

The
Management
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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES/BACHELOR OF COMMERCE

BDS 317/UCU 107: DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 7TH APRIL 2026

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and, answer the questions that follow:

CYCLONE TEMPEST IN PORT CITY A

Port City A, a highly populated coastal area, experiences high social vulnerability due to densely packed, informal settlements situated near a major industrial zone. The city's current infrastructure plan, although recently updated, did not fully account for predicted sea-level rise and the likelihood of Category 4 storms. This region has a large population of elderly residents, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and undocumented migrant workers.

Three days ago, Cyclone Tempest made landfall unexpectedly quickly. The resultant storm surge breached inadequate seawalls and flooded large parts of the downtown area. Power grids failed, communications were intermittent, and several designated emergency shelters became inaccessible due to flooding. Local authorities struggled to establish an Incident Command System (ICS). Response efforts were hampered by poor situational awareness regarding the extent of the flooding and the location of high-priority vulnerable groups.

The disaster caused severe physical and economic impacts. Now, Phase III: Disaster Response is underway, transitioning into Phase IV: Disaster Recovery. Authorities are debating how to use the devastation as an opportunity for development initiatives and how to integrate community-based action plans moving forward.

Required:

- a)
 - i) Based on the scenario in this case, identify two essential strategies that should have been integrated into the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan concerning infrastructure planning. **(3 Marks)**
 - ii) For each strategy in (a i), explain its necessity in reducing Port City A's vulnerability. **(3 Marks)**
- b)
 - i) Identify three vulnerable groups specifically mentioned in the case scenario. **(3 Marks)**
 - ii) For each group in (bi), briefly describe a unique challenge they face during the immediate Response Phase of Cyclone Tempest. **(3 Marks)**

- c) During the initial hours of the disaster, local response efforts lacked situational awareness. Describe how two specific technologies namely Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) could be effectively utilized to monitor the disaster and improve the Response operations **(7 Marks)**
- d) As Port City A moves into the Recovery Phase, explain the rationale for adopting a Community-Based Approach for education and public awareness rather than relying solely on centralized government directives. Provide two specific actions that could be actively implemented within this approach **(6 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) There are two types of disasters, namely natural and man-made. Discuss with examples any five disaster category groups under natural disasters **(5 Marks)**
- b) Explain any five roles of media in disaster as used in the accident cases in Kenya. **(5 Marks)**
- c) Justify the martial law as a myth and give its three disadvantages to the society **(3 Marks)**
- d) Distinguish between the Response phase and the Recovery phase of disaster management **(2 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Provide five examples of tangible effects that a disaster can have on the economic environment. **(5 Marks)**
- b) Impacts of Flood disaster are many and have various results to countries development agenda , describe any five unpleasant impacts from such disasters occurring in Kenya **(5 Marks)**
- c) Mitigation phase of Disaster take many practical actions and forms which need to be understood beforehand. Explain any five of these actions **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Community participation is considered a critical element for sustainable disaster management efforts. Do you agree with this statement **(2 Marks)**
- b) Community-based approach of reducing disaster risks requires involvement of many stakeholders to work in collaboration and participatory manner, Describe any four such stakeholders you would work with, giving their role **(8 Marks)**
- c) Climate change and global warming disasters as evidenced in the world happening today are threatening our existence. Demonstrate any five ways how this is occurring **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) We have now nuclear plant in Kenya at Karen. Imagine you are the one conducting a public education and awareness initiative for the country, explain five ways how to store and safely handle hazardous materials **(5 Marks)**
- b) Technology advancement is becoming important in disaster management as it is with education and AI, argue five advantages of using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in disasters study **(5 Marks)**
- c) A country like Poland has areas where people are settled; areas with trees and forest and areas with farms activities well designated. Assess any five purpose of land use planning in any country in relation to disasters **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION SIX

- a) National disaster policy of Kenya was launched in March 2009 by state department for disaster management which has prepared various policies for implementation, describe any five factors to consider when defining a national disaster management policy **(5 Marks)**
- b) Disaster situations expose community to commonly communicable diseases categories, explain one disease for each of five categories **(5 Marks)**
- c) Disaster management cycle phases goes through: mitigation; preparedness; response; and recovery. Discuss any five disaster response emergency typical activities you would get engaged on **(5 Marks)**