Question 1

For this discussion, students should be able to make a decision and justify their opinion by developing their arguments and using evidence to support where possible. There is no right answer here.

**Indicative content**

Key arguments could include:

**Hazard**
- Affected large numbers of people.
- It was caused by a natural event, whereby a number of geophysical or meteorological factors coalesced to magnify the impact of the ash cloud.

**Disaster**
- Caused significant social and economic impacts through loss of revenue and passengers being stranded as air traffic was grounded for nearly a week.
- Potentially struck some vulnerable people, perhaps in poorer countries like Kenya whose flower exports were affected— but for how long?
- Were these effects enough to rate this incident as a disaster?
- Global impacts

**Inconvenience**
- It certainly did cause great inconvenience for many people. Were these inconveniences serious enough to warrant this incident being a hazard, or a disaster?