

DISASTER TRIVIA

ABOUT:

On September 20, 2011, the NYC Citizen Corps Council hosted the inaugural Disaster Trivia Night at Water Street Restaurant in Dumbo, Brooklyn.

In celebration of National Preparedness Month, Disaster Trivia Night provided a forum for people to come together and test their knowledge about emergencies. Unlike traditional preparedness education, trivia is an interactive resource for engaging groups, organization leaders, volunteers, and employees.

ROUNDS:

1. Disaster History
2. Entertainment & Media
3. Stats & Facts
4. Faces in Disaster
5. Lifesaver Round: Disaster Songs

DISCREPENCIES:

Any disputes in rules, questions, or answers should be settled by the trivia host.

**ROUND ONE
DISASTER HISTORY (23 POINTS)**

1. On March 18, 1925 the deadliest tornado in U.S. history hit, leaving a track of over 200 miles. What was the name of the tornado? Name the three states involved. (4 points)

Name of tornado: Tri-State Tornado

Three states involved: Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana.

2. At 5:12 am on Wednesday, April 18, 1906 an estimated 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck San Francisco. It ruptured along the San Andreas Fault for a total of 296 miles. Fearing the vaults might spontaneously combust, nearly all of the major banks operating in the city were required to wait 7 to 10 days for cooling time to open their vaults. What major bank, current or former name, was able to provide liquidity in the immediate aftermath of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake? (1 point)

Bank of America

The Bank of Italy, as it was known until 1929, was able to evacuate its funds. Amedeo Peter Giannini, owner of the Bank of Italy, also financed two ships to deliver lumber from Oregon and Washington. This facilitated the city's initial reconstruction efforts.

3. In 79 A.D. Mount Vesuvius erupted and destroyed the city of Pompeii. Most residents of Pompeii spoke what language? (1 point)

Latin

4. Number the following 1900s disasters in order of occurrence. (3 points)

 3 Tangshan earthquake – July 28, 1976
 2 Dustbowl – 1930 -1936
 1 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire – March 25, 1911

5. Number the following 1980s disasters in order of occurrence. (3 points)

 2 Kansas City walkway collapse – July 17, 1981
The walkway in the Hyatt Regency hotel in Kansas City, Missouri collapsed, leaving 114 people dead.

 1 Mount St. Helens eruption – May 18, 1980
An eruption column rose 80,000 feet into the atmosphere and deposited ash in 11 U.S. states. The eruption was the only significant one to occur in the adjacent 48 states since the 1915 eruption of Lassen Peak in California.

 3 Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster – April 26, 1986

Reactor number four at the Chernobyl plant experienced a sudden power surge which led to a series of explosions. Highly radioactive smoke fallout entered the atmosphere in the city of Prypiat, near the borders of Belarus and Dnieper River.

6. Number the following recent disasters in order of occurrence. (3 points)

- 2 Queensland floods in Australia – December 2010 - January 2011
3 Haiti earthquake – January 12, 2010
1 South Asian earthquake and tsunami – December 26, 2004

7. The deadliest forest fire in U.S. history occurred near Peshtigo, Wisconsin on October 8, 1871. As many as 2,500 people died and approximately 1,875 square miles of forest burned. What other U.S. disaster also occurred on this date? (1 point)

The Great Chicago Fire

8. Sixty-seven percent of Americans refuse to evacuate without their pets in an emergency. What law requires the authorities to include pets in the evacuation plan? After what major event was this law passed? (2 points)

Law: The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006
Major Event: Hurricane Katrina

It ensures that State and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency. The PETS Act authorizes FEMA to provide rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs for individuals with household pets and service animals, and to the household pets and animals themselves following a major disaster or emergency.

