

Practice Earthquake Questions

1. Which seismic waves are the fastest?
2. Which seismic waves are the first to be recorded?
3. Which seismic waves are the second to be recorded?
4. Which seismic waves can only travel through solids?
5. Which seismic waves are the slowest?
6. Which seismic waves travel on the surface?
7. What is the boundary between the crust and the mantle due to the change of speed of seismic waves called?
8. What are the areas where neither P nor S waves can be detected?
9. What is the theory that says energy builds up on either side of a fault and the rocks move slowly and then spring back to their original shape?
10. What are small tremors that occur after the first release of energy?
11. What is the area where the slippage first occurs inside the earth?
12. What is the point on earth's surface directly above the focus?
13. What are the three types of foci?
14. What are the three major earthquake zones?
15. What is the name of the fault in California where the Pacific plate and the Juan de Fuca plate slide past each other?
16. What is the device used to measure earthquakes?
17. How many stations are needed to locate an earthquake's epicenter?
18. Which scale measures the magnitude or the energy of an earthquake?
19. Which type of numbers are used for the Richter Scale?
20. Which scale measures the intensity or the amount of damage done by the earthquake?
21. Which type of numbers are used for the Mercalli Scale?
22. What is an earthquake with an epicenter on the ocean floor potentially able to generate?
23. If the time difference between S and P waves is small, is the earthquake nearby or far away?

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