

# EXTRA CREDIT QUIZ GRADE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

## Prompt:

You have read several sources about **tornadoes**. Using the information found in the passage set, write an expository essay on tornados.

Your expository essay must be based on this prompt and topic, and it must incorporate ideas and information found in the sources provided.

Write your multiparagraph essay to an academic audience on a new sheet of paper.

I \_\_\_\_\_

T1 \_\_\_\_\_

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

T2 \_\_\_\_\_

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

T3 \_\_\_\_\_

a \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

## Expository w/ Sources

### i Paragraph-

- Hook (startling statistic!)
- 3 Topics Sentence
- Closing

### T1 Paragraph

- Transition + Topic sentence
- Tell what a is
- Quote or paraphrase text w/ EBT
- Elaborate: Own thought/idea -or- explain quote
- Transition to connect a to b (word, phrase, sentence)
- Tell what b is
- Quote or paraphrase text w/EBT
- Elaborate: Own thought/idea -or- explain quote
- W sentence (restate topic- back to Topic)

### T2 Paragraph

- Transition + Topic sentence
- Tell what a is
- Quote or paraphrase text w/ EBT
- Elaborate: Own thought/idea -or- explain quote
- Transition to connect a to b (word, phrase, sentence)
- Tell what b is
- Quote or paraphrase text w/EBT
- Elaborate: Own thought/idea -or- explain quote
- W sentence (restate topic- back to Topic)

### T3 Paragraph

- Transition + Topic sentence
- Tell what a is
- Quote or paraphrase text w/ EBT
- Elaborate: Own thought/idea -or- explain quote
- Transition to connect a to b (word, phrase, sentence)
- Tell what b is
- Quote or paraphrase text w/EBT
- Elaborate: Own thought/idea -or- explain quote
- W sentence (restate topic- back to Topic)

### Conclusion

- Transition + Prompt
- 3 Topics Sentence
- Command, Statement or Question

# Tornadoes

**1** Have you ever seen the movie *The Wizard of Oz*? The movie is about a **tornado**<sup>1</sup> that swishes up Dorothy and takes her to the land of Oz where she encounters witches, flying monkeys, and a talking lion. The whole story is fiction, or made up, but tornadoes are very real. Tornadoes can be one of the most dangerous storms of all.

**2** Tornadoes are sometimes called **cyclones**<sup>2</sup> or twisters because of their funnel shape. It is a viciously rotating cylinder of air that is in contact with both the ground and a **cumulonimbus**<sup>3</sup> cloud. Most tornadoes have wind speeds less than 110 miles per hour, are about 250 feet wide, and can travel a few miles before disintegrating. More intense tornadoes can reach wind speeds of more than 300 miles per hour, can be more than two miles in **diameter**<sup>4</sup>, and can remain on the ground for several miles. The winds can be strong enough to pick up animals, trees, cars, and even houses, leaving terrible disasters in their paths.



**3** Tornadoes can happen on every continent of the world except Antarctica. However, the majority of tornado sightings happen in the Midwestern part of the United States. States such as Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska are usually hit the hardest. This region is commonly referred to as Tornado Alley. Just like the seasons of the year, there is a tornado season which spans spring and summer. However, if the weather conditions are right, they can happen at any time of year and in any location. Sometimes, they can even occur over the ocean creating an amazing water spout.

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<sup>1</sup> tornado – vicious, whirling wind with a funnel-shaped cloud

<sup>2</sup> cyclone – a violent wind storm

<sup>3</sup> cumulonimbus – a dense towering vertical cloud

<sup>4</sup> diameter – any straight line segment that passes through the center of the circle and whose endpoints lie on the circle

**4** A tornado forms when very strong winds begin to spin. Although we cannot see wind, we can see tornadoes because the spinning wind picks up dust, dirt, and debris. These winds begin to spin and form a funnel-shaped cloud that connects the thunderstorm clouds to the ground.

**5** Tornadoes are very dangerous storms to be around. They can move across the land at very fast speeds and pick up anything that is in their path. A tornado can flip a car over or even rip the roof off of a house. If you live in an area that is prone to these kinds of storms, you should have a plan on how to keep safe in the event a tornado touches ground near you. In most places, the safest place is in a basement or the lowest floor of your house away from windows and doors. You should curl into a little ball and protect your head and neck with your hands during the storm. Most importantly, stay in a safe place until the storm passes.

# Storm Chasers

**6** Most people try to run away from these dangerous storms, but there are some who want to get close to them. There are scientists who want to learn about tornadoes, and the best way to do that is by getting as close as possible to these twisters. The scientists who do this are sometimes called storm chasers.

They have groups of people who work with them to track the storms. They use special equipment and instruments to measure what is happening in and around the tornado. They use weather radars to measure wind speeds and temperatures to predict where these tornadoes will form.

**7** Storm chasers use many different instruments to measure the strength of a tornado. One of the special instruments they use is called a tornado probe. It is about six inches tall and looks like an orange construction cone. The cone carries sensors inside that measure wind speed, temperature,

pressure, and direction. Some of the probes even have cameras inside so the scientists can see what it is like to be inside the twister. To get these measurements, the scientists have to get close enough to the storm to have it pick up the cone. These storm chasers try to guess where a tornado will go. Next,

they drive to that location and put the cone down. If they guessed correctly, the tornado would spin over the cone, and they would be able to take all the measurements they need; if they are wrong, they pick up the cone and try again in a



different location.

**8** Tornadoes are extremely dangerous storms, and the scientists who chase these storms to gather information are brave. Their work is important in learning about tornadoes and how to predict them. They have saved many lives by giving people some warning to get out of the path of destructive tornadoes.

# WRAP—UP SENTENCE "BAND AIDS"

**T1:** NOW THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT \_\_\_\_\_, LET ME TELL YOU ANOTHER INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ( PROMPT ).

**T2:** NOW THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT \_\_\_\_\_, LET ME TELL YOU ONE MORE FASCINATING DETAIL ABOUT ( PROMPT ).

**T3:** NOW THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT \_\_\_\_\_, YOU HAVE HEARD EVERYTHING I HAVE TO SHARE WITH YOU ABOUT ( PROMPT ). SO, LET'S WRAP IT ALL UP!

<u>T1 TRANSITIONS:</u>	<u>T2 TRANSITIONS:</u>	<u>T3 TRANSITIONS:</u>	<u>CONCLUSION TRANSITIONS:</u>
• TO BEGIN WITH	• IN ADDITION	• LAST BUT NOT LEAST	• IN CONCLUSION
• TO START OFF WITH	• SECONDLY	• LASTLY	• AS A REVIEW
• TO KICK OFF	• FURTHERMORE	• FINALLY	• TO SUMMARIZE
• FOR STARTERS	• MY FIRST TOPIC	• THE THIRD TOPIC	• TO WRAP IT UP
• FIRST OF ALL	• ANOTHER		• IN SHORT
	• NEXT		• AS YOU CAN SEE