



Name _____

Rising Waters Insight

Directions: Read the passage, then answer the analysis questions using complete sentences.

Sea-Level Challenges in the Netherlands

The Netherlands is one of the lowest-lying countries in Europe, with large areas sitting below sea level. As global sea levels rise, the risk of flooding increases for Dutch cities, farmland, and coastal communities. The country already relies on strong **dikes**, pumping stations, and advanced engineering systems to keep seawater out. Scientists warn that future storms may be stronger and tides may rise higher, which means the Netherlands must continue to adapt. Dutch leaders are exploring solutions such as building higher flood barriers, restoring wetlands that absorb water, and creating floating neighborhoods that rise and fall with changing water levels. These efforts show how the Netherlands uses creativity and technology to protect its land and people.

1. Why does sea-level rise pose a major threat to the Netherlands?
2. Explain how current Dutch engineering systems help protect the country.
3. Why might stronger storms in the future make flooding more likely?
4. Choose one solution mentioned in the passage and explain how it helps reduce risk.
5. In your opinion, which approach should the Netherlands focus on most, and why?
6. Describe one challenge the country may face when trying to build new protective structures.