



Thunderstorm A storm with lightning, thunder, heavy rain and sometimes hail. Results from the uplift of air and moisture high in the troposphere

Tornadoes Form in the most severe thunderstorms. Fast rising air begins spinning, forming a funnel of air and moisture. As it rises it turns to the right due to the Coriolis effect. Travels at speeds of up to 100 km/hr

Flood: Excess of water from rain, rivers, or oceans that form over land and cannot soak up any more water.

1. **Broadside** – Cover a large land area: Seasonal, predictable floods
2. **Flash** –quick onset; difficult to predict

Drought: Occur whenever precipitation is very low over a long time period. Common in areas at or near 30° latitude (high pressure areas). eg. Dust Bowl of 1930's in the prairies

Hurricane, Typhoons and Tropical Cyclones

All are cyclones: massive high-energy low pressure systems which have resulted from the large amounts of energy from hot, tropical marine air masses spinning off of equatorial ocean areas.

The names are different due to the regions in which they are found.

- Hurricanes: eg. Atlantic Ocean
- Typhoons: eg. Pacific Ocean
- Tropical Cyclone: eg. Indian Ocean

Blizzards: Severe snow storms with strong winds (> 55 km/h) and low temperatures. Can develop when a warm moisture-laden air mass moves northward and meets a cold Arctic air mass, under a strong jet stream.

Ice Storms:

- Freezing rain that lasts for several hours
- Can occur when a warm air mass meets a cold air mass and the cold air mass pushes the warm one upward.
- The moisture in the warm condenses into clouds and ice crystals. As ice crystals fall through air mass they melt to form rain.
- The raindrops fall through cold air mass, cool and then freeze instantly when they hit a cold object on the ground

PART A: MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What causes lightning?
 - (A) thunder
 - (B) an electric discharge
 - (C) rising warm air
 - (D) air masses meeting
2. Which of the following is a rapidly spinning column of air that touches the ground?
 - (A) air mass
 - (B) thunder
 - (C) tornado
 - (D) hurricane

3. In an average year, more people die from this than from any other natural disaster.
- (A) lightning
 - (B) earthquakes
 - (C) tornadoes
 - (D) flash floods and flooding
4. Which of the following is the most destructive of all storms?
- (A) Tornado
 - (B) Hurricane
 - (C) Thunderstorm
 - (D) Blizzard
5. Last September, hurricane Gabriel dumped over 120 cm in a 6 hour period on St. John's. This is an example of ...
- (A) Broadside flood
 - (B) Drought
 - (C) Flash flood
 - (D) Drizzle
6. What type of major storm system originate in waters of the Indian Ocean and the area off Australia?
- (A) Hurricane
 - (B) Typhoon
 - (C) Tornado
 - (D) Tropical Cyclone
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8. What is NOT a possible danger of blizzards?
- (A) Poor driving conditions
 - (B) Avalanches
 - (C) Loss of electricity
 - (D) No school