

Read the case study. Choose the correct word or idea referred to in bold.

- 1 ☐ The bush and rural areas ✓
☒ The USA and Australia
☐ The grass and forest areas

- 2 ☐ Fires ✓
☒ Dry season
☐ Summer

- 3 ☒ Fire ✓
☐ Century
☐ Policy

- 4 ☐ Policy ✓
☒ Fires
☐ Death

- 5 ☐ Scientists ✓
☐ Wildfires
☒ Giant Sequoia

- 6 ☐ Trees ✓
☒ Wildfires
☐ Developed areas

- 7 ☐ Dry undergrowth ✓
☒ Controlled fires
☐ Fuel

- 8 ☐ Wildfire ✓
☐ Bush fires
☒ Global warming

In the two countries, however, fire fighters in the USA are paid employees. In contrast, many fire-fighting organizations in Australia are made up of volunteers. In addition, in California, fire fighters tend to carry emergency fire shelters – small tents which can be pulled over a person lying on the ground to protect them from a fire. In contrast, Australian fire fighters use their cars to escape from a spreading fire to stay out of danger.

Due to the large numbers of fires that are started deliberately, it is difficult to establish with a high level of certainty whether the frequency of wildfires is increasing over time. However, it is generally believed that this is the case. In 2009 a report from the US Global Change Research Program stated that the frequency of wildfires and the length of the fire season in the USA had increased substantially over the last few decades. Global warming is thought to be the main factor in this increase. The rising temperatures and droughts that (8) it causes encourage

Read the extracts from the case study. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.



Wildfire fighting in Australia and the USA

The North of Australia and the Californian coast of the USA are two areas in which major fires frequently occur. In **both** ☒ places, there is a higher frequency of fires in the dry season. In California, this is between the summer and the fall.

whereas ☐ In Australia, it is in the winter. In both areas, grass and forest fires start naturally ...

Fire fighting in the USA has undergone a number of changes over time. In 1960 there was a change in policy when scientists discovered that no new Giant Sequoia trees had grown in California because fire was an essential part of their life cycle. Following further investigation, it was officially agreed that fires were a natural part of the ecological process and that **accordingly** ☒ wildfires would be left to burn out unless they threatened developed areas ...

In Australia, as in California, the policy towards fire is now **one** ☒ of damage limitation and control rather than 'zero tolerance'.

Similar methods of fire fighting are employed in both Northern Australia and California. For instance, controlled fires are commonly started deliberately, in order to burn some of the dry undergrowth which would otherwise help wildfires to spread.

As well as this ☒ preventative measure, fire fighters often start a controlled fire in the path of the existing fire in order to burn up the fuel that the existing fire needs to continue to spread ...

Fire fighters in the USA are paid employees. **In contrast** ☐ many fire-fighting organizations in Australia are made up of volunteers ...

Complete the table. Use the correct words from the box.

