

global warming : /ˌgləʊ.bəl ˈwɔː.mɪŋ/ a gradual increase in world temperatures caused by gases such as carbon dioxide that are collecting in the air around the earth and stopping heat escaping into space

natural disaster : /ˌnætʃ.ər.əl diˈzɑː.stər/ a natural event such as a flood, earthquake, or tsunami that kills or injures a lot of people

Flood : /flʌd/ to cause to fill or become covered with water, especially in a way that causes problems

Groundwater : /ˈgraʊndˌwɔːt.ər/ water that collects below the surface of the earth

seep : /siːp/ to move or spread slowly out of a hole or through something

seal : /siːl/ something fixed around the edge of an opening to prevent liquid or gas from flowing through it

layer : /ˈleɪ.ər / a level of material, such as a type of rock or gas, that is different from the material above or below it, or a thin sheet of a substance:

store : /stɔːr/ an amount of something that is being kept for future use

thickness : /ˈθɪk.nəs/ dimension between two surfaces of an object

charcoal : /ˈtʃɑː.kəʊl/ a hard, black substance similar to coal that can be used as fuel or, in the form of sticks.

salvage : /ˈsæl.vɪdʒ/ to save goods from damage or destruction, especially from a ship that has sunk or been damaged or a building that has been damaged by fire or a flood

divert : /daɪˈvɜːt/ to cause something or someone to change direction

drainage : /ˈdreɪ.nɪdʒ/ the system of water or waste liquids flowing away from somewhere into the ground or down pipes

recover : /rɪˈkʌv.ər/ to get back something lost or spent

dust mite : /ˈdʌst ˌmaɪt/ a very small insect that lives in beds, carpets, curtains, etc. and can make people sneeze or have a runny nose or sore skin if they have an allergy to them

shortage : /ˈʃɔː.tɪdʒ/ a situation in which there is not enough of something

absorbent /əbˈzɔː.bənt/ able to take liquid in through the surface and to hold it

superimposed /suː.pə.rɪmˈpəʊz/ to put, place, or set over or on something else

potable /ˈpəʊ.tə.bəl/ clean and safe to drink

sponge /spʌndʒ/ a soft substance which can absorb a lot of liquid used for washing and cleaning

cistern /ˈsɪs.tən/ a container in which water is stored

cumbersome /ˈkʌm.bə.səm/ awkward