

Name: _____

Storm Speed

The *Saffir-Simpson scale* describes the wind speed of a hurricane and the damage it could cause. Use it to answer the questions that follow it.



The Saffir-Simpson Scale

Category	Wind Speed	Effects
1	74-95 mph	Leaves blown off trees. Waves may be 4 to 5 feet above normal. Roads near coastline may become flooded.
2	96-110 mph	Some damage to roofs, doors, and windows. Small trees may be blown down. Waves may be 6 to 8 feet above normal. Roads near coastline will become flooded.
3	111-130 mph	A lot of damage to homes and buildings. Large trees blown down. Waves may be 9 to 12 feet above normal. Flooding destroys small buildings.
4	131-155 mph	Roofs blown off home and buildings. Walls of buildings come down. Waves may be 13 to 18 feet above normal. Beaches worn away by wind and flooding.
5	Winds greater than 155 mph	Homes and buildings blown over and flooded. Waves may be more than 18 feet above normal.

SOURCE: National Hurricane Center

- Hurricane Ike's top wind speed when it hit Texas was 110 mph. In what hurricane category was it?

- What is the top wind speed of a Category 3 hurricane? _____
- What may happen to roofs during a Category 4 hurricane? _____

- During a hurricane, what most likely causes flooding on roads and in buildings near the coastline?
