**Environmental Catastrophe**

Mr. Goodman

As the nation slipped into the Great Depression, farmers on the Great Plains slowly began to feel its effects. In 1930, the price of wheat per bushel dropped from a dollar to 70 cents. Farmers believed they could still make a profit by planting more wheat. But reduced rainfall and the environmental impact of plowing so much land led to massive dust storms that moved into the southern Plains with increased frequency and intensity.

1. Document your reaction to the photos and videos of the dust storms coming close to the towns in Texas and Oklahoma. Describe what you see and your thoughts if you had been there.
2. Describe the impact of the dust storms on the environment of the southern Plains.

-Picked up soil and moved it across the country

-Killed cattle

-Turned day into night

-The environment became electric

1. Describe the impact of the dust storms on the economy of the southern Plains.

-People couldn’t make a living

-Lasted for days

-Nothing could be moved

-The storms went for miles, stopping all business

-Couldn’t see the road

-Cattle walked away and people couldn’t make a living with livestock

1. Describe the impact of the dust storms on the people’s quality of life and emotional state.

-People were starving and miserable

-Turned noon into midnight and people remembered this always

-Sand got everywhere (review diary of a dust bowl survivor)

-Cars got ruined. Paint got torn off

-Couldn’t see the hands in front of their faces

-People got dirt in their mouths