

KEY: Earthquakes: Test Your Knowledge

Earthquakes are extremely dangerous situations where seismic waves cause the ground to shake and pulsate. Such situations can create terrible consequences for individuals in affected regions. Test your knowledge of earthquakes with these questions. Use another sheet of paper to respond to the free response questions and remember to provide support for your answers.

Multiple Choice

Please circle the correct answer.

1. How many levels are on the Mercalli Scale?

- a. Three
- b. Nine
- c. Twelve
- d. None of the Above

Website: [Natural Disasters > Earthquake > Overview](#)

2. What is the highest magnitude level on the Richter scale?

- a. 7.8
- b. 5-6
- c. 9 or greater
- d. None of the Above

Website: [Natural Disasters > Earthquake > Overview](#)

3. Approximately how many people died in the 2005 Kashmir earthquake?

- a. 515,000
- b. 18,500
- c. 87,000
- d. None of the Above

Website: [Synthetic Disasters > Earthquake > Case Study](#)

Short Answer

Please write the answers on a separate sheet of paper.

4. If outside, what should citizens do if there is an earthquake?

They should move to a location away from windows,

power lines, and poles. Website: [Natural Disasters > Earthquake > Citizen Response](#)

5. List the steps citizens can take to prepare for an earthquake.

Citizens should prepare an emergency plan, take a first aid course, shy away from too many windows, gain familiarity with external utilities, and stockpile basic needs. Website: [Natural Disasters > Earthquake > Citizen Response](#)

6. What causes earthquakes?

Earthquakes are caused by friction at tectonic plate boundaries. Website: [Natural Disasters > Earthquake > Overview](#)

Abstract & Logic

Please note that abstract and logic questions do not have any right or wrong answer. These questions are best suited towards class discussions.

7. Do you feel that areas prone to earthquakes should be required to hold less people than other cities to prevent more deaths? Defend your answer.

Yes, the risk of repeated structural damage and loss of life is decreased. **No**, instead cities should enforce tougher standards and codes for structures. Website: [Natural Disasters > Earthquake > Government Response](#)

8. In the 2005 Kashmir Earthquake, do you feel that the response by government officials was prompt and sufficient?

Yes, the response was very quick and encompassing by not only Pakistan but also all nearby nations. **No**, the response was inefficient as there was a low level of infrastructure in the region. Website: [Synthetic Disasters > Earthquake > Case Study](#)