



# Canarygeog Worksheet

## Impact of Weather - Answers

1. What is desertification?

This is the distribution of a desert into areas which before were full of vegetation, the result is a dry and barren landscape where plant life cannot regenerate.

2. What are the main causes for desertification in the Sahel ?

The main changes in this area are :

- Climate change meaning less rainfall
- Over cultivation
- Overgrazing
- Deforestation

3. What measures can be taken to reduce desertification in the Sahel ?

The main measures are :

- Climate change meaning less rainfall
  - Reducing man caused fires.
  - Using organic fertilizer to maintain the nutrient quality in the soil.
- Over cultivation
  - The construction of stone terraces to prevent soil erosion caused by heavy rains.
- Overgrazing
  - Restricting the movement of nomadic herds.
- Deforestation
  - Use sustainable ways of harvesting wood by cutting branches instead of cutting whole trees.

4. How are LEDCs able to predict and warn their people about approaching storms ?

They do not possess enough money to invest in highly technological equipment which helps them forecast hurricanes efficiently.

Most LEDCs depend on information received from other countries to help them detect them quickly.

5. To what extent is the link between nations important to predict hurricanes ?

The MEDCs can afford trained personnel in weather forecasting as well as high tech equipment (e.g. satellite technology) as well as specialized people like hurricane hunters who fly into approaching storms to collect information helpful for prediction.

The MEDCs are self sufficient and don't usually require help from other nations but LEDCs depend completely on MEDCs for accurate prediction.

6. Who do people choose to live on the coastline of countries prone to hurricanes ?

- Employment in the tourism industry (hotels, shops, restaurants ...)
- They are attracted to the coastal environment.
- Their family or friends live there.
- Peaceful settlements for retirement or for second homes.

7. Why is it important for the local authorities to ensure the safety of tourist in the event of a tropical storm? What would happen if they didn't?

It's essential to safeguard the tourists if the country wishes for these tourists to return and sustain the tourist industry, specially in countries where tourism is the main industry.

The evacuation of as many tourists as possible to minimize fatalities, compensation claims, media reports and bad press.

Tourists do not forget bad experiences quickly and the poorer countries cannot afford this to happen.