



## The Storm

# WE ARE NEW YORK

## Study Guide



**LEARN  
ENGLISH!**

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## Read

the story in the  
Study Guide.

## Watch

the show  
on TV.

## Learn

English  
with our stories.

### Acknowledgments

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# The Storm

**They were prepared for  
everything...**



**... except...**

**crack!**  **boom!**

**The Storm!**

# The Morning of the Picnic

Aku is going to the beach.  
Later on, she's going to meet her parents in the park for a picnic.



---

Aku leaves. Kojo is proud of his daughter!



# Kojo and Alberto

A couple of hours later...

Efie and Kojo's friends come over before the picnic.  
Kojo and his friend Alberto talk about boats.

You know what we need, Alberto? We need a boat, right here in New York City.

Beautiful, Alberto!



A fishing boat!

Then we wouldn't have to work **in** the restaurant. We could sell fish **to** the restaurant!



Or, maybe a tour boat.

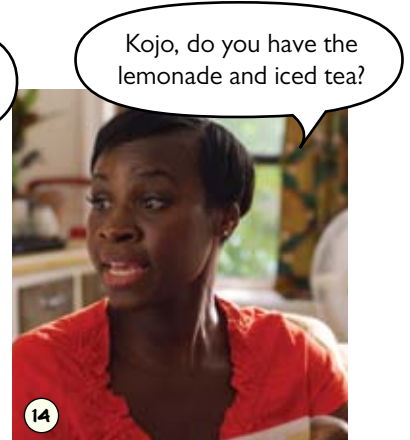


Exactly! We'll take tourists to the Statue of Liberty.



# Efie and Isabel

Efie and Isabel change the topic. They talk about the picnic.



They are all prepared.



# Weather Alert!

A warning about a serious storm comes on TV.



**The TV announcer says:** “An alert has been issued for a severe thunderstorm and possible tornado. These are very dangerous weather conditions. Stay indoors. Do not go outside.”

Efie and Isabel listen to the weather alert. Everyone is worried.

Flood warnings...  
Hazardous weather conditions...  
That doesn't sound good.



I'm worried about Aku.



I'm going to call her right now.

Aku's phone rings. Efie goes to get it. She realizes something...

ring  
ring  
ring



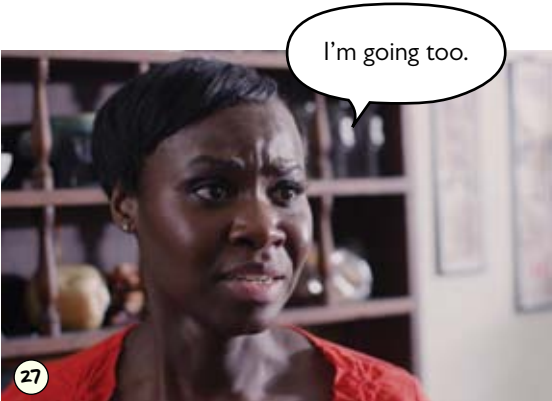
That's Aku's phone!



She left it home.  
She forgot it.

# The Storm Is Coming

What should they do?



---

Kojo and Alberto decide to go look for Aku.





# The Storm Is Here

The storm is worse than expected.  
Efie and Isabel are waiting. They are very worried.



What if power lines fall?

Where is she?

---

Efiya's phone rings. But the line goes dead...



Kojo? Kojo!



Nothing... The line went dead!

---

... and the power goes out.



No lights...



No power!

# Mrs. Chen

The doorbell rings. Efie jumps up. It's Mrs. Chen, a neighbor.



Mrs. Chen sits at the kitchen table with Efie and Isabel. They talk about preparing for emergencies.



---

**They talk about getting ready.**



---

**Efie remembers some information about getting ready for emergencies. Aku brought it home from school.**



## A Few Months Ago



What's this?

Some information they gave us in school about getting ready for emergencies... Go Bags, meeting places.



In a Go Bag, you need copies of important documents, phone numbers and addresses of family and friends, a flashlight, bottled water...



