

What A Relief?

Activity 1

Which one of the following words on the left is NOT usually used with the word in italics on the right?

1. destroyed	collapsed	trapped	<i>buildings</i>
2. blocked	devastated	crushed	<i>roads</i>
3. blocked	trapped	crushed	<i>under rubble</i>
4. the scale	the extent	the dimensions	<i>of the devastation</i>
5. destroyed	devastated	trapped	<i>city/area</i>
6. relief	salvage	save	<i>possessions</i>
7. relief	save	aid	<i>effort</i>
8. salvage	desperate	frustrated	<i>people</i>
9. urgently	desperately	hopelessly	<i>need</i>

Activity 2

Use the following questions to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. What difficulties are there in organizing an international relief effort in a disaster area?
2. What can be done to minimize these difficulties?
3. Who should be responsible for coordinating the relief effort in a disaster zone?
4. Why do you think it can take so long, in some cases, for aid to reach those in need?
5. Is it appropriate to send soldiers to disaster areas?
6. At what point should search and rescue teams stop looking for people trapped under rubble?
7. Is it appropriate for children orphaned by disaster to be adopted by people in other countries?
8. Who should be responsible for rebuilding the infrastructure of a disaster zone?
9. How long should the relief effort go on for after a disaster – weeks, months, years?

Activity 3

Use the following information to start a debate.

You are part of a team in charge of coordinating the relief effort for a disaster zone which suffered a major earthquake yesterday. You urgently need to send help to the devastated area. You have the following:

- medical supplies
- mattresses and blankets
- emergency shelters (tents)
- search and rescue teams
- surgeons
- clothes
- bulldozers, heavy-lifting equipment
- baby food, sterilizing equipment and nappies

You have three planes at your disposal. They can make only one return flight a day. You can only put one bullet point item on each plane which means you can only send three of the items on the list today.

Your group must reach an agreement about who/what to put on the planes today.

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Activity 4

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. Which person is not mentioned in the TP Homework?
a) F.D. Roosevelt b) Winston Churchill c) Stalin
2. The main headquarters of the United Nations is in which city?
a) New York b) San Francisco c) Los Angeles
3. How many permanent members of the UN Security Council are there?
a) 5 b) 6 c) 7
4. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 5

Who should be in charge of coordinating the relief effort in a disaster zone?

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

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