

Historical Natural Disasters

Natural Disasters · Practice Test · 10 Questions

1. Which volcanic eruption in 1815 was responsible for the 'Year Without a Summer' in 1816 due to global climate cooling?

- A) Mount Tambora
- B) Krakatoa
- C) Mount Pelée
- D) Novarupta

2. The 1931 China floods, often considered the deadliest natural disaster in recorded history, primarily affected which two major river systems?

- A) Yellow and Pearl
- B) Yangtze and Huai
- C) Mekong and Salween
- D) Yangtze and Yellow

3. During the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, what was the primary cause of the majority of the property destruction in the city?

- A) Tsunami waves
- B) Subsequent fires
- C) Ground liquefaction
- D) Structural collapse of skyscrapers

4. The 1970 Bhola cyclone, which devastated East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), is historically notable for its high death toll, estimated at approximately how many people?

- A) 50,000
- B) 200,000
- C) 500,000
- D) 1,000,000

5. What geological event occurred in 1960 that remains the most powerful earthquake ever recorded by seismographs, with a magnitude of 9.5?

- A) The Great Chilean Earthquake
- B) The Alaska Good Friday Earthquake
- C) The Indian Ocean Tsunami
- D) The Kamchatka Earthquake

6. The 1755 Lisbon earthquake is historically significant for being the first major disaster to trigger the development of which scientific field?

- A) Volcanology
- B) Seismology
- C) Meteorology
- D) Hydrology

7. Which Mediterranean volcanic eruption in the 17th century BCE is believed to have contributed to the decline of the Minoan civilization on Crete?

- A) Vesuvius
- B) Stromboli
- C) Thera
- D) Etna

8. The 1923 Great Kanto earthquake caused catastrophic damage to which two major Japanese cities?

- A) Osaka and Kyoto
- B) Tokyo and Yokohama
- C) Nagoya and Kobe
- D) Sapporo and Sendai

9. In 1902, the eruption of Mount Pelée destroyed the city of Saint-Pierre in Martinique; what was the specific volcanic phenomenon that caused nearly all fatalities?

- A) Lava flow
- B) Pyroclastic surge
- C) Volcanic lightning
- D) Tsunami

10. The 1883 eruption of Krakatoa was unique in recorded history for the intensity of what phenomenon, which was heard 3,000 miles away?

- A) Seismic tremor
- B) Atmospheric pressure wave
- C) Volcanic debris fallout
- D) Electromagnetic pulse