## Back to the Present...

Aku is still missing.



Why did I let her go?



It's not your fault. You didn't know there would be a terrible storm like this.



I'm so glad I'm not alone. I don't know what I'd do without you.



We're all in the same boat, together!

# Kojo and Alberto Return

But where is Aku?



What happened?!  
Where is she?

There was too much  
wind and rain.  
Huge branches were  
breaking off the trees.

Things were blowing  
everywhere.  
It's terrible out there.



Where is  
Alberto?



There are two kids stuck  
in the elevator. Alberto is  
talking to them right now  
while the super gets help.



Stuck in an elevator?  
Don't they know...  
You never get in an elevator  
in an emergency!

---

Isabel runs out to help. Kojo hugs Efi.



# The Storm Is Over



The trees aren't moving.  
The rain has stopped.



Look at all that  
water in the street!



It's going to be dark soon.  
Where is my child?

Suddenly, the phone rings. It's Aku!



Hello?  
Oh! Where  
are you?



Are you okay?

# Aku Is Home!

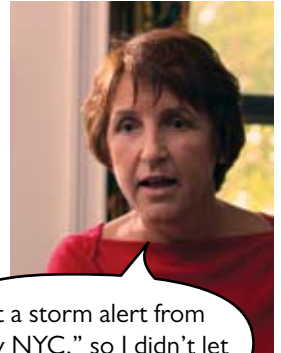
Aku's friend's mother brings Aku home.



69



70



I got a storm alert from "Notify NYC," so I didn't let the kids go outside.

So when you heard there was a storm coming, you never left for the beach?



72



73

Right. We "sheltered in place," just like they said in school.

It's not too late to have a picnic... indoors!



74

What about our picnic?



75

It's still wet outside.



76

We can spread a blanket right here on the floor.



77

Yes, Aku's home, and our friends are all here!

## Who We Are

Complete the sentences. Follow the example.

Isabel • Kojo • Alberto • Aku • Mrs. Chen • ~~Efie~~



1. I'm Efie. I am Aku's mother. Kojo is my husband. Together, we organized a picnic with our friends. We made a checklist of things to bring. We are very prepared!

2. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
I am Aku's father. I'm very proud of her. She's just like me—born to swim, born to fish!



3. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
This morning I'm going to the beach. In the afternoon, I'm going to the park. I'm meeting my parents there for a picnic. It's an action-packed summer day.







4. **My name is** \_\_\_\_\_ .

I made empanadas for the picnic. Efie made jollof rice. My husband made a cake. We have a lot of food. I can't wait for the picnic!

5. **My name is** \_\_\_\_\_ .

It's true... I made a cake, but now we may have to cancel the picnic. There's an emergency weather alert. It sounds serious!



6. **My name is** \_\_\_\_\_ .

I live in the same building as Efie, Kojo and Aku. When there's an emergency, I check on my neighbors. We're all in the same boat, together!



**Here are some other characters in *The Storm*.  
Watch the show and meet them.**

**I'm going to  
be a mother!**



**I'm going to  
be a father!**



**I am the  
mother of  
Aku's friend.**

# What Happens?

Read the story on pages 1–12.  
Then complete the sentences. Follow the example.

boats • beach • picnic

1. Aku says goodbye to her parents and leaves for the beach.
2. Kojo and his friend Alberto talk about \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Efe and her friend Isabel talk about the \_\_\_\_\_.

Stay indoors • rings • worried about  
storm alert • find • returns

4. Suddenly, there's a \_\_\_\_\_ on TV.
5. The alert says, "\_\_\_\_\_. Do not go outside."
6. Efe and Kojo are \_\_\_\_\_ Aku. She was going to the beach.
7. They try to call Aku, but her phone \_\_\_\_\_ in the bedroom. She forgot it!
8. Kojo and Alberto go to \_\_\_\_\_ her.
9. Efe and Isabel stay home in case Aku \_\_\_\_\_.

terrible • line • nervous • power

10. The storm is \_\_\_\_\_. It's worse than expected.
11. Efe and Isabel are waiting. They are very \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Efe's phone rings. It's Kojo. But the \_\_\_\_\_ goes dead.
13. Then the \_\_\_\_\_ goes out.

