

ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY

RESEARCH PAPER

Choose a natural disaster that occurred at some point in human history. You must have the topic approved by your professor by **Monday 26 January**. Only one person can write about each disaster. Basic requirements:

- Minimum 5 pages typed text, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font (this length does not include illustrations)
- Minimum 3 illustrations/diagrams/tables with proper in-text reference, figure captions, and citations. These illustrations should be placed after the text of your paper
- Sources must be correctly cited within the text following the Geological Society of America, MLA, or APA format.
- Minimum 5 references. Two must be either peer-reviewed journal articles or books other than your textbook. Websites must be from reputable organizations. None can be Wikipedia or any similar site. (Use of one of these sites as a reference will result in an automatic 10 point reduction in your grade).
- No more than two direct quotes from sources. Direct quotes are frowned upon in science writing

The research paper must include the following sections (you can include other sections if needed):

- Introduction: What disaster? When did it occur? Why is it notable?
- Background information: Show me you understand the generalities of the type of disaster chosen, *e.g.* where it typically occurs, what controls its occurrence, where the energy driving the disaster comes from
- Description of event chosen: Tell me all the specific information about the event you chose, *e.g.* what triggered it, was there any warning (if so, how was the disaster forecast), were there any secondary events triggered by the disaster, what was the loss of life and productivity, what mitigation efforts were there
- What was learned from this disaster? What can/ should/will people do as a result of the disaster (did it change anyone's perspective on things?) Include anything you think would be important to a summary and conclusion about your topic

In addition to the information presented in the text and illustrations of your paper, spelling, grammar, proper citations, and a proper works cited page will be included when grading the research paper.

*****PLAGIARISM WARNING*****

The Oxford English Dictionary defines plagiarism as, "the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own." It is important to remember that even if you write something in your own words, if it is not your original idea, the source of that idea must be cited. If you plagiarize your paper, you will earn a 0 on the assignment and will be reported for misconduct.

Need Help?

See your professor, our job is to help you.
You can also get help at The Write Place:
Building G, room G103
(936) 273-7055
TheWritePlace@lonestar.edu

Rough Draft due: 30 March 2015 (optional)

Final Copy due: 20 April 2015

An example of geologic writing:

The Kiirunavaara Mine (Figure 1) is an underground iron mine operated by Luossavaara-Kiirunavaara Aktiebolag (LKAB). The ore body is the largest known massive magnetite body (Meyer, 1988) and is the largest underground iron mine in the world (Ferrer-Coll et al., 2012). The mine is located in Norrbotten County in northern Sweden (Smith et al., 2013) at the city of Kiruna, which was founded in 1900 as a result of the mining operations in the area (Sievertsson, 2012).



Figure 1. Surface operations of the Kiirunavaara Mine. (Author photograph)

Commented [BNN1]: Notice how the author refers to the figures in the text of the paper.

Commented [BNN2]: Citations are critical in a paper. It is perfectly fine for there to be lots of them.

Commented [BNN3]: The figure is numbered and properly captioned. If this figure was not the author's, the source of the figure must be cited in the same manner as the in-text parenthetical citations.

References

- Ferrer-Col, J., Ängskog, P., Chilo, J., Stenumgaard, P., 2012, Characterisation of electromagnetic properties *in* iron-mine production tunnels: *Electronics Letters*, v. 48, p. 62-63.
- Meyer, C., 1988, Ore deposits as guides to geologic history of the earth: *Annual Reviews in Earth and Planetary Sciences*, v. 16, p. 147-171.
- Sievertsson, Y., 2012, Communities in transformation: *LKAB Magazine*, v. 2, p. 62-67.
- Smith, M.P., Gleeson, S.A., Yardley, B.W.D., 2013, Hydrothermal fluid evolution and metal transport in the Kiruna District, Sweden: Contrasting metal behaviour in aqueous and aqueous-carbonic brines: *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, v. 102, p. 89-112.

Commented [BNN4]: All sources cited in the text and figures must be properly documented. In a research paper, this should be on its own page.