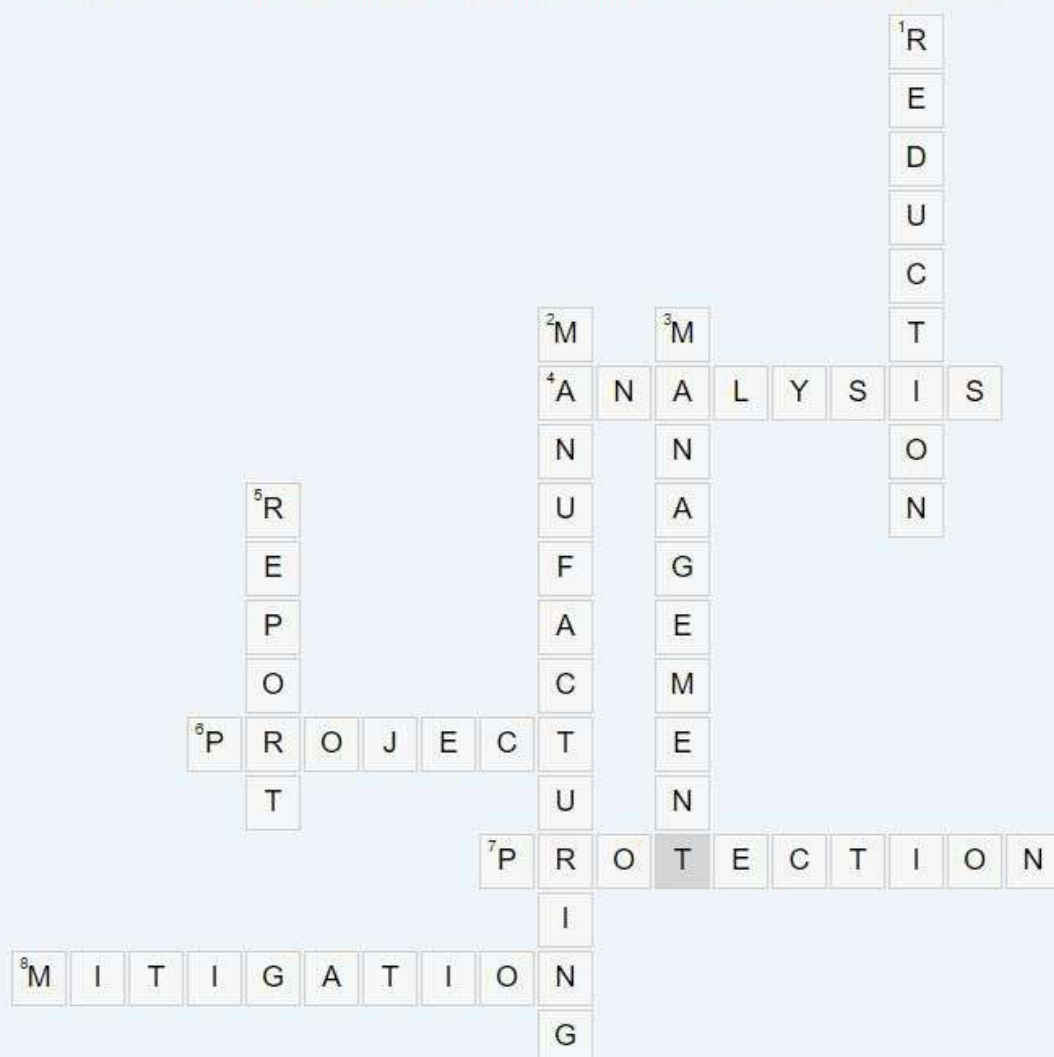
Nature	Fire	Danger and protection
forest ✓	ignition ✓	escape ✓
season ✓	death toll ✓	damage limitation ✓
organic ✓	put out ✓	threatened ✓
life cycle ✓	spread ✓	preventative ✓
ecological ✓	combustion ✓	broke out ✓

Wildfire fighting in Australia and the USA

The North of Australia and the Californian coast of the USA are two areas in which major fires frequently occur. In both places, there is a higher frequency of fires in the dry season. In California, this is between the summer and the fall whereas in Australia, it is in the winter. In both areas, grass and forest fires start naturally. They are ignited by lightning, sparks from falling rocks and spontaneous combustion of very dry organic materials.

Fire fighting in the USA has undergone a

Read the sentences and unscramble the missing words to complete the crossword puzzle.



Choose the correct word to complete the sentences.

- 1 Fires can be  disasters but they are often started deliberately in order to cause damage to properties.
- 2 In 2008 a  flood of the Grand Canyon was carried out in order to clear sand from the river bed.
- 3 We require an experienced engineer for a  dam building project in the Middle East. Applicants must be prepared to be based abroad for a minimum of five years.
- 4  continuous drought over a number of years often leads to desertification.
- 5 In 2012,  flooding caused a quarter of a million people to leave their homes.
- 6 An  project to supply Northern Cyprus with water piped under the Mediterranean sea is in its early stages.

Complete the text. Use the words in the box.

At sixteen times the size of the Great Pyramid at Giza, the Aswan High

✓ in Egypt is one of the greatest engineering projects ever executed. It was also a ✓ investment, costing around one billion dollars to build.

Before it was built, the flooding of the area of land around the Nile river was

✓ – taking place in late summer annually. The extent of the flooding was also ✓. Nobody knew how high the water would rise and as a result, the crops planted around the Nile were often washed away. It was hoped that the building project would ✓ damage caused by the flood.