**comfort • alone • boat • information • getting ready**

14. A neighbor named Mrs. Chen comes over and the women talk about \_\_\_\_\_ for emergencies.
15. Efe remembers some \_\_\_\_\_ that Aku gave her about preparing for emergencies.
16. The women \_\_\_\_\_ each other.
17. Efe says, "I'm so glad I'm not \_\_\_\_\_."
18. Mrs. Chen says, "We're all in the same \_\_\_\_\_, together!"

**call • without • picnic • warning • dark • missing**

19. Kojo returns, but \_\_\_\_\_ Aku. He never got to the beach. There was too much wind and rain.
20. Finally, the storm ends, but Aku is still \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The sun is setting. It's going to be \_\_\_\_\_ soon.
22. Then, there's a phone \_\_\_\_\_.
23. It's Aku. She's okay. She didn't go to the beach. She heard the \_\_\_\_\_ about the storm.
24. When Aku comes home, they have the \_\_\_\_\_ on the floor in the apartment.

# Where Is It?

**Find these things in the story.  
Write the page number(s). Follow the example.**



- 1. Kojo's boat page 1
- 2. Alberto's boat \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. The Statue of Liberty \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. electric fan \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Severe Weather Alert \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. radio \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Aku's cell phone \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. lightning bolt \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. flashlight \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Ready New York booklet \_\_\_\_\_

# Talking about Weather Emergencies

Find the meaning. Follow the example.

- |                             |                     |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. <del>weather alert</del> | 5. Go Bag           | 9. Notify NYC |
| 2. hazardous                | 6. meeting place    | 10. blackout  |
| 3. a flood                  | 7. evacuate         | 11. hurricane |
| 4. emergency                | 8. shelter in place | 12. tornado   |

\_\_\_\_\_ water covering the streets or ground

\_\_\_\_\_ to leave a dangerous place in an emergency

\_\_\_\_\_ a serious or dangerous situation that requires action

\_\_\_\_\_ a very dangerous storm that starts in the sea, with very strong winds (over 74 miles per hour) and heavy rain

\_\_\_\_\_ a free system to get alerts by text message or email

\_\_\_\_\_ a bag with things you need in case you have to evacuate

\_\_\_\_\_ when the electrical power goes out in a large area

\_\_\_\_\_ a fast-moving cloud that spins around and can knock down trees, turn over cars and destroy buildings

\_\_\_\_\_ to stay where you are and not go outside in an emergency

1 \_\_\_\_\_ a warning about dangerous weather conditions

\_\_\_\_\_ a place to meet your family in case you are separated in an emergency

\_\_\_\_\_ dangerous

# Talking about Emergencies with Mrs. Chen

**Complete the sentences. Follow the example.**

- **containers**
- **prepared**
- **flushing**
- **fill**
- **batteries**
- **flashlights**
- ~~**in case**~~
- **hurricane**



**Mrs. Chen:** Okay. What can we do to be ready when they come back? First of all, do you have water?

**Efie:** Water...

**Mrs. Chen:** Yes, it's good to have some (1) in case the water shuts off. Do you have any empty (2) \_\_\_\_\_?

**Isabel:** And maybe we should (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the bathtub. My mother always did that. Every time we had a big storm back home, she'd fill up the tub. For washing, for (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the toilet.

**Mrs. Chen:** And what about (5) \_\_\_\_\_? And extra batteries?

**Efie:** Yes, my husband keeps extra (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in the refrigerator. He says they last longer.

**Mrs. Chen:** Very prepared. A wise man.

**Isabel:** When there was that big (7) \_\_\_\_\_, I bought extra food and water. I got ready. But this storm was so sudden. There was no time!

