

## Class IX-X Coping with Earthquake

Materials Designed by BRAC University Centre for Languages (BU- CfL )

### A. Read the following report on the earthquake in Japan.



A terrible earthquake of 8.9 magnitude hit Japan on Friday, 12 January 2011. This earthquake was followed by a tsunami which left 15,813 people dead and 5,940 injured. As an after effect around 4.4 million households in north-eastern Japan were left without electricity and 1.5 million without water. After this earthquake three nuclear reactors exploded which resulted in the release of very powerful and harmful radiation. The government had to evacuate all the residents around those nuclear plants on an emergency basis. According to the then Japanese Prime Minister Nao to Kan, it was the toughest and the most difficult crisis in Japan after the World War II.

Write a report on the destruction caused by the recent flood/ drought/ cyclone in your locality.

### C. During the earthquake

Look at the pictures below and write what we should/should not do during the earthquake in the spaces. The first one is done for you.



a) If we are inside the house during an earthquake, we should take shelter under a heavy table or under the bed.



b) \_\_\_\_\_



c) \_\_\_\_\_



d) \_\_\_\_\_



e) \_\_\_\_\_



f) \_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Telephone Numbers

**Police helpline:** 999  
**Dhaka Metropolitan Police:** 7124000  
**Fire station control room:** 01713038181  
955555, 9556667  
**Dhaka Medical College Hospital:** 8626812, 8626812, 86266812



### Learning Objectives:

- Vocabulary
- Writing dialogue
- Giving reasons
- Critical thinking

### B. Match the words in Column I with their meanings in Column II.

Column I	Column II
Massive	Scattered pieces of something after it has been destroyed
Tremor	Unusually large, powerful, damaging
Debris	The force of an earthquake
Magnitude	A slight shaking movement

### Fill in the blanks in the following text with the words given above:

Hi, I am Cendy Juene from Port-au-Prince, Haiti. On January 2010, we experienced the deadliest hit of earthquake in 200 years of 7.0 in \_\_\_\_\_. I was inside my home during the \_\_\_\_\_ with my parents when all of a sudden everything was just falling apart. There was no place to take shelter. Fortunately ours was a one storey building and we were safe. When the tremor was over we found destruction everywhere. The whole city was in \_\_\_\_\_. We checked on our neighbours and called our relatives but most of them were missing. Thousands of people were sitting in the streets with nowhere to go. There were people running, crying and screaming. Even after one year and nine months we, the people of Haiti, are still struggling to survive the \_\_\_\_\_ destruction.



### D. Before the earthquake

The recent earthquake made Raqib really worried. He wanted to know what he can do to be safe from the destructions caused by earthquake. So, he asked his uncle about it.

**Raqib:** Uncle, isn't there any way to reduce the damage caused by earthquake?

**Uncle:** Well, we can take some preparations. For example, we should place large or heavy objects on lower shelves and store breakable items in closed cabinets so that when the tremor occurs they don't fall on us.

**Raqib:** That's a good idea! And we can practice drilling at home, can't we?

**Uncle:** Sure we can! Drilling should be done in the schools too so that even our children know what to do in an emergency situation.

**Raqib:** I feel so bad when I think about people who lose their shelter and valuables in an earthquake.

**Uncle:** In this case, we always have to keep an emergency kit prepared. We should put all the necessary things in a bag and keep it in such a place from where you can quickly take it before going out.

**A list of some necessary items is given in the box below. Choose any five of these that you would put in your emergency kit. Write the names of those things in the left column and write the reasons of choosing these in the right column. The first one is done for you.**

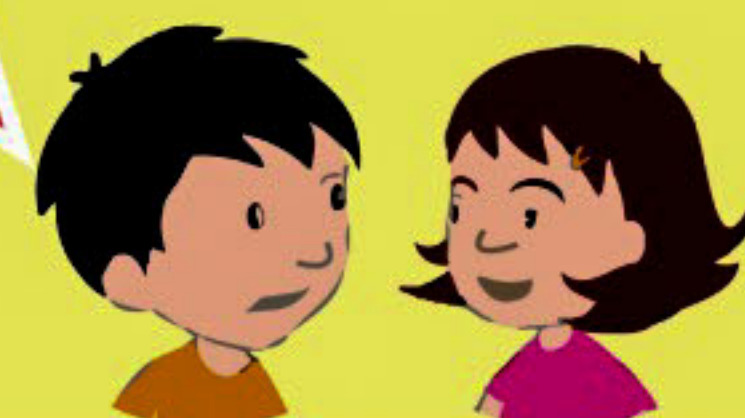
Water, dry food, money/cash, hammers, papers, portable radio and spare batteries, television, first aid kit, some necessary medicines, clothes, shovels

Names of the items	Reasons
1. Water	1. I want to take water as there may not be enough supply right after the earthquake.
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

### E. Two friends are talking about the steps to take after an earthquake. Complete the dialogue using the clues given below.

Stay where you are. Expect aftershock.  
Check yourself for injuries. Help neighbours.  
Extinguish small fires.  
Check gas leaks.  
Turn off electricity.

Earthquake panics everybody but I think we need to be calm to deal with problems that occur after the earthquake.



Yes, we have so much to do. We can not leave our shelter right after the tremor. We have to.....

Design & Illustration by: Md. Niaz Makhdum

## Rules Help Us Stay Safe

We should never cross the road all by ourselves. Never cross the road when the traffic light turns green. Always wait for the red light and make sure all vehicles have stopped. Use zebra crossing and foot over-bridge where available.

**Let's obey the traffic rules to be safe.**



আপনার সচেতনতাই আপনার শক্তি, জুড়ে উঠুন আপন শক্তিতে