

Flood disaster report

Look at the three reports below and on Activity Sheet 3.11b. They were written by pupils as responses to Activity 1 on page 49 in the pupil book.

One report is a poor answer, one is average and the other is good.

Read through the reports and decide which is the good one, the average one and the poor one. Give reasons for your decision.

Flood disaster Report 1 Sunday 14 October 2000

Last week the worst floods in 30 years hit the county of Sussex in Southern England. A number of settlements in East Sussex were badly hit including the towns of Uckfield, Haywards Heath, Lewes and Etchingham.

The damage caused by the flooding has been widespread. Thousands of homes were flooded including 300 homes in Lewes. People have been left homeless and have lost all of their personal belongings. Local businesses have been badly affected; shops and offices have been flooded and their contents damaged. A brewery in Lewes flooded and the racecourse in Brighton had to cancel a meeting because the racecourse was under water.

Rail travellers were badly affected in Haywards Heath because services were disrupted by the flooding. This caused a problem for commuters who were not able to get to work. Car owners have also been affected because most of the roads in the region have been blocked, including the A26 and A22 where some motorists were trapped in several feet of water.

Flood victims have been offered help; people have been evacuated from homes and cars by people like the Coastguard and Fire Brigade. People who have been left homeless have been provided with refuge in a local school and church by the Council. The Government has also promised flood victims support.

The river levels are dropping but have left behind many problems. A thick, foul-smelling mud has been left behind and will take weeks to clean up. People who are homeless may not return to their houses for weeks. Businesses that were flooded have lost money whilst they were shut and they will have to pay for the stock that was lost in the flood. Insurance companies will have to pay out an estimated £500 million pounds in compensation.

In conclusion, the floods in East Sussex have been devastating for people and businesses alike and the clean up could take months.