**Mrs. Chen:** It pays to get ready, to be (8) \_\_\_\_\_ all the time. Every storm is different!

# Talking about Emergencies

## with Aku

Complete the sentences. Follow the example.



ready • important • emergencies  
water • ~~information~~ • evacuate

**Efie:** What's this?

**Aku:** Oh, just some (1) information they gave us about getting  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ for (3) \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Go Bags, meeting places.

**Efie:** Go Bags?

**Aku:** Yeah, a Go Bag... A bag of stuff you need in case you have to  
(4) \_\_\_\_\_. Look in the book.

**Efie:** Copies of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ documents, addresses and phone  
numbers of family and friends, bottled (6) \_\_\_\_\_,  
a flashlight, and a change of clothes.

# Good Question!

The family and friends are talking about getting ready for emergencies. They ask each other questions to get ready. Follow the example.

Do you have extra water in case of an emergency?

Did you buy a flashlight and batteries?

Do you have copies of our important documents in a safe place?

Do you have Efie's and Kojo's telephone numbers?

Did you sign up for "Notify NYC"?

Do you know where we should meet in case we are separated?

1. You are **Mrs. Chen**. Ask your neighbors if they have stored some water in case the water shuts off.

Do you have extra water in case of an emergency?

2. You are **Efie**. Ask your daughter if she knows where to meet the family in case of an emergency.

---

3. You are **Kojo**. Ask your wife if she has copies of the family's important documents in a safe place.

---

4. You are **Aku**. Ask your mom and dad if they have the free service to get text or email message alerts about emergencies.

---

5. You are **Isabel**. Ask your husband if he is prepared in case of a blackout.

---

6. You are **Alberto**. Ask your wife if she has contact information for friends who can help in case of an emergency.

---



# What Can You Say?

What can you say? Follow the example.

1. You are **a meteorologist**. Tell people not to go outside in dangerous weather.

Stay indoors.

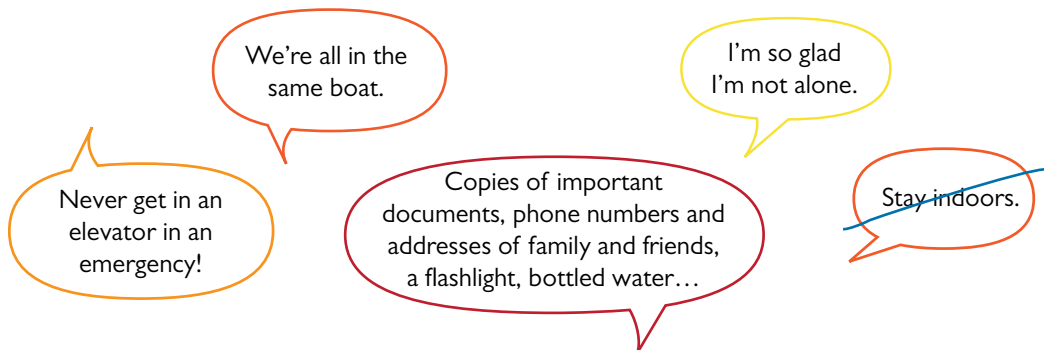
2. You are **Isabel**. Give advice about leaving a high-rise building in an emergency.

3. You are **Aku**. Tell your mom what to put in a Go Bag.

4. You are **Efie**. You are very glad that you are not by yourself.

5. You are **Mrs. Chen**. Say that everyone is in the same situation.

**Say the words out loud—like actors on TV!**



**meteorologist** = weatherperson

# What Can You Do?

Match the problem with the solution. Follow the example.

## Problem

1. You think you live in a hurricane evacuation zone but are not sure.

2. You don't have an emergency plan.

3. You live on a high floor and can't go down stairs easily.

4. You don't know your neighbors.

5. You need to evacuate but you don't have a place to stay overnight.

## Solution

**A** • **Call 311.**  
 Say: *I need to evacuate and I don't have a place to stay overnight.*  
 Ask: *Where is the nearest shelter?*

**B** • **Introduce yourself to at least two neighbors.**  
 Say: *My name is... I live in...*

**C** • **Meet with family, friends or caregivers to make a plan.**  
 • **Get supplies for an emergency supply kit and a Go Bag.**  
 • **Call 311.**  
 Say: *Can I get information about getting ready for an emergency?*  
 • **Go to [www.nyc.gov/readyny/](http://www.nyc.gov/readyny/) to get information about making a plan.**

**D** • **Call 311 or go to [www.nyc.gov/hurricanezones](http://www.nyc.gov/hurricanezones) to find out about your zone.**

**E** • **In advance, find two people who can help move you in an emergency.**

# What's in Your Go Bag?

Match the words with the picture. Follow the example.

