

- 6 Read the text about earthquakes. Then complete the question for each answer.

Earthquakes

When an earthquake occurs, part of the Earth's surface moves. In fact, the surface of the Earth moves all the time. The tectonic plates which make up the surface press against each other very slowly. Over thousands of years, this movement creates great stress. In some places where the layers of rock are weak, this eventually causes a sudden movement – an earthquake. Thousands of earthquakes happen every day, but most are very small and cause no damage. A large earthquake shakes buildings to the ground, or causes a tsunami wave. The effects are usually very serious.

Severe earthquakes are common in southern Europe, and on 1 November 1755 a powerful earthquake hit the city of Lisbon in Portugal. Between 60,000 and 100,000 people died. After the earthquake a tsunami struck the city, and there was also a fire, which caused nearly total destruction. People as far away as Finland felt the shock, and the tsunami reached Barbados in the West Indies. Geologists now believe that the strength of the earthquake was as high as 9 on the Richter scale. This is the same strength as the Indian Ocean earthquake of 26 December 2004.



- a What moves when an earthquake
occurs ?

Part of the Earth's crust moves when an earthquake occurs.

- b What ?

The movement of tectonic plates creates this stress.

- c How many ?

Thousands happen every day.

- d What ?

It shakes buildings or causes a tsunami wave.

- e When ?

On 1 November 1755.

- f How many ?

Between 60,000 and 100,000.

- g In which distant country ?

In Finland.

- h What ?

That the strength of the earthquake was as high as 9 on the Richter scale.