

Perfect Disaster: Solar Storm (Discovery Channel, 2006)

This 45 minute video dramatically describes a scenario in which New York City is overwhelmed by a solar storm, causing panic and chaos. As you watch, try to get a sense of how likely a major storm is and how it might affect you in your daily life.

- 1) What crashes into the cemetery?
- 2) What harmless and beautiful event could signal the onset of a solar storm?
- 3) Which country suffered a significant blackout in 1989?
- 4) True or False? This film is a recreation of an event that actually occurred in New York City.
- 5) What part of the Earth protects us from *most* solar storms?
- 6) What can the ACE satellite do to help us prepare for solar storms?
- 7) Is there a high or low likelihood that a *catastrophic* solar storm will affect New York City in the next 10 years?
- 8) Can you think of other recent disasters that people were aware of, but thought could not happen to them?
- 9) This film has been created in a style that has become familiar on TV over the last few years. Can you name other shows or movies that blend science and entertainment in doomsday scenarios?
- 10) How would YOU be affected in your own home if power was lost for days or weeks? List specific issues you and your family would have.