- |                       |                     |                            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| • bottled water       | • glasses           | • whistle                  |
| • flashlight          | • toothbrush        | • <del>first aid kit</del> |
| • radio               | • batteries         | • gloves                   |
| • important documents | • mask              | • toothpaste               |
| • notebook            | • My Emergency Plan | • snack                    |
| • money               |                     |                            |

(1) first aid kit

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

(6) \_\_\_\_\_

(7) \_\_\_\_\_

(8) \_\_\_\_\_

(9) \_\_\_\_\_

(10) \_\_\_\_\_

(11) \_\_\_\_\_

(12) \_\_\_\_\_

(13) \_\_\_\_\_

(14) \_\_\_\_\_

(15) \_\_\_\_\_

(16) \_\_\_\_\_

# Watch the Show

## Who says it?

Watch **The Storm**. Listen carefully. Find out who says these lines.

**Who says it?**

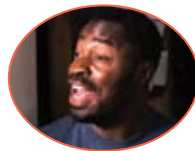
- 1. "New York City is surrounded by water!" \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. "There's not a cloud in the sky." \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. "If you're going out there to find Aku, I'm coming with you." \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. "This is no picnic, folks." \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. "I don't know what I would do without you." \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. "Let's call 311. They'll have some good information." \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. "I'm okay. I mean, we're okay!" \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. "Batteries, flashlight... check, check!" \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. "It's good to be prepared, to have a plan." \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. "For a picnic... Or for a storm." \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. "In New York City, in times like these, we are all in the same boat." \_\_\_\_\_



**Efi**



**Sumi**



**Kojo**



**Announcer**



**Alberto**



**Isabel**



**Mrs. Chen**

# Watch the Show

## What's going on?

What do you think is going on in these pictures?



Watch **WE ARE NEW YORK • The Storm**  
to find out what is going on.

Go to **[www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish](http://www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish)**.  
Or watch the show on TV.

# Tell the Story

Use these words to tell a friend about **The Storm**.



---

Find ten words related to emergencies.

- |    |     |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 6.  |
| 2. | 7.  |
| 3. | 8.  |
| 4. | 9.  |
| 5. | 10. |

---

Word picture: [www.wordle.net/](http://www.wordle.net/)

# What You Can Do To Get Ready for Emergencies

## Efe

**Make a plan.** Do it now! Talk to your family and friends about how to get ready. Write down names, addresses and telephone numbers of important people. Buy supplies. Make copies of important documents and keep them in a safe place!



## Kojo

**Choose a meeting place.** Know where you will meet family, friends or caregivers after an emergency in case you can't go home. Pick two places to meet: one outside your home and another outside your neighborhood.



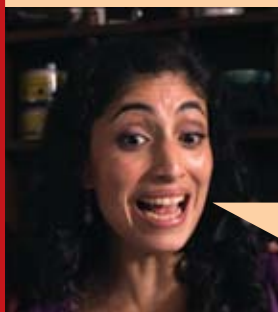
## Aku

**Pack a Go Bag.** Everyone should have a Go Bag—a bag of things you need in case you have to leave in a hurry—to evacuate. Look at the picture on page 24 to see what to put in your Go Bag.



## Isabel

**Put together an emergency supply kit.** In some emergencies you can't go outside to get what you need. You should keep enough food and water at home for at least three days. You should also have a flashlight and batteries. You need supplies for your health and for everyone in your family, too, including your pets!



