

KEY: Wildfire: Test Your Knowledge

Wildfires are uncontrolled fires often caused by lightning, human mistakes, and arson in wildland areas. This situation can create terrible consequences for individuals in such regions. Test your knowledge of wildfires 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 was the extent of the damage caused by the 2003 Cedar Fire in California?

- a. **Burned 280,000 acres of land**
- b. Burned 320,000 acres of land
- c. Burned 500,000 acres of land
- d. Burned 1,000,000 acres of land

Website: [Natural Disasters > Wildfires > Case Study](#)

2. The phenomenon that occurs when large wildfires create powerful winds by drawing in air from surrounding areas is called ____.

- a. Windstorm
- b. **Firestorm**
- c. Wind surge
- d. Air draw

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

3. Areas prone to wildfires are generally ____.

- a. Wet
- b. **Moist**
- c. Dry
- d. None of the Above

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

Short Answer

Please write the answers on a separate sheet of paper.

4. List and describe the three types of wildfires.

crawling: spreads through low level vegetation; crown: spreads via top branches; jumping/spotting: branches or leaves on fire carried by winds

Website: [Natural Disasters > Wildfires > Consequences](#)

5. In what ways do wildfires adversely affect our environment?

destroy plants that prevent erosion, landslides, ash flows, floods, hurt quality of water systems, harmful smoke and gases also pollute our atmosphere

Website: [Natural Disasters > Wildfires > Consequences](#)

6. Describe how citizens would create a “D-zone” to protect their property.

create 30-100 ft region with well trimmed and minimal dry shrubs, remove synthetic fuel sources

Website: [Natural Disasters > Wildfires > Citizen 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. Do you believe fires are caused primarily by environmental factors or human acts?

Fires are caused by a combination of human and environmental factors. If leaves are dry and people leave a campfire ablaze there is a large potential for wildfire. Another answer could be that people are responsible because they instigate wildfires through their carelessness most of the time.

Website: [Natural Disasters > Wildfires > Consequences](#)

8. If you were the leader during a large scale fire, would you concentrate on stopping the flames or rescuing trapped people? Defend your answer.

If answer is rescuing people, saving lives is the highest priority in any situation. If answer is stopping flames, then flames should be stopped first because they can hurt more people while others are rescued.

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