

Tsunami Disaster: UN Letter



December 30, 2004

Dear Drs. _____,

As you know, several days ago a massive earthquake created a tsunami that swept through much of Southeast Asia, killing thousands of people and destroying huge tracts of land. The entire region is in chaos, and the entire world has been affected by this tragedy. Many world leaders are concerned that another tsunami like this one could happen elsewhere in the world and create a catastrophic situation in their countries as well.

You are all top researchers in seismology and oceanography, and so I am writing to you to ask for your help. The United Nations is creating a special task force to investigate the causes and effects of the tsunami, and to predict where this type of disaster could hit in the future. I want you to head this task force. You will report directly to me and to my advisors, and once you have compiled your findings you will present them to the UN General Assembly. Please be as thorough as you can, so we can know as much as we can about the tsunami disaster and how to predict them in the future. To help with your research, I have included several eyewitness reports and news transcripts.

Good luck, scientists. We need you to help make the world a safer place.

Sincerely,

Kofi Annan

Secretary General of the United Nations

Self-Evaluation Worksheet

Date: _____

Your Name: _____ Group #: _____

Instructions: Please circle the response with which you agree the most. This evaluation will only be read by your teacher and will **not** be shown to other students.

1. How would you rate *your* participation in group discussion and group work?

5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Poor

2. How would you rate *your* effort in completing the case?

5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Poor

3. Did *you* complete the assigned homework? **Yes No**

If No, explain why:

4. How well did *you* work with everyone in your group?

5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Poor

5. Overall, how would you rate *your* performance in this case?

5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Poor

6. What praise or criticism do you have for other group members? What are your thoughts about the case?
