



VOCABULARY BANK

The Natural World

The Natural World | Bank 2: oceans, weather and natural disasters | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
ocean	☐	☐	☐
marine life	☐	☐	☐
coral reef	☐	☐	☐
weather forecast	☐	☐	☐
storm	☐	☐	☐
flood	☐	☐	☐
drought	☐	☐	☐
earthquake	☐	☐	☐
natural disaster	☐	☐	☐
emergency services	☐	☐	☐
damage property	☐	☐	☐
recover from a disaster	☐	☐	☐

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
Oceans	ocean, marine life, coral reef, sea level, coastal community, plastic pollution
Weather	weather forecast, storm, heavy rain, heatwave, drought, strong winds
Disasters	natural disaster, flood, earthquake, emergency services, damage property, recover from a disaster
Opinion chunks	The weather forecast warned that..., Coastal communities may..., Emergency services need to..., The damage was caused by..., People can recover by...

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

Word or phrase	Meaning
1. marine life	a. a prediction of what the weather will be like
2. coral reef	b. a dangerous natural event that causes serious damage
3. weather forecast	c. plants and animals that live in the sea
4. drought	d. organisations such as police, fire and medical teams
5. natural disaster	e. a colourful underwater structure where many sea animals live
6. emergency services	f. a long period with little or no rain

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

ocean pollution	marine life	coral reef
weather forecast	heavy rain	strong winds
natural disaster	emergency services	recover from a disaster

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

When Nature Becomes Dangerous

The ocean is home to a huge variety of **marine life**, including fish, turtles and plants. Places such as a **coral reef** are especially important because many species live there.

Weather can also affect people's lives. A **weather forecast** may warn communities about heavy rain, strong winds or an approaching storm.

Sometimes extreme weather leads to a **natural disaster** such as a flood or a drought. These events can **damage property** and make daily life difficult.

After a disaster, **emergency services** help people stay safe. Communities also need time, money and support to **recover from a disaster**.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. Why are coral reefs important?

2. How can a weather forecast help communities?

3. What problems can natural disasters cause?

4. What may communities need after a disaster?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'drought' mean?

- A. A long period with little or no rain
- B. A sudden public celebration
- C. A small sea animal
- D. A type of online message

What is the writer's main idea?

- A. Nature can be beautiful and useful, but it can also be dangerous.
- B. Weather forecasts are never helpful.
- C. Oceans do not support life.
- D. Communities recover immediately after disasters.

7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe one type of extreme weather or natural disaster.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: How can communities prepare for natural disasters?
Writing	Write a short paragraph explaining why oceans should be protected.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- What natural disasters can happen in your country?
- How can people protect marine life?
- Why are weather forecasts useful?
- What should families do before a storm?
- How can communities recover after a disaster?

**ANSWER KEY**

The Natural World

3. Match the meaning

1. c = plants and animals that live in the sea
2. e = a colourful underwater structure where many sea animals live
3. a = a prediction of what the weather will be like
4. f = a long period with little or no rain
5. b = a dangerous natural event that causes serious damage
6. d = organisations such as police, fire and medical teams

6. Check your understanding

1. Many species live there.
2. It can warn them about heavy rain, strong winds or storms.
3. They can damage property and make daily life difficult.
4. They may need time, money and support.

MCQ 1: A. A long period with little or no rain.

MCQ 2: A. Nature can be beautiful and useful, but it can also be dangerous.