**Global Hazard Trends summary questions** (read page 13-27 before you start)

1. What does EM-DAT stand for?
2. Classify each of the ‘big six’ natural hazards as either hydro-meterological or geophysical and describe briefly one significant natural hazard event for each. Include the causes of the disaster and the impacts on people and the environment.
3. Why can statistics often be inaccurate and unreliable? Give several reasons why the death toll declared by a government not be accurate? Think about Haiti and the Boxing Day tsunami when you discuss this question.
4. Why in Table 2.1 have Swiss Re the insurance company underestimated the number of disasters and deaths in comparison with the EM-DAT database?
5. Explain why the number of reported natural hazards is going up, whereas the number of deaths is declining with time.
6. Define the key terms magnitude and frequency and describe how different
7. What is meant by the phrase a 1-in-100 year flood? How is it possible for there to have been four 1-in-100 year floods in the last two decades? (1990, 1995, 2000, and 2007)
8. What are the three main trends for climate change which have been identified since 1880? (page 18)
9. Explain why scientists think that global climate change is contributing to storms of greater magnitude.
10. Explain why scientists think that the ENSO is contributing to a greater frequency of storms.
11. Describe the air pressure, weather and ocean characteristics associated with an El Niño year across the Pacific Ocean.
12. Describe the air pressure, weather and ocean characteristics associated with a La Niña year across the Pacific Ocean.
13. Explain how ENSO contributes to a more hazardous world during El Niño and La Niña periods.
14. How does rapid population growth and urbanisation lead to increased vulnerability and consequently to the growth in hazards?
15. How does rapid population growth and poverty lead to increased vulnerability and consequently to the growth in hazards?
16. What are the most significant processes influencing the development of a hazard into a disaster? Are these processes preventable by prediction, prevention and preparation?
17. Explain which country (Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic) responded best to the Tropical storms of 2004.
18. Define the term ‘affected’ when discussing the number of people affected by disasters.
19. Explain why economic losses from disasters have grown exponentially, nearly tripling between 1980-1989 and 1990-99.
20. Answer Question 3 on page 27.