

Links to GCSE specifications

OCR B

2.4.3 Theme 3: Natural Hazards

Questions for Investigation	Key Ideas	Content
a. What is the global distribution of different types of natural hazard?	Different types of natural hazard have specific global distributions.	The global distributions of two tectonic hazards (earthquakes and volcanoes) and two climatic hazards (tropical storms and severe droughts).
b. What natural processes cause different types of natural hazards?	Natural processes are responsible for causing severe natural hazard events.	How the movement of tectonic plates causes earthquakes and volcanoes. The climatic conditions leading to the formation of tropical storms and periods of drought.
	Natural processes affect the global distribution of natural hazards.	How natural processes affect the global distribution of the four natural hazards.
c. How do natural hazards affect people and places in parts of the world with different levels of development?	Natural hazards have a significant impact on people and their quality of life.	How the characteristic features of the four natural hazards affect people and places. Understanding the nature of primary and secondary effects.
	The level of economic development of places affected by natural hazard events influences the severity of the impact.	Comparing the impact of natural hazards in LEDC and MEDC places, using GIS as well as a range of data and evidence to build up a comprehensive picture such as: numbers of deaths, displaced people, cost of damage, eye witness accounts. A case study of the following: i) one tectonic hazard event in an LEDC ii) one tectonic hazard event in an MEDC iii) one climatic hazard in an LEDC iv) one climatic hazard in an MEDC.

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Questions for Investigation	Key Ideas	Content
d. How can human activities affect the impact of natural hazards?	People continue to live and work in places that are prone to natural hazards.	The reasons for people living in hazardous areas.
	Human activities can affect the impact of natural hazards.	How settlement and economic activities affect the impact of natural hazard events.
e. How can people and places be protected from the impact of natural hazards?	A range of methods is used to attempt to reduce the impact of natural hazards.	How building, planning and education methods are used.
	A range of methods is used to attempt to predict the location, frequency and severity of natural hazards.	Prediction methods and how they work. Use of GIS, new technologies and satellite images to map distributions and patterns of natural hazard events and aid prediction models.
	Some methods are more sustainable than others.	The sustainability of these methods in terms of their economic costs, impact on the environment, effects on people most at risk. Refer to selected case studies in part c on page 16.

AQA A

<p>Tropical revolving storms are a major climatic hazard. The effects of and responses to tropical revolving storms vary between areas of contrasting levels of wealth.</p>	<p>Cause of tropical revolving storms (hurricanes/ typhoons/cyclones/willy willies) – the sequence of events leading to their formation. The structure and characteristics of a hurricane. A case study of such storms in a rich part of the world and one from a poorer area. Social, economic and environmental effects and short-term and long-term responses (monitoring, prediction, protection and preparation).</p>
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AQA B

Key Question: What are the causes and effects of tropical storms and how do people prepare for and respond to them?	
Key Ideas	Specification Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The damaging effects of tropical storms. • The causes of tropical storms. • Reducing the damaging effects of tropical storms. • Tropical storms could become more frequent and their distribution may change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the primary and secondary effects of tropical storms. Explain how the effects might vary among countries with different levels of economic development. • Describe the global distribution of tropical storms. The physical processes leading to the formation of a tropical storm in one region of the world. • Describe strategies and methods used to reduce the damaging effects of tropical storms. Include monitoring, use of GIS, education and other preparation in countries with different levels of economic development. • Explain why the distribution and frequency of tropical storms may change. Include the impact of climate change.

WJEC A

2. How does the weather create hazards for people?	2.1 What are these weather hazards associated with high and low air pressure systems over the British Isles and with tropical storms? 2.2 How do weather hazards affect people, the economy and the environment?	2. <i>Description of the impact of gales, floods, droughts in the UK and the impact of tropical storms in an LEDC and an MEDC. Internet and DVD research e.g. Katrina. Comparison of storms between USA and Jamaica or Japan and Bangladesh.</i>
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WJEC B

1.3 What are the causes of weather hazards associated with both high and low atmospheric pressure? 1.4 How do extreme weather hazards affect different groups of people?	The concept of pressure systems in the atmosphere. The cause, effect and response to weather hazards relating to high pressure. Coverage must include drought. The cause, effect and response to weather hazards relating to low pressure. Coverage must include tropical storms.	Case Study 7 A case study of one extreme weather event: the causes, effects on different groups of people, and responses to the hazard.
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