

People & Earthquakes (p. 313 – 319)

I. Earthquake Activity

1. Define the term seismologist.

Seismologist – scientist who studies earthquakes + seismic waves

2. Define the term magnitude.

Magnitude – measure of energy released of an earthquake



p. 314

3. Identify the scale used to assess the magnitude strength of earthquakes.

Richter Scale (No upper limit)

4. For every increase of 1.0 on the Richter Scale, how much greater is the magnitude?

10 X

How much greater is the total energy released?

32 X

Moment Magnitude

– total energy released
(usually reported)
over Richter

↳ Seismic waves
+ fault movement

5. Most earthquakes have magnitudes that are too low to be felt by humans.

Circle One :

True

False

6. Define the term Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale.

Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale – describes the intensity of an earthquake
using the amount of structural + geologic damage
(12-point scale)

p. 315

7. List four factors used to assess damage using the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale.

1. Strength of the earthquake
2. Nature of surface material
3. Design of structures
4. Distance from epicenter

8. Define the term liquefaction.

Liquefaction – process in which earthquake shaking turns loose, soft soil into liquid mud (usually soil is full of moisture)
* Buildings sink + pull apart *
* Homes should be anchored to solid rock *

P. 316

9. Define the term tsunamis.

Tsunamis - large ocean waves usually caused by strong earthquakes below the ocean floor

10. What happens to the shoreline water just before a tsunami crashes onto the shore?

Moves rapidly towards the sea (exposes land)

11. How does the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center help people? (Hilo, Hawaii)

Alert people if a tsunami is likely to occur

II. Earthquake Safety**1. Circle the letter of the area where the risk of earthquakes is highest in the United States.**

- a. along the Gulf Of Mexico
- b. along the Atlantic Coast
- c. along the Great Lakes
- d. along the Pacific Coast

Most Earthquakes = California

P. 317

2. What kinds of damage are caused by the severe shaking of an earthquake?

- ① Buildings
- ② Bridges
- ③ Utility Poles
- ④ Gas + Water Mains

3. Define the term moorings.

Buildings = Short, Wide Base

Moorings - building supports consisting of alternating layers of rubber + steel (shock absorbers)

P. 318

4. How can tall furniture be prevented from tipping over in an earthquake?

Fasten it to wall studs

P. 319

5. How can bedrooms be made safer during an earthquake?

- ① Remove heavy items from walls
- ② Position bed away from window

6. What is the main danger to people during an earthquake?

Falling objects + Flying glass

7. If no table is available during an earthquake, you should crouch against an ^{inside} outside wall.Circle One :

True

False

8. If you are outdoors during an earthquake, you should move under a tree or building.Circle One :

True

False