Unit 2: Causes of Mass Extinctions Homework

What do you think caused the mass extinctions at the end of the Permian and the Cretaceous? Explain your reasoning for each rating in a few (at least two) sentences. Note: even your instructor is not sure what the correct answer is, but would like to understand your reasoning.

1) What caused the end-Cretaceous mass extinction?

Why do you think this?

2) What caused the end-Permian mass extinction?

Why do you think this?

3) Is humanity prepared to deal with either of these catastrophes if one were to happen today?

Why do you think this?