

Causes & factors in wildfires, impacts & responses 3.1.5.5

Q1	<i>True or False?</i>	
A	All wildfires are ignited as a result of a natural cause.	
B	Dry, hot, windy weather provides the ideal conditions for a wildfire event.	
C	Global warming is forecast to make wildfire events more likely.	
D	Wildfires can jump across open space and ignite new fires some distance away.	
E	Some types of vegetation rely on wildfires for reproduction to take place.	

Q2	Match the correct term to the correct definition	
A	The act of reducing the severity of an event.	
B	A state of readiness in preparation for an event.	
C	The act of stopping something from happening.	
D	Where the local climate is calm as sinking air blows out of the area.	
E	The act of changing in order to cope with a new situation.	
Select from: Preparedness Mitigation Prevention Adaptation High pressure		

Q3	One sentence is incorrect in each of the explanations below. Identify the wrong one.	
A	High pressure systems cause very calm hot conditions over the summer months in many places. This focused heat on the ground creates conditions for a fire. Often, a cigarette butt will be discarded and this will be the main cause, and the subsequent wildfire will spread quickly. These fires are easy to contain.	
B	Fast spreading fires cause human fatalities with some trapped in their houses. Some are killed by burns with many overcome by the smoke associated with the fires. Agricultural land is also burnt, but most livestock will survive, having evacuated the area as they are sensitive to first signs of smoke.	
C	Fires spread quickly, particularly in dense forested areas. They can crawl through low lying shrubbery and can spread underground through brush fuel. When fires reach gaps between trees, for example, road networks, this acts as a boundary and will restrict the spread of a fire to a larger area.	
D	There are many methods that can be used to control and extinguish a wildfire. These include using a fire retardant dropped from a helicopter or plane. Also, constructing a fire break to act as a barrier that is wide enough to avoid windblown cinders. The fire retardant is particularly effective and all countries at risk of wildfires use this method a lot.	
E	Global warming is likely to increase the likelihood of future forest fires in certain areas where these hazards already exist. This is purely down to a reduction in rainfall, leaving vegetation drier and hotter weather. It may extend wildfire risk to new areas that haven't been at risk before.	

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Q4	<i>Decide which heading the various wildfire impacts match with:</i>	
	<i>Primary impacts</i>	<i>Secondary impacts</i>
	Human deaths	Tourism losses to area
	Psychological impact on people	Businesses remain closed
	Property destruction	Atmospheric CO2 increase
		Water catchment contamination
		Crop destruction
		Habitat destruction

Q5	<i>Think about the short and long-term responses to wildfires</i>
A	Short term responses:
B	Long term responses: