**Article of the Week (Due \_2/3\_\_\_)**

***Which Would You Rather Face: Hurricane or Tornado?***

**Instructions: COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS AND MARGIN NOTES using the CLOSE reading strategies practiced in class. This requires reading of the article three times.**

**Step 1: Skim** the article using these symbols as you read:

 **(+)** agree, **(-)** disagree, **(\*)** important, **(!)** surprising, **(?)** wondering

**Step 2: Number** the paragraphs. **Read** the article **carefully** and **make notes in the margin**.

Notes should include:

* Comments that show that you **understand** the article. (A summary or statement of the main idea of important sections may serve this purpose.)
* Questions you have that show what you are **wondering** about as you read.
* Notes that differentiate between **fact** and **opinion**.
* Observations about how the **writer’s strategies** (organization, word choice, perspective, support) and choices affect the article.

**Step 3:** A **final quick read** noting anything you may have missed during the first two reads.

Your **margin notes** are part of your score for this assessment. Answer the questions carefully in **complete sentences** unless otherwise instructed.

**Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PALM BEACH, Fla. — Early one Saturday in August 1992, South Floridians discovered they had 48 hours to brace for, or flee, Andrew, which would become one of the nation’s most infamous hurricanes.

Oklahomans got all of 16 minutes warning before last week’s tornado. That was more time than most past twisters have allowed.

In a grim game of “choose your poison,” Floridians debate with their friends and family about which disaster they’d rather have.

Hurricanes have a lot of cons: sustained, devastating winds, vicious storm surges and damage over a wider area. But “they’re the one threat we can see coming,” said Craig Fugate, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Fugate was Florida’s emergency manager during 2004’s spate of storms.

Not Preparing Is Inexcusable

That advantage makes failing to prepare inexcusable, Fugate told the National Hurricane Conference in New Orleans in March. And yet studies have found that as many as two in three Florida residents say they have no plan for what they would do if a tropical storm threatens. That's even with the start of hurricane season on June 1.

Preparation helped only a little in Moore, Oklahoma, last Monday. According to a preliminary National Weather Service summary, Monday’s tornado was a top-end EF5. Its winds topped 200 to 210 miles per hour, and was 1.3 miles wide. It was tracked on the ground for 50 minutes — an eternity for a tornado — and its damage zone was more than 17 miles wide. EF is short for Enhanced Fujita Scale, which measures a tornado's wind speed and the damage it causes. The scale ranges from 1 to 5, with 5 being most powerful.

Oklahoma’s insurance commissioner has said damages could top those from last year’s Joplin, Missouri, tornado. That storm caused about $2 billion in damages.

The Minutes Can Feel Like Hours

Tornadoes cover a smaller track than hurricanes, and their lifespans are measured in minutes. Last Monday's twister traveled 17 miles. A tornado of EF2 or more — winds of 111 miles per hour to 165 mph — can destroy a structure in four seconds. But only one in four tornadoes have wind speeds at 110 miles per hour or greater, the threshold of a major hurricane.

Hurricanes can be hundreds of miles wide and can plow across thousands of miles for days before they fizzle out. That means even minor inconveniences such as power outages often cover a vastly larger area. Wilma in 2005 knocked out power for weeks for 6 million households from Orlando south to Florida's tip.

Emergency responders must then face a sea of people who, while minimally affected, want immediate help.

“That means the importance of being self-sufficient for three to five days,” said Bill Johnson, Palm Beach County’s emergency manager.

Tornadoes are wind storms, and the varying effects of those winds are staggering.

Damage at 111 miles per hour is 21 times what it would be at 75 mph, a minimum-strength hurricane. This is according to a chart prepared by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

At 155 miles per hour, the damage is multiplied by 333. At 190 mph, it’s multiplied 1,696 times. Last Monday’s tornado topped that level, if only for seconds.

While tornadoes can do vast damage in a short time, hurricanes have many ways to damage lives and property.

Punishing Winds

Hurricane winds can range to a top-end of 155 miles per hour and can last for hours. As a result, they usually cause more property damage than deaths.

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The strongest winds of Hurricane Frances stayed in Florida's Treasure Coast on the Atlantic Ocean. Only a tiny corner of Palm Beach County experienced hurricane-force gusts. But the storm pounded that area for two days, and those hours of wind did as much damage as a stronger, shorter storm.

Andrew, one of only three Category 5 storms to strike the U.S. mainland, had top sustained winds of 165 miles per hour. As many as 500,000 people felt hurricane-force winds. Because people took precautions, only 15 died in South Florida. Category 5 is the strongest hurricane.

Rains Bring Floods

A slow-moving hurricane can produce considerably more rainfall than a swifter, stronger one. Andrew’s rainfall topped out at 8 inches. Isaac was hundreds of miles out in the Gulf of Mexico last year when one of its outermost bands dropped as much as 17 inches of rain on parts of Palm Beach County. Twisters can be associated with heavy rain, but don’t directly figure into rainfall or flooding.

A storm surge is what forecasters consider a hurricane’s most treacherous aspect. It generally features a rising tide, aided by the hammering of breaking waves, that can start hours before the storm comes ashore. It can flood buildings and drown people miles inland.

Tornadoes Born Of Hurricanes

Hurricanes can spawn tornadoes. Twisters typically form on the outer edges of hurricanes, especially in or ahead of the storm’s most powerful part — its front right section.

In 1988, Hurricane Gilbert’s eye passed into Mexico but spawned 41 tornadoes in Texas. Several hit San Antonio, about 350 miles from landfall.

And small storms can produce tornadoes as often as large ones. In 2008, Fay, only a tropical storm, spun off a tornado in Florida's Wellington area that all but flattened a horse center.

But a high-end tornado might not create as much damage if it touched down on South Florida.

“In Florida, the homes are built to be wind resistant, and in the Midwest, less so,” said Remington Brown, an engineer for the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety.

While buildings in Florida would be built to withstand winds of up to 140 miles per hour, those in the Midwest might be built for 90 mph, Brown said.

***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I read:***

**Article of the Week**

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***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I read:***

 ***B.* Answer each question in one or more complete sentences.**

1. *Based on the ability to prepare and the damage caused, would you rather experience a hurricane or a tornado? Explain your reasoning. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
2. *How can a hurricane “spawn” a tornado? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Standards*

1. **Comprehension questions – answers may be in phrases.**
2. *What 3 characteristics made the tornado in Moore, Oklahoma very unusual? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
3. *How are homes in Florida constructed differently from homes in the Mid West? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
4. *How are hurricanes categorized? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
5. *How are tornadoes categorized? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Standards*

**Article of the Week**

**Create a Venn Diagram that compares and contrasts hurricanes and tornadoes. Each section should have at least 3 facts.**

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*Standards*

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