9. The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire was one of the worst industrial disasters in NYC history. At the time, the place was called the Asch Building. What is the name of this building today, and who owns it? (2 points)

Building: The Brown Building
Owner: New York University

10. Name the three Category Five Hurricanes that have made landfall in the United States. (3 points)

Labor Day Hurricane – Bahamas/Florida Keys/Big Bend in September, 1935
 Hurricane Camille – Mississippi Gulf Coast in August, 1969
 Hurricane Andrew – South Florida in August, 1992

**ROUND TWO
ENTERTAINMENT AND MEDIA (29 POINTS)**

1. **The 1930's Dust Bowl was characterized by severe drought and devastating dust storms. What is the name of the Pulitzer Prize winning novel that follows a poor family of Oklahoma sharecroppers on their journey toward California during this period? Who is the author? (2 points)**

Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

2. **In 1898 (14 years prior to the Titanic tragedy), a novel was published about the largest ship ever built. The author details the ship hitting an iceberg in the Atlantic Ocean on a cold April night. The fictional ship (named Titan) and the real ship Titanic were similar in design and circumstance. Name the title and author of this book. (2 points)**

Futility by Morgan Robertson

3. **Immediately following the Japanese earthquake in March 2011, what was the percent increase of tweets from Japan? (1 point)**

500%

4. **The Loma Prieta earthquake struck on October 17, 1989 at 5:04 PM. Game 3 of the World Series was scheduled to start at 5:35 and broadcasted live on ABC.**

Name the two teams playing in the game. Which team won? (3 Points)

San Francisco Giants and Oakland Athletics

The Oakland Athletics won, sweeping the San Francisco Giants in four games.

How many days was the World Series game delayed when the Loma Prieta earthquake hit San Francisco Bay Area on October 17, 1989? (1 point)

10 days

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, before Ted Koppel began anchoring news coverage from Washington, DC, what two television shows ran on ABC? (2 Points)

Roseanne and *The Wonder Years*

5. **What local newspaper continued to report during Hurricane Katrina, posting PDFs of the August 30, August 31, and September 1, 2005 editions online? After finally evacuating on August 30 the staff operated from what city? (2 Points)**

Newspaper: The Times-Picayune

City: Baton Rouge

6. What 2011 thriller received support from the Centers for Disease Control? The movie was partially filmed at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Headquarters in what city? (2 Points)

Movie: *Contagion*

City: Atlanta, GA (at the CDC)

7. What Academy Award-winning actress and producer donated \$1 million to the American Red Cross following 9/11, the 2004 tsunami, the 2010 Haiti earthquake, and the 2011 Japan earthquake? (1 Point)

Sandra Bullock

8. PICTURE: On July 20, 1992, this professional World Wrestling Federation (WWF) Tag Team won the WWF Tag Team Championship? What were their respective stage names? (3 Points)

The Natural Disasters were a WWF team between 1991 and 1993, composed of Earthquake (John Tenta) and Typhoon (Fred Ottman).

9. What American actor, film director, screenwriter, and two-time Academy Award winner founded the J/P Haitian Relief Organization (HRO)? (1 Point)

Sean Penn

He founded the J/P HRO after the January 12, 2010 earthquake. JP HRO conducts camp management, medical, rubble removal, and cholera response operations in Haiti.

10. Using the following New York Times headlines, name the disaster and identify the year it occurred. (½ point for disaster name, ½ point for year, total of 5 points)

“POWER FAILURE ... THOUSANDS TRAPPED IN THE SUBWAYS; LOOTERS AND VANDALS HIT SOME AREAS”

New York City Blackout, July 1977

“LARGEST U.S. TANKER SPILL SPEWS 270,000 BARRELS OF OIL ...”

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, March 1989

“TRAPPED 68 DAYS, TASTE FREEDOM”

Mining accident in Chile, October 2010

“WEEK OF SWELTER LEAVES AN OVERFLOWING MORGUE ... THE CITY DIDN'T WORK”

Chicago heat wave, July 1995

“ASH TURNS ROUTINE FLIGHTS INTO OVERLAND ODYSSEYS”

Volcanic eruption in Iceland, April 2010

11. On January 22, 2010, MTV Networks released a live album to benefit relief organizations following the 7.0 magnitude earthquake in Haiti. The album became the biggest one-day pre-order in iTunes history and the first digital-only album to top the Billboard 200 album chart. What is the name of the album? What female recording artist performed Stephen Foster’s “Hard Times Come Again No More,” featuring The Roots for the album? (2 points)

