

Choose the best option for each blank.

Earthquakes are among the most destructive (1) \_\_\_\_\_ disasters. They usually occur without any (2) \_\_\_\_\_ warning and often result in a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of life and the collapse of buildings. In addition, earthquakes may cause (4) \_\_\_\_\_ landslides or create gigantic tidal waves. Such a disaster happened in 2004, when an earthquake (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the coast of Indonesia (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a massive tsunami that killed over 200,000 people.



*Collapse of a hotel during an earthquake in El Salvador in 1986*

Earthquakes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ mostly where the earth's tectonic plates meet. Massive amounts of energy are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ when two plates push towards, pull apart from or slide past each other. (9) \_\_\_\_\_ millions happen every year there are only a small number that (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and very few that cause damage.

In many cases, an earthquake (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 30 to 60 seconds. There is hardly any time to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ once the shaking starts. The brutal forces of an earthquake start a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ chain reaction in a building's structure when it is shaken. A building's height, (14) \_\_\_\_\_ and construction materials are significant (15) \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to its inhabitants surviving such a disaster.

1	naturalistic	natural	nature	native
2	ahead	former	past	prior
3	cost	damage	harm	loss
4	devastating	overwhelming	disturbing	shocking
5	of	off	on	at
6	generated	set	triggered	activated
7	occur	are occurring	occurred	are occurred
8	emitted	loosened	escaped	released
9	Although	In spite of	However	Nevertheless
10	are being felt	should be felt	must be felt	can be felt
11	keeps on	lasts	happens	remains
12	divert	discard	escape	abandon
13	dense	compound	difficult	complex
14	shape	figure	character	spirit
15	keys	factors	reasons	causes