## Alberto

**Get the information you need.** There are many kinds of emergencies—weather, fire, health and other kinds. Go to [www.nyc.gov/ReadyNY](http://www.nyc.gov/ReadyNY) to learn about each one. Sign up for “Notify NYC” to get alerts. Keep your phone charged. And get a radio with batteries in case the power goes out.



## Mrs. Chen

**Create an emergency support group.** You don't need to be alone in an emergency. Ask at least two people to be in your group: family, friends, neighbors, caregivers or coworkers. Remember, you will help each other in emergencies.



## BECOME A LEADER!

**Help your community prepare for an emergency.  
Join the New York City Citizen Corps Council  
and learn about volunteer opportunities and how you can help.  
Go to [NYC.gov/citizencorps](http://NYC.gov/citizencorps) or call 311 to find out more.**

# Dictionary: Translations of Key Words

English	Español	中文
1. an alert	una alerta	警报
2. a blackout	un apagón	停电
3. evacuate	evacuar	撤离
4. evacuation zone	zona de evacuación	疏散区
5. emergency	emergencia	紧急事故
6. flashlight and batteries	linterna y baterías o pilas	手电筒和电池
7. a flood	una inundación	洪水或水灾
8. get ready	prepararse	做好准备
9. hurricane	huracán	飓风
10. NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM)	Oficina para el Manejo de Emergencias de la Ciudad de Nueva York	纽约市应急管理办公室
11. a shelter	un refugio	避难所



Go to [www.nyc.gov/readyny](http://www.nyc.gov/readyny). Learn more about getting ready for emergencies.

Русский	বাংলা	العربية
тревога	সতর্কবার্তা	تحذير
отключение электроэнергии	বিদ্যুৎবিভ্রাট	إنقطاع التيار الكهربائي
эвакуироваться	স্থানান্তরিত করা	الإخلاء
зона эвакуации	দুর্যোগের সময় স্থানান্তর করতে হবে এমন এলাকা	منطقة الإخلاء
чрезвычайная ситуация	আপাতকালীন অবস্থা	طوارئ
фонарик и батарейки	টর্চ ও ব্যাটারী	المصباح الومضي والبطاريات
наводнение	বন্যা	الفيضان
приготовьтесь, подготовьтесь	প্রস্তুত থাকুন	إستعدّوا
ураган	ঘূর্ণিঝড়	الإعصار
Управление по чрезвычайным ситуациям г. Нью-Йорка	নিউ ইয়র্ক শহর অফিস অফ ইমার্জেন্সী ম্যানেজমেন্ট	مكتب إدارة الطوارئ بمدينة نيويورك
убежище	নিরাপদ আশ্রয়	ملجأ

# What You Can Do To Learn More English

- ✓ Get together with friends who are learning English, too. Watch **We Are New York** together. Do the exercises together.
- ✓ Read the story out loud with a friend—like actors on TV! It’s a good way to learn.
- ✓ Take a free English class. Call 311 to get information, or go to **www.nyc.gov/AdultEducation** to find a program near you.
- ✓ Go to your local public library. To find the nearest library, call 311 or go to **www.nypl.org**, **www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org** or **www.queenslibrary.org**.
- ✓ If you have a high school diploma and want to improve your English and start college, go to **www.clip.cuny.edu** or **www.cuny.edu**.
- ✓ Make a list of words and expressions you learned from **The Storm**.

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- ✓ Join a free conversation group to practice English and talk about preparing for emergencies and other important topics. For more information about where you can join a conversation group, go to the “We Are New York” website: **www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish**.

## Visit the **We Are New York** website:

- Read the Study Guides.
- Practice your English.
- Watch videos of all the episodes.
- Read about your favorite characters!