Album: *Hope for Haiti Now*

Artist: Mary J. Blige

12. The 2000 dramatic disaster film, *The Perfect Storm*, is an adaptation of the 1997 book written by what award-winning author, documentarian and journalist? Who directed the film? (2 Points)

Author: Sebastian Junger

Director: Wolfgang Peterson

**ROUND THREE
STATS AND FACTS (25 POINTS)**

1. **The RMS Titanic hit an iceberg in the late evening on April 14, 1912 and sank the following morning. (3 points)**

To the nearest fifty, how many passengers (including crew members) were aboard the Titanic?

2,228

To the nearest fifty, how many lifeboat seats were aboard the Titanic?

1,178

To the nearest fifty dollars, what was the price of a single first-class passage?

\$4,700

BACKGROUND: The 1894 law requiring ships over 10,000 tons to have a minimum of 16 lifeboats aboard, had not been updated to reflect the increase in ship size. In fact, the 46,328 ton Titanic exceeded the 1894 regulations with an addition four collapsible lifeboats. This was only one third of the ships total capacity of 3,547. Of the 2,228 passengers and crew members, only 705 survived and were rescued by the RMS Carpathia, arriving in New York on April 18, 1912.

2. **On March 28, 1964, the largest recorded earthquake hit. What magnitude was the earthquake? What state/territory did the earthquake hit? (2 points)**

Magnitude: 9.2

Location: Prince William Sound, Alaska

3. **True or False: The Richter scale is not used to express damage? (1 point)**

True

The Richter magnitude scale was developed in 1935 by Charles F. Richter of the California Institute of Technology as a mathematical device to compare the size of earthquakes. The magnitude of an earthquake is determined from the logarithm of the amplitude of waves recorded by seismographs. An earthquake in a densely populated area which results in many deaths and considerable damage may have the same magnitude as a shock in a remote area. Large-magnitude earthquakes that occur beneath the oceans may not even be felt by humans.

4. **In September 1989, Hurricane Hugo struck five Caribbean islands before making landfall at Category 4 in what U.S. state? (1 point)**

South Carolina

Hurricane Hugo left 34 fatalities in the Caribbean and 27 in South Carolina. The hurricane caused \$7 billion in damaged within the United States mainland, making it the costliest hurricane in American history at that time.

5. **What is the name of the Category 5 hurricane that surpassed Hurricane Hugo's record as the costliest hurricane three years later? To the nearest five billion dollars, what was the cost of the damage? (2 points)**

Hurricane: Hurricane Andrew

Cost: \$26.5 billion

6. **Today, the World Meteorological Organization maintains the lists of Atlantic hurricane names. They have six lists which are reused every six years. From time to time a name that characterizes a particularly destructive storm is retired. List 10 names of Atlantic storms that were retired within the last 10 years. (Each correct name is worth ½ point, Total of 5 points)**

Alison (2001)	Ivan (2004)
Charley (2003)	Jeanne (2004)
Dean (2007)	Juan (2003)
Dennis (2004)	Katrina (2005)
Fabian (2003)	Lili (2002)
Felix (2007)	Michel (2001)
Frances (2004)	Noel (2007)
Gustav (2008)	Paloma (2008)
Igor (2010)	Rita (2005)
Ike (2008)	Stan (2005)
Iris (2001)	Tomas (2010)
Isabel (2003)	Wilma (2005)
Isidor (2002)	

7. **Name the two former presidents who traveled to Indonesia, Thailand and Sri Lanka two weeks after the tsunami hit southern Asia in 2004 to tour the devastation and assure that more aid would arrive. (2 Points)**

President George H.W. Bush and President Bill Clinton

8. **An undersea earthquake struck this country on May 31, 1970. The earthquake destabilized the northern wall of Mount Huascarán and caused a rock, ice and snow avalanche to bury the towns of Yungay and Ranrachirca. Approximately 74,000 people died, 25,600 went missing and 143,300 were injured. This is the worst recorded catastrophic natural disaster for what country? (1 point)**

Peru

9. **According to the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), between 1980 and 2010, which US states had the least costly weather-related catastrophes? (2 points)**

Hawaii and Alaska

The states with the most weather-related disasters topping more than \$1 billion are Texas, Missouri, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and South Carolina, which each had at least 31 expensive events in the past 30 years.

