



Classroom, Inc.

AFTER THE STORM DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

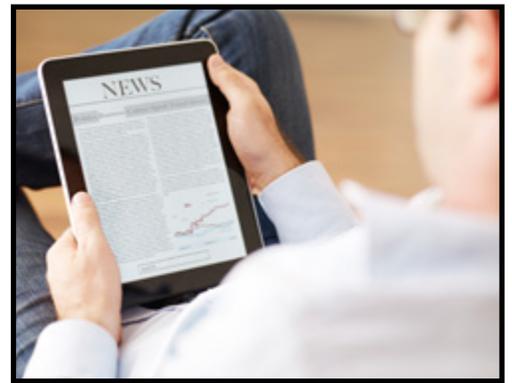
UNIT 1: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

PRE-GAMEPLAY

Elicit Background Knowledge

To prepare students for playing “Emergency Management” of *After the Storm*, stimulate a discussion about journalism and about *The Daily Byte* by asking these questions:

1. How do people in your family read the news—in print newspapers or magazines, or online? What are the titles of the sources they read? (Answers will vary. If students and/or their families watch or listen to the news instead of read it, briefly describe print and online news sources people read, e.g., newspapers and the websites of major network and cable news shows.)
2. What topics would you expect to read about in an online magazine devoted only to your community? (e.g., news related to local government, businesses and schools; crime reports, stories on arts, entertainment, sports, and news about weather events affecting the community.)
3. I’m going to ask you a few questions about job roles at an online magazine. Let’s see what you know about them.
 - What is an editor-in-chief, and what does that person do? (e.g., An editor-in-chief is responsible for all the day-to-day operations of an online publication, including assigning and editing stories.)
 - Why would a news magazine need its own photographer? (e.g., It’s important that a photographer be available to take photos at the site of a breaking story.)



- LaDonna Watkins, Senior Reporter for *The Daily Byte* is out of the office a lot during the day, but she’s working hard! What do you think she’s doing? (e.g. She’s doing onsite research and interviewing key people in a developing news story.)
- A great many companies, including *The Daily Byte*, have a director of technology. What might a person with that job do in a typical day? (e.g., That person would troubleshoot any problems with office equipment, including computers, and make sure servers, email, and the company website is working properly.)
- Today, lots of businesses have a social media editor. What *is* social media? Why would a company want a social media editor? (e.g., Social media refers to online communities, such as Facebook or Twitter, in which users share information, messages, and images. Social media is a great way for businesses to attract and communicate with people interested in what they do.

POST-GAMEPLAY

Explore Meaning

To encourage students to delve deeper into their experience of Unit 1, direct students to their Student Packets to answer the following questions after completing each session of “Emergency Management.”

“MORNING” SESSION

1. What is Ernie’s job position at *The Daily Byte*, and what does he do in that position? (e.g., Ernie is an intern—a person, usually a student, who gets supervised workplace experience. Ernie seems to do a bit of everything. This morning he helped locate *TDB* employees who didn’t make it into work on time.)
2. Publisher Hilary Dubois texts you that today is a very important day for the magazine. Why is today especially important? (e.g., A major hurricane has hit Port Douglas, knocking out electricity for many. People need *TDB* more than ever, yet to reach its readers it has to overcome big obstacles imposed by the storm.)
3. We find out from reading the story LaDonna is working on that some people ignored Mayor Young’s mandatory evacuation order. How did their decision not to leave their homes affect Port Douglas? (e.g., The city had to spend time and money rescuing these people, unnecessarily straining emergency efforts.)

4. Aziz criticizes the town of Port Douglas for being unprepared for a storm as major as Hurricane Dante, and he says why he thinks that is the case. What evidence does he provide to back up his criticism? (The storm evacuation centers have run out of room.)
5. As Editor-in-Chief of Port Douglas’s leading newspaper, what helpful contribution can you make in the aftermath of Hurricane Dante? (Answers will vary, e.g., I can make sure everyone gets important storm-related news; I can publish stories to make people aware of what is going well or poorly in the recovery process.)

“MIDDAY” SESSION

1. You went to the city park in this game session. What effects of Hurricane Dante did you observe there? (e.g., A banner had been knocked down, branches had been torn from trees, there were puddles, a park sign had fallen down, papers were scattered, posters for lost animals were stapled to a tree.)
2. As Editor-in-Chief, you continue to ask your staff how they weathered the storm and how their families are doing. Why is it important to do this even though you are very busy dealing with reporting storm news? (Answers will vary, but students should realize that, besides really caring about staff, an effective manager takes time to address employees’ concerns and looks for ways to keep them happy and productive.)
3. LaDonna tells you that a downed power line caused an electrical fire on Lake Street. “It looks like something out of a war zone.” Why does LaDonna compare Lake Street to a war zone? (e.g., The damage caused by the storm and the fire makes the street look like it has been destroyed by bombs and ground fighting.)
4. When Teresa described what happened to her house and others near her during the storm, did you choose to ask her if she got pictures you could use in the magazine? Why, or why not? (e.g., No, because I thought getting pictures for the magazine would be the last thing on her mind; Yes, and she was angry I asked her that after she had just lost her house.)
5. Give an example of Port Douglas residents helping each other out in the aftermath of the storm. What source provided this information? (Residents with electricity service set up power stations so those without it could charge their phones. Maggie’s blog post gives this information.)

“AFTERNOON” SESSION

1. How did Ernie manage to track down everyone working for *The Daily Byte*? (First he tried calling them, and if that didn't work he called their emergency contact and found out where they were.)
2. What was the major reason you decided to use posters or Twitter get out important information? (e.g., I didn't know how many people used Twitter but everyone can read a poster and pass on the news; I thought Tweeting info. would probably reach a lot more people faster than a putting info. up on a few posters.)
3. When you are faced with a problem that you know has no perfect solution, what do you do? (e.g., I make a list of possible ways to solve the problem and discuss the pros and cons of each option with people I trust.)