**www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish**



# Answers

## Pages 13-14 [Who We Are]

1. Efe
2. Kojo
3. Aku
4. Isabel
5. Alberto
6. Mrs. Chen

## Pages 15-16 [What Happens?]

1. beach
2. boats
3. picnic
4. storm alert
5. Stay indoors
6. worried about
7. rings
8. find
9. returns
10. terrible
11. nervous
12. line
13. power
14. getting ready
15. information
16. comfort
17. alone
18. boat
19. without
20. missing
21. dark
22. call
23. warning
24. picnic

## Page 17 [Where Is It?]

1. page 1
2. page 2
3. page 2
4. pages 3, 8, 9, 11
5. page 4
6. page 4
7. page 4
8. page 6
9. page 8
10. page 9

## Page 18 [Talking about Weather Emergencies]

1. a warning about dangerous conditions
2. dangerous
3. water covering the streets or ground
4. a serious or dangerous situation that requires action

5. a bag with things you need in case you have to evacuate
6. a place to meet your family in case you are separated in an emergency
7. to leave a dangerous place in an emergency
8. to stay where you are and not go outside in an emergency
9. a free system to get alerts by text message or email
10. when the electrical power goes out in a large area
11. a very dangerous storm that starts in the sea, with very strong winds (over 74 miles per hour) and heavy rain
12. a fast-moving cloud that spins around and can knock down trees, turn over cards and destroy buildings

## Page 19 [Talking about Emergencies with Mrs. Chen]

1. in case
2. containers
3. fill
4. flushing
5. flashlights
6. batteries
7. hurricane
8. prepared

## Page 20 [Talking about Emergencies with Aku]

1. information
2. ready
3. emergencies
4. evacuate
5. important
6. water

## Page 21 [Good Question]

1. Do you have extra water in case of an emergency?
2. Do you know where we should meet in case we are separated?
3. Do you have copies of our important documents in a safe place?
4. Did you sign up for "Notify NYC"?
5. Did you buy a flashlight and batteries?
6. Do you have Efe's and Kojo's telephone numbers?

## Page 22 [What Can You Say?]

1. Stay indoors.
2. Never get in an elevator in an emergency!
3. Copies of important documents, phone numbers and addresses of family and friends, a flashlight, bottled water...
4. I'm so glad I'm not alone.
5. We're all in the same boat.

## Page 23 [What Can You Do?]

1. D
2. C
3. E
4. B
5. A

## Page 24 [What's in Your Go Bag?]

1. first aid kit
2. glasses
3. notebook
4. important documents
5. money
6. My Emergency Plan
7. mask
8. gloves
9. radio
10. batteries
11. flashlight
12. whistle
13. bottled water
14. snack
15. toothpaste
16. toothbrush

## Page 25 [Watch the Show: Who Says It?]

1. Kojo
2. Alberto
3. Alberto
4. Announcer
5. Efe
6. Mrs. Chen
7. Sumi
8. Mrs. Chen
9. Efe
10. Isabel
11. Kojo

## Page 27 [Tell the Story]

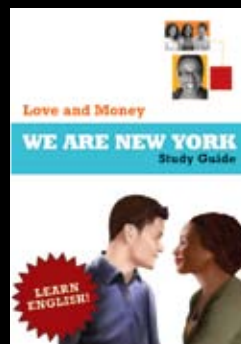
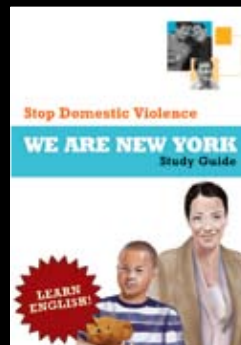
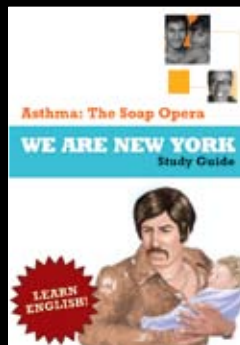
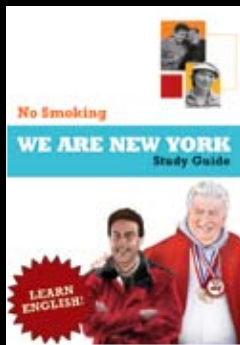
*There are other correct answers.*

**Emergency words:** safe, thunderstorm, blackout, fire, information, dangerous, 311, shelter, warning, batteries

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