- 10. One of the worst nuclear accidents in U.S. history took place on March 28, 1979 at the Three Mile Island plant in Pennsylvania. Which two companies owned and operated the plant? (2 points)**

General Public Utilities and Metropolitan Edison

- 11. At what wind speed does a tropical storm become a hurricane? (1 point)**

74 mph

- 12. What two other names are synonyms for a hurricane? (2 points)**

Cyclones when they form over the Bay of Bengal and the northern Indian Ocean.
Typhoons when they develop in the western Pacific.

- 13. What is the most common natural disaster in the world? (1 point)**

Flooding

ROUND FOUR
FACES IN DISASTER (34 POINTS)

1. On May 6, 1937, German passenger airship LZ 129 Hindenburg caught fire while attempting to dock at Lakehurst Naval Air Station. Thirty-six of the 97 people aboard died. An American radio reporter and engineer were assigned by station WLS in Chicago to cover the arrival of the airship for a delayed broadcast. What are the names of the American radio reporter and engineer? For the 1937 season, operators of the Hindenburg contracted with an airline to shuttle passengers from Lakehurst to Newark to catch connecting flights. Name the airline. (3 points)

Reporter: Herbert Morrison
Engineer: Charlie Nehlsen
Airline: American Airlines

2. This 1974 disaster film won an Academy Award for Best Sound and a Special Achievement Award for Visual Effects. Name the Mark Robson directed film and three actors who starred alongside Charlton Heston. (4 points).

Film: *Earthquake*

Actors: George Kennedy, Lorne Greene, Genevieve Bujold, Richard Roundtree, Marjoe Gortner, Barry Sullivan, Lloyd Nolan, Victoria Principal, Monica Lewis, Walter Matthau.

3. Johnstown Flood, also referred to as the Great Flood of 1889, left over 2,200 people dead. The failure of the South Fork Dam, located 14 miles upstream of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, unleashed 20 million tons of water. What organization handled the disaster relief efforts? What is the name of the teacher, nurse, and humanitarian remembered for founding and leading this organization? (2 points)

Organization: American Red Cross
Founder: Clara Barton

4. What is the name of the Chilean miner who survived the 2010 Copiapó mining accident and finished the ING New York City marathon on November 7, 2010? To the nearest half hour, what was his time? (2 points)

Chilean Miner: Edison Pena
Time: 5 hours, 40 minutes and 51 seconds

5. A devastating epidemic hit Athens, Greece during the second year of the Peloponnesian War. In the book, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, what Greek historian and Athenian general details the coming of the disease, disappearance of social mores, and its impact on social and religious behavior? According to this historian, the epidemic originated in what empire? What is the present-day name of the country? (3 points)

Greek Historian: Thucydides
Empire: Aksum
Present-day Country: Ethiopia

His writings detail the social consequences of the epidemic and his experience having contracted and survived the plague.

6. **President Carter issued Executive Order 12127 on April 1, 1979 to merge separate disaster-related responsibilities into what government agency? Who was named the agency's first Senate-confirmed director? (2 points)**

Gov. Agency: FEMA
Director: John Macy (served as director of FEMA until 1981)

7. **In 2006, this journalist, author and television personality published a memoir detailing his life and work in Africa, Sri Lanka, Iraq and Louisiana. Name the author and title of the book. (2 points)**

Dispatches from the Edge by Anderson Cooper

8. **Many celebrities took to twitter following the earthquake in Haiti and earthquake and tsunami in Japan. For each tweet, name the celebrity. (4 points)**

