# Japan and Tsunamis

## Early Warnings Save Lives

## 1 Read the paragraphs.

Japan has one of the best tsunami early warning systems in the world. There are more than four thousand seismic intensity meters in place across the country to measure earthquakes. These meters provide information within two minutes of an earthquake striking. Information about the strength and the epicenter of the earthquake can be learned in less than three minutes.

Earthquakes often strike Japan. Some of those earthquakes cause powerful tsunamis. Japan has suffered hundreds of tsunamis over the years. But few were as powerful as the tsunami that struck the country's northeast in March.




## 2 Vocabulary Check

**Match the words with their meanings.**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | meter | a | the center of an earthquake |
| 2 | epicenter | b | a very strong earthquake or wave |
| 3 | strike | c | a device that measures something |
| 4 | tsunami | d | a large sea wave |
| 5 | warning | e | a message that tells people about danger |
| 6 | system | f | a group of parts that work together |
| 7 | powerful | g | to hit or happen |

## 3 Choose the best answer.

**Circle the correct option.**

1. How many seismic intensity meters are there in Japan?
   a) 400 b) 4,000 c) 40,000 d) 400,000
2. How soon do the meters provide information after an earthquake strikes?
   a) 1 minute b) 2 minutes c) 3 minutes d) 10 minutes
3. What can be learned in less than three minutes?
   a) The exact time b) The strength and epicenter
   c) The number of tsunamis d) The location of Japan
4. How many tsunamis has Japan suffered over the years?
   a) a few b) hundreds c) thousands d) millions
5. What happened in March?
   a) An earthquake hit Tokyo.
   b) A very powerful tsunami struck the northeast.
   c) Japan built a new early warning system.
   d) Many people moved to other countries.

## 4 True or False

**Read the sentences. Write T (True) or F (False).**

1. Japan has one of the best tsunami early warning systems in the world. ____
2. There are fewer than four thousand seismic intensity meters in Japan. ____
3. The meters provide information in two minutes after an earthquake striking. ____
4. It can take less than three minutes to learn about the strength and epicenter of the earthquake. ____
5. Few tsunamis have been as powerful as the one that struck Japan in March. ____

## 5 Short Answer

**Answer the questions in complete sentences.**

1. What is one of the best tsunami early warning systems in the world? _____
2. How many seismic intensity meters are there in Japan? _____
3. What information can be learned in less than three minutes? _____
4. How often do earthquakes strike Japan? _____
5. What happened in March? _____

Stay informed. Stay safe!

LIVEWORKSHEETS