

Earthquake Hits Britain OPCIÓN A

On 27th February 2008, something very unusual happened in the UK: there was a rather large earthquake. It was the biggest earthquake in 25 years in Great Britain.

There have been very small tremors in the past but they seem nothing compared to this one. It was felt in a large area across the country too, from as far north as Edinburgh in Scotland to as far south as Plymouth on the south coast of England. The epicentre of the earthquake was in a small town in Lincolnshire, which is an area about two and a half to three hours north of London by car. A magnitude of 5.2 was registered on the Richter scale.

There were lots of reports in the news from people who felt the earth move. One man said, "We had loads of vibrating and wall shaking, noise coming off the roof. I went outside - the chimney's on the floor!" A collapsed chimney was, in fact, the cause of what was probably the worst injury from the earthquake: a man broke his pelvis when the chimney fell on him. The earthquake was felt by a lot of people, but it surprisingly caused very little structural damage to property.

Most British people would be surprised to learn that there are 200-300 earthquakes in Britain every year - but most of them are so small, they go unnoticed. The magnitude of this earthquake is fairly small in comparison to some other natural disasters that have made international news, but, for the people affected, it certainly came as a surprise.

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks given for only TRUE or FALSE.

a) The earthquake could only be felt in a small village in Lincolnshire. TRUE / FALSE

LINE NUMBER: _____

b) Lots of buildings were destroyed in the 2008 earthquake. TRUE / FALSE

LINE NUMBER: _____

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

a) Are earthquakes frequent in Britain? Explain your answer.

b) What did people tell reporters about the earthquake?

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) Rare (paragraph 1) _____

b) Fallen (paragraph 3) _____

c) Amazed (paragraph 4) _____

d) Find out (paragraph 4) _____

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) This was the _____ (important) story in the news, because the earthquake was quite a big _____.

b) Usually, earthquakes _____ (measure) with a seismometer; another device _____ records earthquakes is known as a seismograph.

c) After _____ (destroy) half of the country, an enormous wave was created _____ the earthquake.

Complete the following sentence to report what was said.

d. "What did you see after the earthquake?" → I asked the girl _____

5.- Write about 150 to 200 words on the following topic. Describe any natural disaster you have seen, read or been told about.

WRITE AND IMPROVE LINK: _____

Pedal your Way to a Free Meal OPCIÓN B

A Danish hotel is offering a free meal to any guest who is able to produce electricity for the hotel on an exercise bike attached to a generator. The Crowne Plaza Hotel in Copenhagen says the idea is not only to encourage people to get fit, but also reduce their carbon footprint and save electricity and money. Guests will have to produce at least 10 watt hours of electricity - roughly 15 minutes of cycling for someone of average fitness. The bicycles will have iPhones attached to the handlebars measuring how much clean energy is being generated for the hotel. This energy is stored in a battery and then fed back into the hotel's main power supply.

The plan will be launched for the first time on 19 April and run for a year, the hotel says. Guests staying at this Crowne Plaza Hotel will be given meal tickets worth 26€ once they have produced 10 watt hours of electricity. A hotel spokeswoman said: "Many of our visitors are business people who enjoy going to the gym. The free meal offer applies just to paying guests, not passers-by."

Copenhagen is one of the most bicycle-friendly cities in the world. 36% of Copenhagen's residents commute on two wheels to work each day, one of the highest percentages in the world. "Since Copenhagen is strongly associated with cycling, we felt the bicycle would work well as a symbol of the hotel's green profile. If successful, the electric bicycle meal programme will be extended to all Crowne Plaza hotels in the UK," affirmed the hotel spokeswoman.

1.- Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

a) The cycle-for-a-meal offer has been tested in other hotels. TRUE / FALSE

LINE NUMBER: _____

b) If the hotel's bicycle scheme works, it will expand to the Crowne Plaza hotels all over the world. TRUE / FALSE

LINE NUMBER: _____

2.- In your own words and based on the ideas in the text, answer the following questions. Do not copy from the text.

a) What are the objectives of the Crowne Plaza Hotel's free meal offer? Mention two.

b) How does the hotel bicycle initiative work? Give at least three characteristics.

3.- Find the words in the text that mean:

a) Decrease (paragraph 1) _____

b) More or less (paragraph 1) _____

c) Only (paragraph 2) _____

d) Because (paragraph 3) _____

4.- Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given.

a) While the offer lasts, guests _____ (invite) to jump on a bicycle and if they _____ (produce) enough electricity, they _____ (give) a free meal.

b) The free meal programme _____ (begin) last April.

c) I stopped _____ (drive) to work last year. I now find it _____ (easy) to cycle to work than to go _____ car.

d) The Crowne Plaza Hotel is against _____ (waste) energy.

5.- Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic. What can you do at school or at home to improve the environment? (Puntuación máxima: 3 puntos)

WRITE AND IMPROVE LINK: _____