

The Great Fire of San Francisco

On 18th April 1906, there was an earthquake in the city of San Francisco. It was 5 o'clock in the morning and there weren't many people in the streets; most people were in bed. But it was a very big earthquake and people felt it in Los Angeles, more than 600 km from San Francisco. It destroyed many buildings.

But soon there was another problem. Many small fires started after the earthquake. At that time in San Francisco, the city was crowded and most old houses were made of wood. The fires moved quickly from building to building and from street to street. People didn't have water to stop the fire, and soon buildings all over the city were on fire.

The city burned for four days and it destroyed 28,000 buildings in the city. Around 250,000 people lost their homes and about 3,000 people died. After the fire, the people built a new city, with big streets and new houses.



Read the article again. Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- 1 The San Francisco fire happened in winter. _____
- 2 When the earthquake happened, a lot of people were at home. _____
- 3 The earthquake wasn't big. _____
- 4 The fires burned quickly. _____
- 5 People saved many buildings in the city. _____
- 6 28,000 people died. _____
- 7 People built the city again after the fire. _____