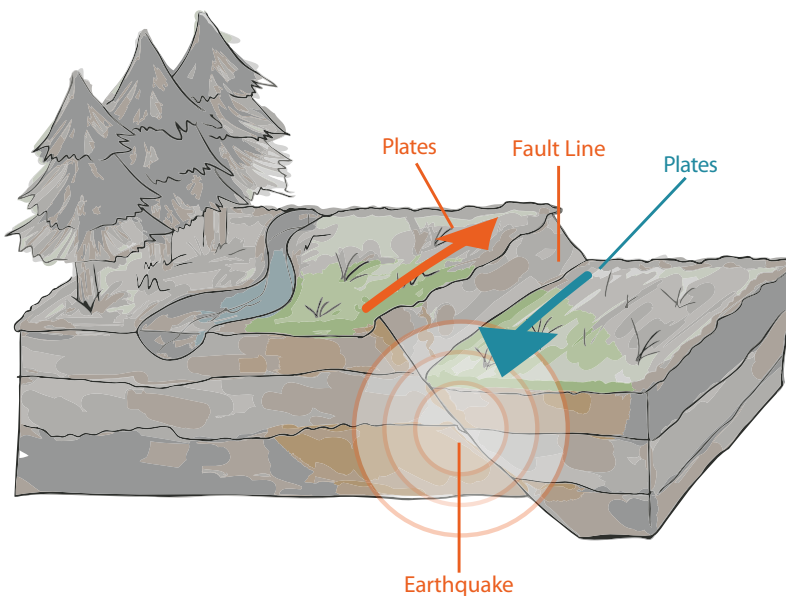


Earthquakes: Text Features

Directions: Read only the text features (i.e., sidebars, diagram, and bold words). Then, answer the questions.

Earthquakes

Have you ever felt an earthquake? During an earthquake, the earth feels like it is shaking. An **earthquake** is a vibration that travels through the earth's crust. The most common cause of earthquakes are the earth's **tectonic plates**. These plates are in constant motion and when they bump into one another it can cause underground vibrations. The place where the plates bump each other is called the **fault line**. Earthquakes are common along the Pacific Ocean.



Historical Earthquakes

1811

Madrid Missouri Quakes
These earthquakes happened along the Mississippi river, lasting for months. These quakes actually caused the river to run backwards.

1906

San Francisco Earthquake
One of the most famous US disasters, the fires started by this earthquake actually did more damage than the quake itself.

1970

Ancash Earthquake
One of the biggest earthquakes ever recorded, the Ancash earthquake caused landslides, destroyed homes and took away many lives. This quake hit 7.8 on the Richter scale.

Safety Tips

- 1 Stay away from windows.
- 2 Stay indoors.
- 3 Take cover under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- 4 Secure shelves and heavy objects against the wall.
- 5 Plan an earthquake preparation kit with your family.
- 6 If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- 7 Stay away from electrical wires.

Name _____

Date _____

1. What information do you get from the text features? (i.e., bold words, sidebars, diagram)

One sidebar gives me information about the years of some famous earthquakes. It also mentions some of the locations of the earthquakes and why they are famous. Another sidebar is about safety tips during an earthquake. For instance, people should take cover under sturdy furniture during an earthquake. The diagram shows the plates and fault line during an earthquake. The bold words show the key vocabulary words that I can learn about in the article.

2. Read the article. How do the text features help you understand the article?

The text features give me more information about earthquakes. The diagram is a visual of the information in the article, while the sidebars give me additional information.

3. What information do you get from the text features that is not included in the article?

The information from the sidebars is additional information. One sidebar gives me information about the years of some famous earthquakes. It also mentions some of the locations of the earthquakes and why they are famous. Another sidebar is about safety tips during an earthquake. For instance, people should take cover under sturdy furniture during an earthquake.

4. What earthquake happened in 1906?

An earthquake in San Francisco happened in 1906. It started a fire that did more damage than the earthquake.

5. What is the first safety tip you should follow during an earthquake?

The first safety tip someone should follow during an earthquake is to stay away from windows.