Earthquakes

Tremor Terminology

All the words and phrases used to describe earthquakes is enough to rattle the brain. Check out the links at the above Web site to familiarize yourself with earthquake terminology. Then match the words or phrases in the left column with the correct definitions at the right.

1. focus
2. epicenter
3. surface waves
4. body waves
5. Richter scale
6. fault
7. subduction zone
8. magnitude
9. seismograph
10. intensity

A. fracture between two slabs of rock on the Earth’s crust
B. a measure of an earthquake’s strength based on how things look after a quake
C. occurs when one plate rides atop another plate and pushes it down into the mantle
D. place on the Earth’s surface directly above the focus
E. seismic vibrations that pass through the Earth’s interior
F. place inside the Earth where an earthquake originates
G. mathematical scale used to measure the magnitude of earthquakes
H. instrument used to detect, record, and measure earthquakes
I. seismic vibrations that cause most of the damage from earthquakes
J. a measure of an earthquake’s strength based on the amplitude of seismic waves
ALL ABOUT EARTHQUAKES

An earthquake is the sudden shaking of the ground that occurs when masses of rock change positions below Earth's surface. Learn more about earthquakes by reading the clues below. Locate the term in the magic square that matches each clue. Then write the number of the clue in the space. By recording all of the correct numbers, you will have produced a magic square. When you add the numbers across, down, or diagonally, you should get the same answer. The four squares in each corner of the big square and the four squares in the center of the big square will also give you the same answer when added together.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>fault</th>
<th>San Francisco</th>
<th>strike-slip fault</th>
<th>focus</th>
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<tr>
<td>normal fault</td>
<td>Richter scale</td>
<td>primary waves</td>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
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<td>secondary waves</td>
<td>surface waves</td>
<td>oil and fossils</td>
<td>epicenter</td>
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<td>reverse fault</td>
<td>San Andreas Fault</td>
<td>seismograph</td>
<td>seismologist</td>
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1. a fracture within Earth where rock movement occurs
2. an instrument used to measure earthquakes
3. a large fault in California
4. the point in Earth where seismic waves originate
5. the point on Earth's surface directly above the focus
6. a numerical scale used to express the strength of an earthquake
7. seismic waves from the focus that are compressional
8. seismic waves from the focus that are perpendicular to this motion
9. location of the National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research
10. the most powerful shock waves from an earthquake
11. sometimes located in Earth by seismic waves from explosions
12. rock above a fault that moves downward
13. rock above a fault that moves upward
14. rocks that move in opposite horizontal directions
15. city which had major earthquakes in 1906 and 1989
16. scientist who studies earthquakes