



1. Listen and complete the text with the following words. Be careful! Some words are missing.

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|----------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Mercalli | Epicentre | Seismic waves | Earthquake | Richter | Hypocentre | Intensity | Focus |
| Reliable | Hazard | Seismographs | Seismograms | Warning | Magnitude | Vibration | Measures |

Earthquakes

An **earthquake** is a in the Earth`s crust caused by a sudden release of energy.

Earthquakes are when large masses of rock

The **hypocentre**, or **earthquake**, is the point ground where an earthquake starts. From the hypocentre, the vibrations or travel in all directions, similar to what happens on the surface of water when throwing a rock into a pond and you see the ripples on the surface of the water.

The is located inside the Earth at a that ranges from a few kilometres to approximately 700 km. The point on the Earth`s surface directly the hypocentre is called the

Earthquakes are of very short duration, generally lasting between 20 to 60 seconds. However, when the shaking is very intense, it can last up to several minutes.

Earthquakes can be measured by their **magnitude** and **intensity**.

- is the amount of energy during an earthquake. It is measured using the scale.
- is the measurement of the of an earthquake on people, buildings and terrain. It is measured with the scale.

Earthquakes are recorded and measured using that plot data onto graphs called

At present there is not a way of predicting earthquakes. However, from historic data on earthquakes and knowledge of the geological characteristics of an area, a seismic hazard can be estimated.

The seismic **hazard** of an area is the probability that an earthquake of a particular intensity will occur in that area within a particular time period.

Seismic disaster includes all the measures taken to prevent or reduce the effects of an earthquake.

- Making seismic maps.
- Establishing construction to make earthquake-proof buildings in areas with high seismic activity.
- Establishing earthquake systems.
- Training the population knowing what should be done in the event of an