"Curveball; Warlock edict; pain & devastation in Japan demands us all to dig deep & LOVE THEM VIOLENTLY Dogspeed my cadres of the Far East! c"

Charlie Sheen

"Grateful to confirm that all friends & relatives, including those near epicenter, are safe and accounted for. #TodayWeAreAllJapanese"

George Takei

"#prayforjapan times like this we gotta stick together, real talk. God bless everyone affected by the earthquake & #tsunami"

Dave Chapelle

"I am on my way to the DR to get to Haiti Please urge your councilmen governors etc we need a state of emergency for Haiti"

Wyclef Jean

9. **Roger Corman produced this 1978 disaster film. Name the title of the movie and 2 cast members who starred in the film alongside Mia Farrow. (3 points)**

Movie: *Avalanche*
Cast Members: Jerry Douglas, Robert Forster, Steve Franken, Rock Hudson, Rick Moses, Jeanette Nolan, Cathy Paine, and Barry Primus.

10. **US Airways Flight 1549 made an emergency landing on January 15, 2009. All 155 people aboard the flight bound for Charlotte, North Carolina survived. Name the pilot in command and first officer who successfully landed the plane. (2 points)**

Pilot: Capt. Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger

First officer: Jeffrey B. Skiles

They successfully landed the plane in the Hudson River six minutes after taking off from LaGuardia Airport.

11. **What is the name of the German filmmaker who directed *Independence Day* (1996), *Godzilla* (1998), and *The Day After Tomorrow* (2004)? He announced that this 2009 film will be his last about disasters. Name the 2009 disaster film, the filmmaker, and three actors starring in the film. (5 points)**

Director: Roland Emmerich

Film: *2012*

Actors: John Cusack, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Amanda Peet, Oliver Platt, Thandie Newton, Danny Glover, and Woody Harrelson.

13. **On December 2 and 3, 1984, gas and other chemicals leaked from an American-owned Union Carbide India Limited pesticide plant. The gas and chemicals released into the air killed an estimated 3,800 people. Hundreds of thousands of people were exposed. Thousands of people suffered from temporary and permanently disabling injuries. The city has been the center of protests and campaigns. Civil and criminal cases are pending in the U.S. and India, including an arrest warrant for the former CEO of Union Carbide. In what city did this industrial catastrophe occur? What is the name of the former CEO of Union Carbide? (2 points)**

City: Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India

Former CEO: Warren Anderson

Warren Anderson was arrested by Indian authorities on December 7, 1984 under the charge of culpable homicide. After posting bail, Anderson flew back to the U.S. and refused to return to India. In 1998 an arrest warrant was issued and in 2003 the Indian government moved the U.S. to have Anderson extradited. The U.S. declined to extradite him, citing a lack of evidence. In New Delhi on June 7, 2010, eight former executives who worked at the plant were convicted of negligence. They were sentenced to two years in prison and fined 100,000 rupees, or \$2,100. Union Carbide paid a \$470 million settlement or \$550 to each victim.

**LIFE SAVER ROUND
DISASTER SONGS (31 POINTS)**

	Title	Artist
1.	<i>Cruel Summer</i>	Bananarama
2.	<i>Help</i>	Beatles
3.	<i>We are the World (for Haiti)</i>	Written by Lionel Richie and Michael Jackson (2 points)
4.	<i>Burning Down the House</i>	Talking Heads
5.	<i>Texas Flood</i>	Stevie Ray Vaughn
6.	<i>The Safety Dance</i>	Men Without Hats
7.	<i>Fix You</i>	Coldplay
8.	<i>The Irish Rover</i>	The Pogues & The Dubliners
9.	<i>Overcome</i>	Live
10.	<i>Ring of Fire</i>	Johnny Cash
11.	<i>We Didn't Start The Fire</i>	Billy Joel
12.	<i>Fire and Rain</i>	James Taylor
13.	<i>Under Pressure</i>	Queen
14.	<i>The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald</i>	Gordon Lightfoot
15.	<i>It's The End Of The World As We Know It</i>	REM