Global problems

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

INTERMEDIATE | B1-B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Identify the disaster from each clue.

1 lava and ash	____	a civil war
2 aftershock	____	b landslide
3 roofs under water	____	c drought
4 cracked dry soil	____	d epidemic
5 rocks across a mountain road	____	e earthquake
6 violent rotating wind	____	f tornado
7 disease spreading rapidly	____	g flood
8 fighting within one country	____	h volcanic eruption

2 Complete the collocations with verbs from the box.

break | cross | damage | erupt | flee | injure | shake | spread

1 a volcano can _____

2 an earthquake can _____ a city

3 an epidemic can _____ rapidly

4 war can _____ out suddenly

5 people may _____ a conflict zone

6 refugees may _____ a border

7 a disaster may _____ buildings

8 a disaster may _____ people

3 Complete each sentence with the correct word form.

1 The volcano began to _____. Its _____ lasted two days. **ERUPT**

2 The gas leak caused an _____. Several tanks _____. **EXPLODE**

3 Many people _____ the crash. The _____ were taken to safety. **SURVIVE**

4 Aid reached families who were _____. Severe _____ was reported. **STARVE**

5 The storm _____ thirty people. Most _____ were minor. **INJURE**

6 The flood caused extensive _____ and _____ several bridges. **DAMAGE**

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4 Complete the news report with words from the box.

casualties | drought | evacuated | famine | migrants | refugees | relief | shelter | survivors | victims

After years of **1** _____, crop failure has increased the risk of **2** _____. Thousands of **3** _____ have crossed the border to seek safety, while other **4** _____ continue to move for work and family reasons. Aid agencies are providing food, water and temporary **5** _____. In a separate coastal emergency, residents were **6** _____ before a tropical storm arrived. Rescue teams found several **7** _____; the number of **8** _____ remained low. A **9** _____ effort is now helping the **10** _____ of both emergencies.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Words shape understanding

Disaster reporting needs accurate numbers and careful labels. *Casualties* includes people killed or injured, while *survivors* are those who remain alive after an event. *Refugee* and *migrant* are not interchangeable: the first has a specific protection context, whereas migration can have many reasons. Reports should avoid reducing people to a single label and should not publish unconfirmed totals as facts. Clear information can guide help, but dramatic language may create fear or hide the needs of affected communities.

1 Who are included in casualty figures? _____

2 Who is described as a survivor? _____

3 Why are refugee and migrant not interchangeable? _____

4 How should unconfirmed totals be presented? _____

5 What positive purpose can clear information serve? _____

6 Name one risk of dramatic language. _____

6 Rewrite using the word in capitals.

1 The disease moved quickly across the region. **SPREAD** _____

2 The storm caused harm to many buildings. **DAMAGED** _____

3 Fighting suddenly began in the north. **BROKE** _____

4 Everyone on the aircraft remained alive. **SURVIVED** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **100-120 word** factual news report about an imaginary disaster and response. Include causes or warnings, effects on people and property, and current assistance.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Distinguish confirmed facts from estimates. [ ] Use labels accurately.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Disaster clues

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

2 Disaster collocations

1 **erupt** 2 **shake** 3 **spread** 4 **break** 5 **flee** 6 **cross** 7 **damage** 8 **injure**

3 Word formation

1 **erupt; eruption** 2 **explosion; exploded** 3 **survived; survivors**
4 **starving; starvation** 5 **injured; injuries** 6 **damage; damaged**

4 News report

1 **drought** 2 **famine** 3 **refugees** 4 **migrants** 5 **shelter** 6 **evacuated** 7 **survivors** 8 **casualties** 9 **relief** 10 **victims**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 People killed or injured. 2 A person who remains alive after an event. 3 Refugee has a specific protection context; migration has many possible reasons.
4 As unconfirmed, not as fact. 5 It can guide help. 6 It may create fear or hide community needs.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The disease **spread rapidly** across the region. 2 The storm **damaged** many buildings. 3 Fighting **broke out** in the north. 4 Everyone on the aircraft **survived**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check factual style, precise labels and clear attribution of uncertainty.