** | **vulnerability**

1 conduct a _____ assessment

2 reduce structural _____

3 strengthen local response _____

4 implement mitigation _____

5 anticipate cascading _____

6 respond to a compound _____

7 negotiate humanitarian _____

8 address acute food _____

3 Choose the concept that best captures the distinction.

1 A dangerous event itself, not who is in its path: *hazard / exposure*.

2 Location in the path of harm, not capacity to cope: *exposure / resilience*.

3 Susceptibility created by social or physical conditions: *vulnerability / hazard*.

4 Reducing future severity before an event: *mitigation / relief*.

5 Adjusting practices to changing conditions: *adaptation / evacuation*.

6 One infrastructure failure triggering others: *cascading failure / compound crisis*.

7 Several interacting emergencies at once: *compound crisis / containment*.

8 Capacity to absorb shock and recover: *resilience / exposure*.

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4 Complete the risk analysis with terms from the box.

adaptation | cascading failure | compound crisis | exposure | food insecurity | hazard | humanitarian access | mitigation | resilience | vulnerability

The cyclone was the immediate **1** _____, but dense coastal settlement increased **2** _____. Weak housing and unequal access to transport intensified **3** _____. Power loss then disrupted water treatment, creating a **4** _____. Combined with drought and conflict, the storm became part of a **5** _____ and worsened **6** _____. Blocked routes restricted **7** _____. Future **8** _____ should reduce emissions and physical risk, while **9** _____ must adjust services to new conditions. Both should strengthen community **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions concisely.

Disasters are not simply natural

An earthquake or storm may be a natural hazard, but the scale of disaster reflects decisions about housing, infrastructure, land use, public health and inequality. The same hazard can produce very different outcomes because exposure and vulnerability are unevenly distributed. Resilience should therefore not mean asking individuals to endure avoidable harm. It includes reliable institutions, accessible warnings, social protection and meaningful participation in planning. Risk reduction is strongest when it combines technical evidence with lived knowledge and examines who benefits, who bears costs and whose priorities shape recovery.

1 What determines the scale of disaster besides the hazard? _____

2 Why can the same hazard produce different outcomes? _____

3 What should resilience not require? _____

4 Name three institutional or social components of resilience. _____

5 Which two kinds of knowledge should risk reduction combine? _____

6 Which three questions of power should recovery examine? _____

6 Paraphrase using the expression in capitals.

1 The outage caused linked breakdowns in water and transport. **CASCADE** ____

2 Unequal housing conditions increased susceptibility to harm. **VULNERABILITY** ___

3 Officials changed services to suit hotter conditions. **ADAPTED** _____

4 The programme reduced the likely severity of flooding. **MITIGATED** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **160-190 word** critical response: Why is a disaster not explained by the hazard alone? Analyse exposure, vulnerability, resilience and responsibility.

[ ] Use at least ten target terms or collocations. [ ] Trace interacting causes. [ ] Include unequal impacts and community participation.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Risk concepts

1 **c** 2 **f** 3 **b** 4 **h** 5 **g** 6 **a** 7 **d** 8 **j** 9 **i** 10 **e**

2 Risk and response collocations

1 **risk** 2 **vulnerability** 3 **capacity** 4 **measures** 5 **failures** 6 **crisis** 7 **access** 8 **insecurity**

3 Conceptual distinctions

1 **hazard** 2 **exposure** 3 **vulnerability** 4 **mitigation** 5 **adaptation** 6 **cascading failure** 7 **compound crisis** 8 **resilience**

4 Risk analysis

1 **hazard** 2 **exposure** 3 **vulnerability** 4 **cascading failure** 5 **compound crisis**
6 **food insecurity** 7 **humanitarian access** 8 **mitigation** 9 **adaptation** 10 **resilience**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Decisions about housing, infrastructure, land use, public health and inequality. 2 Exposure and vulnerability are uneven.
3 Individuals enduring avoidable harm. 4 Any three: reliable institutions, accessible warnings, social protection, participation. 5 Technical evidence and lived knowledge. 6 Who benefits, who bears costs and whose priorities shape recovery.

6 Paraphrasing - possible answers

1 The outage caused a **cascade of failures** in water and transport. 2 Unequal housing increased **vulnerability**. 3 Officials **adapted services** to hotter conditions. 4 The programme **mitigated flood risk**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check causal analysis, conceptual accuracy, equity and participation.