

KEY: Hurricanes: Test Your Knowledge

Hurricanes are low-pressure system over tropical or sub-tropical waters with definite cyclonic surface wind circulation. This situation can create terrible consequences for individuals in such regions. Test your knowledge of hurricanes with these questions. Use another sheet of paper to respond to the free response questions and remember to provide support for your answers.

Multiple Choice

Please circle the correct answer.

1. What is another name for hurricanes?

- a. Tsunamis
- b. Typhoons**
- c. Tornados
- d. Floods

Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Overview](#)

2. How fast must winds of a tropical cyclone be to be considered a hurricane?

- a. 50 mph
- b. 74 mph**
- c. 100 mph
- d. 124 mph

Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Overview](#)

3. The most destructive hurricane before Katrina was:

- a. Rita
- b. Hurricane Allison
- c. Hurricane Mitch
- d. Galveston Hurricane**

Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Past Incidents](#)

Short Answer

Please write the answers on a separate sheet of paper.

4. Explain the difference between a hurricane *watch* and hurricane *warning*.

Watch: a hurricane is possible; Warning: a hurricane is expected

Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Citizen Response](#)

5. Explain how you can get information about the current status of the disaster during a hurricane?

Television, radio, NOAA Weather Radio

Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Citizens Response](#)

6. What was Project Stormfury and how did it attempt to accomplish its goals? Did it work?

US government project to impact the condensation process through seeding the clouds with silver iodide particles. It did not work: not enough cool particles of water in the hurricane to expand upon.

Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Government Response](#)

Abstract & Logic

Please note that abstract and logic questions do not have any right or wrong answer. These questions are best suited towards class discussions.

7. Who do you think was responsible for the initial lack of appropriate response to Hurricane Katrina? Defend your answer.

The blame would probably fall on all levels. The national government did not pay enough attention initially, local government did not force evacuation early enough, some citizens were stubborn and decided to stay behind. Poverty also forced some to stay behind. Website: [Natural Disasters > Hurricanes > Case Study](#)

8. Is it appropriate for the national government to use the military to maintain civilian order during a hurricane? Pay special attention to civil liberties concerns.

Further research: *posse comitatus*, the use of Blackwater private security personnel during Katrina