

RAINFLOWER · YOUTH RESEARCH · CRA — EFFECTS OF RAIN

Effects of Rain — what a strong submission looks like

5 photographs · landscape Prompt 1 · 50 pts Prompt 2 · 50 pts Reward on acceptance 600

READ FIRST — This is a worked example prepared by the Rainflower team to show the expected standard. The locations, times, and observations below are illustrative. Your submission must describe your own neighbourhood, your own photographs, and only what your own evidence supports.

PROMPT 1

Describe the facts

50 pts · importance 5/5

In this stage you are a camera with a notebook. Every card records only what can be seen — no causes, no blame, no conclusions. Each card ends by naming what the photo cannot show.

Standing water at the mouth of a roadside drain



FIG. 1 · 4:30 PM

landscape · unedited · conditions, not people

WHERE Section 10 area, Mirpur, Dhaka

WHEN 14 July 2026 · ~4:30 PM · about 2 hours after rain stopped. Rain was heavy, by observation (roughly 45 minutes of continuous downpour).

WHAT IS VISIBLE

Water covers the road from the drain opening to the opposite kerb, approximately 4–5 metres wide. Leaves, plastic bags, and a torn cement sack are visible at the drain grate. The water surface is brown and still. Two rickshaws are passing through the water, and their wheels are submerged to roughly one-third of wheel height. A tea stall beside the water is open and serving customers.

WHAT THE PHOTO CANNOT SHOW

It cannot show how deep the water is at the centre, whether the drain is blocked underground, or how long the water remained after this photo was taken.

Waterlogged unpaved lane between houses



FIG. 2 · 4:45 PM

landscape · unedited · conditions, not people

WHERE Side lane off the main road, Section 10, Mirpur, Dhaka

WHEN 14 July 2026 · ~4:45 PM · about 2 hours after rain ended

WHAT IS VISIBLE

The unpaved lane holds a continuous stretch of standing water roughly 15 metres long, spanning the full width of the lane (about 2 metres). Bricks have been placed in a line along one edge, spaced about half a metre apart, and wet footprints are visible on the bricks. Water reaches approximately halfway up the lowest step of a doorway on the left.

WHAT THE PHOTO CANNOT SHOW

It cannot show whether the bricks were placed today or have been there through many rains, or whether water entered the house behind the doorway.

Roof runoff falling directly onto the street



FIG. 3 • 5:00 PM

landscape • unedited • conditions, not people

WHERE Main road, Section 10, Mirpur, Dhaka

WHEN 14 July 2026 • ~5:00 PM • taken while light drizzle was still falling

WHAT IS VISIBLE

A pipe extending from a three-storey building's roofline discharges a steady stream of water directly onto the footpath. The stream has cleared a fan-shaped area of the footpath of dust, roughly 1 metre wide. Water flows from the footpath into the road and toward the drain opening shown in Photo 1, about 30 metres away. No container or collection structure is visible under the pipe.

WHAT THE PHOTO CANNOT SHOW

It cannot show the volume of water discharged over the whole rainfall, or where the building's other roof outlets lead.

Eroded edge of an unpaved path near a construction site



FIG. 4 · 5:10 PM

landscape · unedited · conditions, not people

WHERE Beside a construction plot, Section 10, Mirpur, Dhaka

WHEN 14 July 2026 · ~5:10 PM · about 2.5 hours after the heavy rain ended

WHAT IS VISIBLE

The earthen edge of the path has a channel cut into it, approximately 20–30 centimetres wide and 10 centimetres deep, running about 4 metres downslope toward the road. Sand and small gravel are spread across the path at the channel's lower end for about 2 metres. A pile of construction sand sits uphill of the channel, partially covered by a plastic sheet with one corner loose.

WHAT THE PHOTO CANNOT SHOW

It cannot show whether the channel formed during today's rain or over many rainfalls, or how much of the spread material came from the construction pile versus the path itself.

PHOTO 5

Drain outlet where water is flowing freely



FIG. 5 · 5:20 PM

landscape · unedited · conditions, not people

WHERE Corner of the main road and a paved side street, Section 10, Mirpur, Dhaka

WHEN 14 July 2026 · ~5:20 PM

WHAT IS VISIBLE

Water is flowing visibly into an open drain grate; the movement of the water surface is captured as ripples converging at the grate. The road surface around this drain is wet but has no standing water for at least 10 metres in each visible direction. The grate opening appears clear of debris except for a few leaves at one corner.

WHAT THE PHOTO CANNOT SHOW

It cannot show where this drain discharges, or whether it also flowed freely at the peak of the rainfall.

Evidence rule – Describe first. Compare second. Explain third.
Claim only what the evidence supports.

1 Patterns Compare

Two locations held standing water two or more hours after rain ended — "Standing water at the mouth of a roadside drain" and "Waterlogged unpaved lane between houses" — and both share a feature: either visible debris at the drain opening or no drain at all. The one location that drained well, "Drain outlet where water is flowing freely," had a visibly clear grate and a paved surface. Water accumulation appears on unpaved and debris-adjacent surfaces; free flow appears where the surface is paved and the opening is clear. Separately, "Roof runoff falling directly onto the street" shows collectable water being discharged onto a footpath and flowing toward the same drain that already has standing water.

2 What the evidence points to Explain – carefully

Rainfall. The rain was intense enough that its effects persisted for at least 2.5 hours afterward at two of five locations. Effects did not persist everywhere, so duration of waterlogging varied by location, not only by rainfall.

Infrastructure. Drains are present at three of five locations. Where the opening was clear, water moved; where debris was visible, water stood. This is consistent with openings being a factor, but the photographs cannot establish the condition of the drains underground.

Water. Rainwater in this photo set appears as all three: a nuisance (the waterlogged lane crossed on bricks), a possible hazard (rickshaws passing through water of unknown depth), and a wasted resource (roof runoff discharging onto a footpath with no collection). The runoff photo is itself a finding: a steady, concentrated stream of water left an existing roof pipe and contributed to street accumulation instead of being captured.

People. The brick path in Photo 2 and the open tea stall in Photo 1 show residents adapting and continuing daily life through these conditions rather than being stopped by them. I did not interview residents for this set.

3 Alternative explanations Required – at least one

My strongest conclusion is that debris at drain openings is associated with standing water. An alternative: the standing-water locations may simply be lower-lying than the free-flowing location, and would hold water even with clear grates. Another: the drain in Photo 1 may be overwhelmed by volume rather than blocked, since Photo 3 shows roof runoff feeding the same drain.

Evidence that would separate these explanations: visiting the same drain after a lighter rainfall, comparing elevations of the two sites, or observing the drain immediately after its grate is cleared.

4 Limitations Specific to this set

This set covers one neighbourhood, one rain event, and one afternoon. There are no depth measurements, no rainfall total from a gauge (intensity is by observation only), no view of any drain below the grate, and no before/during comparison — all photos were taken after the rain had mostly ended, so I cannot show how conditions developed. Photo 4's erosion channel cannot be attributed to this single rainfall.

5 The next question One – feeds the next LEAP turn

QUESTION FOR A FUTURE STUDY

Does the drain in Photo 1 hold standing water after light rainfall as well as heavy rainfall? Answering this would need rainfall measurements from a Rainflower gauge at this location, plus repeat visits to the same drain after at least three rain events of different intensities, photographed at a consistent time interval after each event.

 I confirm these answers are my own work — not AI-generated and not copied. *(In this sample, the declaration is shown for layout only; a real submission requires your own work and your own photographs.)*