**GRAMMAR**

Instructions: Fill in the blanks with the correct tense (Past simple/ Past Perfect/Past continuous) of the verb in brackets.

1. Last year, a huge hurricane _____(hit) the city while people _____ (prepare) to leave their homes.
2. By the time the tornado_____ (end), many houses (destroy) _____ already.
3. During the earthquake, rescue workers _____ (help) trapped families as the ground _____ (keep) shaking.
4. We _____(visit) the volcano before it _____(erupt) and _____ (cover) the nearby town in ash.
5. While the flood _____(rise), the emergency team _____ (work) to evacuate the residents quickly.
6. The wildfire _____(burn) thousands of acres, but firefighters _____ (stop) it from reaching the village already.
7. As the snowstorm _____ (grow) stronger, travelers _____(wait) in shelters, hoping for the roads to clear.
8. Before the tsunami _____(hit) the coastline, warnings _____(broadcast) on all the local radio stations.
9. When the landslide _____(start), many hikers _____ (walk) on the trail and _____(run) to safety.
10. After the drought _____(end), farmers _____(realize) they _____ (lose) most of their crops during the dry season.

**VOCABULARY**

Complete the sentences with the words in the box. There is one extra word.

| blew | collapsed | earthquake | evacuated | fire | heading | lightning |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

1 Is it true that _____ struck your neighbour's house yesterday and started a fire?
2 Apparently, a huge tornado is _____ towards the city of Oklahoma at this very moment.
3 The _____ had spread for several kilometres before the firefighters managed to put it out.
4 A lot of buildings _____ here last year when an avalanche crashed onto them – now they're just ruins.
5 It was terrifying while the ground was shaking, but the _____ only lasted for about 30 seconds.
6 Luckily, the residents had _____ their homes before the tsunami reached the coast, so everyone was safe.

Complete the text with the words in the box. There are three extra words.

crash destruction forest fires population shake
spread tsunamis species threats trade wild

## Hope for nature's future

The environment is a topic that we hear about constantly nowadays. Sadly, there is a lot of negative news about the various [1] _____ to wildlife. Some of these are clearly the result of climate change and rising temperatures. For example, hotter summers are causing more frequent [2] _____ . These are particularly dangerous because they can [3] _____ over large distances if they aren't stopped. The result can be the [4] _____ of many creatures' habitats. Animals living in the [5] _____ are also under threat from poachers. The illegal [6] _____ in meat or fur, for example, brings in a lot of money for these people, but at a terrible cost to the creatures they hunt. However, despite all these problems, there are also many things that we can feel positive about, such as the international organizations working on conservation projects that aim to protect different [7] _____ of animals. Thanks to these organizations, the [8] _____ of many species is no longer decreasing, and in some cases is actually starting to increase.