Assignment 5: Mass wasting, dude

How is **sliding** different from **flowing**, when you are discussing mass wasting? Which type of motion is generally more destructive to human life and property, and why?

What is a mass-wasting “**rotational block**”? Does a rotational block imply a slide or a flow? Do mass-wasting events in the **Puget Sound area** ever contain rotational blocks? How could you tell if they did or did not?

Give **two driving forces** that help create mass wasting.

Give **two resisting forces** that help alleviate mass wasting.
You dig out an in-ground pool at the top of a steep slope in Seattle. Give one argument for the proposition that you have set yourself up for a slide to occur; give one argument against the same proposition.

How does vegetation act both as a resisting force and as a driving force at different times in a slope’s history? At the same time?

Give three engineering methods that ameliorate mass wasting. Will any of them remove the problem of mass wasting on a slope for good?

How does a sinkhole form in an area that has limestone bedrock? How does a sinkhole form in our area (like the one in Shoreline that Al Gore toured after the storm of winter, 1996)? Hint: the two answers should be quite different.