

VOCABULARY: NATURAL DISASTERS

Text taken from Open Mind 2, Macmillan, 2010, p. 88.

Read the following text.

Natural disasters

Although our planet gives us life, it can also cause destruction. When the land we live on moves, **earthquakes** can destroy whole cities. An earthquake in China in 1556 killed more than 830,000 people. When rivers cause **floods**, large areas of fields and farmlands are often submerged in water. This means people cannot produce enough food to eat, and it leads to **famine**. A lot of rain can cause **landslides**, with devastating consequences for villages and towns located on hills or mountains of in valleys below. Too little water is also a serious problem. When almost no rain fell in parts of the U.S. in the early 1930s, the **drought** forced 2.5 million people to move to other places.