Another aim of the project was to create the world's third largest reservoir: Lake

Nasser. This necessitated the ✓ of approximately one million Egyptians and Sudanese Nubians who lived in the area which would later be ✓ under the reservoir.

The ✓ of the building project was not just human, however, but also historical: Nubian monuments and historical sites were flooded, despite

✓ rescue operations from organizations like UNESCO.

Fortunately, some monuments, such as the temples of Abu Simbel, were saved.

major ambitious minimize
relocation seasonal
submerged unpredictable
impact Dam

Find the words in the list in the wordsearch grid.

Z E V E H Q Y W Y F S A E
D R O U G H T I T G J Y E
I C F N Y I O I Y E D H A
S A N D B A G G I N G S T
A D T H M U I T E Y E Y Q
S F S S T O A S E C V B N
T H S Y W Y F M I Y U I W
E T G J Y E E E Y Q S S E
R B H U R R I C A N E J E
E H S Y T F S S T O V D A
D T H X T G J Y E T E E P
F S E I Y U I W D I R E Q
D T H M U I T D T H E V N
N Y I O I Y E D H A N E E
B R E I R R A B D O O L F

- 1 EXTREME ✓
- 2 FLOOD BARRIER ✓
- 3 DISASTER ✓
- 4 HURRICANE ✓
- 5 LEVEE ✓
- 6 SANDBAGGING ✓
- 7 SEVERE ✓
- 8 DROUGHT ✓

Complete the definitions. Use the words in the box.

- 1 an extremely large wave caused by a violent movement of the earth under the

sea: tsunami ✓

- 2 to supply land with water so that crops and plants will grow: irrigate ✓

- 3 the process of removing salt from sea water: desalination ✓

- 4 electricity produced by the force of fast moving water such as rivers or

waterfalls: hydroelectricity ✓

- 5 a condition or situation that causes problems, especially one which causes

something or someone to be less successful than other things or people:

disadvantage ✓

- 6 naturally existing in a place or country rather than arriving from another place:

indigenous ✓

- 7 a long period when there is little or no rain: drought ✓



Complete the sentences. Use the words in the boxes. You do not need all the words.

- 1 If you live in areas where hurricanes are common, it is an **important** 
safety measure **to identify**  a place in your house where you could
hide.
- 2 It is **impossible**  **to protect**  your home against flooding
completely but there are lots of things you can do to reduce flood damage.
- 3 In the event of a fire, it is never a **good idea**  **to rescue**  your
belongings before you leave the house. It's best to get out straightaway.
- 4 It is not **easy**  for friends and loved ones **to see**  images of
the devastation that natural disaster has caused on TV.
- 5 It is **unlikely**  **that**  the volcano Mauna Kea on Hawaii will
erupt in the near future as it's classified as 'dormant'.
- 6 With more than 5 billion mobile phones in the world, it is not
surprising  **that**  people use them to communicate during a
natural disaster.
- 7 If you have enough warning before a flood arrives, it is **worth**  taking
the time **to build**  a levee around your property to protect it.
- 8 It is not **worth**  **worrying**  about whether a natural disaster will
strike in the future. Just do your best to protect yourself and your loved ones in
case the worst happens.

protecting

rescuing

building

seeing

to worry

identifying

Unscramble the words to make sentences beginning with *It*.

- 1 It is a sad fact that few people prepare for natural disasters. ✓
- 2 It is a good idea to prepare for disasters as they can occur in almost any area of the world at any time. ✓
- 3 It is worth organizing your home to minimize damage in the event of a disaster. ✓
- 4 It is important to discuss disaster preparation with your family. ✓
- 5 It is surprising that few people learn about their community's warning signals. ✓
- 6 It is essential that defective electrical wiring is repaired and shelves and lighting fixtures are secured. ✓
- 7 It is not advisable to place beds in front of windows or to store flammable products near heat sources. ✓
- 8 It is possible that you will lose touch with each other in the event of a disaster. ✓
- 9 It is a good idea to pick two emergency meeting places: near the home and outside the neighbourhood. ✓
- 10 It is worth creating a disaster supplies kit and including a flotation vest if the area is likely to flood. ✓