

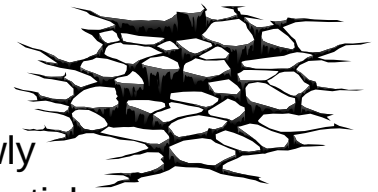


# Earthquakes

Middle Primary Advance Science

Read the passage. Answer the True and False questions.

Earth's surface breaks into huge rock pieces called **tectonic plates**. These tectonic plates float and slowly move on hot, soft rock deep inside Earth. They often stick at edges called **faults**. Pressure builds until they snap free. This sudden slip sends shaking waves through the ground causing an **earthquake**.



Earthquakes strike worldwide but mostly along tectonic plate edges over land and ocean. Countries like Japan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Mexico, Iran, and Turkey get many because of busy plate borders. Rarer **intraplate earthquakes** happen inside plates from hidden stress.

Australia rides one big tectonic plate called the Indo-Australian Plate. Intraplate earthquakes—quakes inside a plate, not at edges—cause most shakes here from old faults waking up in the stable middle, like the 1989 Newcastle quake that killed 13 people. Southwest Western Australia and offshore spots feel stronger shakes near plate edges, so homes must be built tough.

Earthquakes crack buildings, start landslides and tsunamis, cut power, cost money, hurt feelings, and sometimes kill. Getting ready saves lives.

*Adapted from: sciencetimes*

## True or False

Circle the correct response:

- |   |  |       |
|---|--|-------|
| 1 | Tectonic plates under Australia stay still.          | T / F |
| 2 | All earthquakes happen only at plate edges.          | T / F |
| 3 | Faults in Australia are short and only on land.      | T / F |
| 4 | Sudden slips on faults make earthquake shaking.      | T / F |
| 5 | Australia's earthquakes are as strong as Japan's.    | T / F |
| 6 | Ocean earthquakes off Australia can't make tsunamis. | T / F |
| 7 | Faults only form between tectonic plates.            | T / F |
| 8 | All Australian earthquakes happen in the ocean.      | T / F |

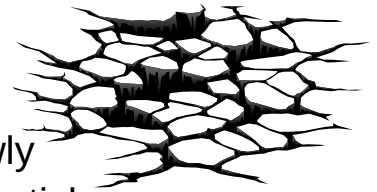


## Earthquakes - Solutions

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