

Building vocabulary. Find the words in blue in the reading passage on pages 73-75. Use the context to guess their meanings. Then choose the correct word in each pair (1- 9) to complete the paragraph.

Last year, there was an unusual **1. commission / concentration** of earthquakes in our area over a three- month period. This area is **2. prone to / reluctant** to earthquakes, but there hadn't been one in at least a decade. Many people were **3. Indicative / injured** when some walls of older buildings fell. Our major recently set up a **4. commission / concentration** to investigate ways to raise money to repair the city's damaged historic buildings. When some citizens proposed tearing down some of the older buildings, the major's response was **5. empathic / reluctant**: the buildings are important to the town's history, she argued, and must be protected. Her decision was supported by about half of the town's citizens. Only about a quarter of the town's population felt the buildings should be torn down and **6. approximately / emphatically** one -quarter didn't have an opinion. These days, most people think that the earthquakes have stopped at least for a while, but some locals are not **7. convinced / reliable** and are **8. prone to / reluctant** to stay. They feel that predictions about earthquakes are not **9. convinced / reliable** and we can never know when the next one will strike.