

Grade 7 Vocabulary

Use of Vocabulary Words in Context

Week 2

Directions: Read the passage below to better understand the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary Words

monsoon
landslide
electrocute
drainage
submerge
outage
sewage
waterlogging
devastation
infrastructure
agriculture
ecosystem
adverse
sanitation
urban

Hint: When learning new terms, look for context clues to help determine the meaning. If the sentence you find the word in is not helpful, keep reading to see if it can be understood.

Development Issues

Years ago, **agriculture** was prominent. Farms dotted the landscape of most areas. As more people moved into America, more housing options were needed and a more **urban** environment was necessary. Homes, businesses, and a city **infrastructure** was created to sustain all the people. This development also changed the overall **ecosystem**, upsetting it. When heavy rains fell in some areas, the **drainage** was not sufficient and water backed up. This caused **sewage** to run in the streets and power **outages** to occur throughout the area. Such an **adverse** event would be normal where a **monsoon** season existed, but the **devastation** in the newly built city was shocking.

As improvements were made, **waterlogging** was not as much of a problem. **Sanitation** departments were created to clean up messes and power companies could turn electricity on and off so a downed line was less likely to **electrocute** someone. This did not correct every naturally occurring issue. It is still possible to face a **landslide** and we still face water issues when too much rain falls at once. If you are ever in one of these disasters, stay out of the water, even if in the car. Rushing water can trap you inside a vehicle and **submerge** it quickly.

We have made great improvements in city infrastructure, but nature still has the upper hand. We must stay prepared.

