

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.

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