

Natural Disasters Knowledge Quiz

Earth Science · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. What is the point on the Earth's surface directly above where an earthquake originates?

A) Epicenter

B) Fault line

C) Focus

D) Seismic zone

2. Which scale is commonly used to measure the magnitude of an earthquake?

A) Beaufort Scale

B) Richter Scale

C) Saffir-Simpson Scale

D) Fujita Scale

3. What is a long, high sea wave caused by an earthquake or volcanic eruption called?

A) Tidal bore

B) Rip current

C) Tsunami

D) Storm surge

4. Which type of volcano is characterized by wide, gentle slopes formed by fluid lava flows?

A) Cinder cone

B) Composite volcano

C) Shield volcano

D) Lava dome

5. What do meteorologists call a tropical cyclone with wind speeds exceeding 119 kilometres per hour?

A) Thunderstorm

B) Hurricane

C) Monsoon

D) Tornado

6. What is the primary instrument used to detect and record earthquake vibrations?

A) Barometer

B) Anemometer

C) Seismograph

D) Hygrometer

7. In which layer of the Earth do most earthquakes occur?

- A) Inner core
- B) Outer core
- C) Mantle

D) Crust

8. What term describes a period of abnormally dry weather that lasts long enough to cause water shortages?

A) Drought

- B) Heatwave
- C) Desertification
- D) Erosion

9. What is the name of the 'ring' of high volcanic and seismic activity surrounding the Pacific Ocean?

A) The Pacific Belt

B) The Ring of Fire

- C) The Tectonic Zone
- D) The Volcanic Arc

10. Which scale is used to classify the intensity of tornadoes?

A) Enhanced Fujita Scale

- B) Richter Scale
- C) Mercalli Scale
- D) Saffir-Simpson Scale

11. What is the term for a rapid downslope movement of rock, soil, and vegetation?

A) Avalanche

B) Landslide

- C) Earthquake
- D) Subsidence

12. What type of natural disaster is characterized by a violent, rotating column of air in contact with the ground?

A) Cyclone

B) Tornado

- C) Typhoon
- D) Blizzard

13. Which of these is the most common cause of a forest fire in nature?

A) Lightning

B) Volcanic activity

C) Animal activity

D) Soil friction

14. What refers to the overflow of water onto land that is usually dry?

A) Tsunami

B) Flooding

C) Inundation

D) Saturation

15. What is the name of the molten rock that is found beneath the Earth's surface?

A) Lava

B) Ash

C) Magma

D) Tephra

16. Which natural disaster occurs when snow, ice, and rock move rapidly down a mountain slope?

A) Mudslide

B) Avalanche

C) Rockfall

D) Glacial retreat

17. What is the term for the boundary where two tectonic plates move away from each other?

A) Convergent boundary

B) Transform boundary

C) Divergent boundary

D) Subduction zone

18. Which of these is a secondary effect of a large earthquake?

A) Tsunami

B) Rainfall

C) High tide

D) Temperature drop

19. What is the main gas released by a volcanic eruption that can temporarily cool the global climate?

- A) Oxygen
- B) Sulfur dioxide**
- C) Methane
- D) Helium

20. What is the term for the shaking of the Earth's crust caused by the sudden release of energy?

- A) Tectonic shift
- B) Earthquake**
- C) Volcanic tremor
- D) Plate drift