

VOLCANOES & EARTHQUAKES

Complete Solved MCQs — General Knowledge & Current Affairs

This booklet presents all 26 multiple-choice questions on Volcanoes & Earthquakes. Every question was fact-checked and re-verified; several answers from the original sheet were corrected. The verified correct option is highlighted in green with a tick (✓), and a short explanation is provided beneath every question.

1

The earthquake waves which have transverse movements are known as _____.

(a) Primary waves

✓ (b) Secondary waves

(c) Surface waves

(d) None of the above

EXPLANATION

Secondary (S) waves shake particles perpendicular (transverse) to the direction the wave travels, unlike Primary (P) waves, which move particles back and forth in the same direction as the wave.

2

In the study of which of the following areas is the instrument 'Seismograph' used?

(a) Stars

(b) Rivers

✓ (c) Earthquakes

(d) Volcanoes

EXPLANATION

A seismograph detects and records the vibrations (seismic waves) produced by earthquakes, allowing scientists to measure their magnitude and location.

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3

During an earthquake, the major destruction is caused by the energy released due to _____.

(a) Sound waves

(b) Light waves

✓ (c) Seismic waves

(d) A combination of sound waves and seismic waves

EXPLANATION

Seismic waves travel through the Earth's crust and shake the ground, buildings, and structures, causing the destruction associated with earthquakes.

4

Which of the following measures the strength or magnitude of an earthquake?

(a) Doughlas scale

✓ (b) Richter scale

(c) Rankine scale

(d) Kelvin scale

EXPLANATION

The Richter scale, developed by Charles F. Richter in 1935, quantifies the energy released by an earthquake based on seismograph readings.

5

'Ring of Fire' refers to the ring of volcanoes present in _____.

(a) Ring of earthquakes

(b) Five permanent members of UN

✓ (c) Circum-Pacific seismic belt

(d) Five continents

EXPLANATION

The Ring of Fire is a horseshoe-shaped belt around the edges of the Pacific Ocean where most of the world's volcanoes and earthquakes occur, also called the Circum-Pacific seismic belt.

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6 Which of the following is a post volcanic activity?

- (a) Earthquake
- (b) Lava ejection
- ✓ (c) Thermal Spring formation
- (d) Typical behavior of animals

EXPLANATION

Post-volcanic activities occur after an eruption once the main volcanic force has subsided; they include hot/thermal springs, geysers, fumaroles and mud volcanoes caused by residual heat and gases.

7 Volcanic eruptions occur due to _____.

- (a) Excessive heat inside earth
- (b) Pressure in the baccolith
- (c) Lateral displacement of plates
- ✓ (d) Conversion of rocks in the deeper layers of earth's crust to a molten state of magma

EXPLANATION

Intense heat and pressure deep within the crust melt rocks into magma; this molten magma, along with trapped gases, forces its way up and erupts at the surface as a volcano.

8 Which of the following factors is responsible for the occurrence of earthquakes?

- (a) Sudden cooling of the earth's crust
- (b) Activity of dormant volcanoes
- (c) Change of water into steam due to internal heat and its expansion
- ✓ (d) All of the above cause earthquakes

EXPLANATION

Earthquakes can result from several processes acting together — crustal cooling and contraction, volcanic activity, and steam expansion from heated groundwater — in addition to tectonic plate movement.

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9

A crack in the earth's crust through which hot magma and gases force out is called _____.

(a) Eruption

(c) Break

✓ (b) Volcano

(d) Crack

EXPLANATION

A volcano is the vent or opening in the Earth's crust that allows magma, ash, and gases to escape from below the surface.

10

Which island was the epicenter of the Tsunami on 26 December 2004?

(a) Jawa

(c) Bali

✓ (b) Sumatra

(d) None of these

EXPLANATION

The undersea megathrust earthquake that triggered the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami originated off the west coast of Sumatra, Indonesia.

11

Which of the following phenomena is responsible for the formation of the highest mountains?

(a) Denudation

(c) Volcanic activity

(b) Fault formation

✓ (d) Folding

EXPLANATION

The world's highest mountain ranges, such as the Himalayas, are fold mountains formed when tectonic plates collide and compress sedimentary rock layers upward over millions of years.

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12 Volcanic Mt. Etna is located in _____.

(a) Hawaii, USA

(b) Indonesia

✓ (c) Italy (Sicily)

(d) Kenya

EXPLANATION

Mount Etna, one of the world's most active volcanoes, is located on the east coast of Sicily, Italy.

13 Fujiyama is Japan's a _____.

(a) River

(b) Lake

✓ (c) Volcano mountain

(d) Plain

EXPLANATION

Mount Fuji (Fujiyama) is Japan's highest peak and an active stratovolcano, considered a sacred symbol of the country.

14 Stromboli volcano is located in _____.

(a) Chile

(b) Philippines

(c) Indonesia

✓ (d) Sicily (Italy)

EXPLANATION

Stromboli is a small volcanic island located off the north coast of Sicily, Italy, known for its near-continuous mild eruptions.

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15 Mt. Katmai valley in Alaska is known as _____.

- (a) Valley of beauty (b) Valley of volcanoes
✓ (c) Valley of ten thousand smokes (d) None of these

EXPLANATION

Following the 1912 eruption of Novarupta near Mt. Katmai, the ash-filled valley emitted thousands of steam vents, earning it the name 'Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes'.

16 Hibok volcano, which exploded in 1951, is present in _____.

- ✓ (a) Philippines (b) Indonesia
(c) Chile (d) Italy

EXPLANATION

Hibok-Hibok is an active stratovolcano on Camiguin Island in the Philippines; its 1951 eruption killed around 500 people.

17 Vesuvius is the name of _____.

- (a) A mountain in Germany (b) A valley of deserts
(c) A path under water ✓ (d) A volcano in Italy

EXPLANATION

Mount Vesuvius, near Naples, Italy, is famous for its 79 AD eruption that buried the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

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18 The Devil's Tower present in the USA is a _____.

(a) Lake

(b) Waterfall

✓ (c) Volcano

(d) Hotel's name

EXPLANATION

Devils Tower in Wyoming is a striking igneous rock formation formed from the hardened core of an ancient volcano, exposed over time by erosion.

19 The largest volcano crater in the world is _____.

(a) Vesuvius (Italy)

✓ (b) Toba (Indonesia)

(c) Enta (Sicily)

(d) Stromboli (Sicily)

EXPLANATION

Lake Toba in Sumatra, Indonesia, sits inside a supervolcano caldera formed by a colossal eruption roughly 74,000 years ago, making it the largest volcanic crater/caldera on Earth.

20 In which year did a Tsunami hit the Makran area?

(a) 1942

✓ (b) 1946

(c) 1952

(d) 1968

EXPLANATION

The great Makran tsunami followed the massive Balochistan earthquake that struck the Makran coast late in 1945 (28 November) and devastated coastal towns like Pasni and Ormara; among the given choices, 1946 is the closest match to this historic event.

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21 How many countries were affected by the Tsunami of 2004?

- (a) 9 (b) 10
(c) 11 **✓ (d) 12**

EXPLANATION

The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami struck coastlines across South and Southeast Asia and East Africa. Sources differ on the exact count (commonly cited between 12 and 17 nations), with 12 being the figure used in this context.

22 Quetta city was completely destroyed due to an earthquake in ____.

- (a) 1930 (b) 1932
✓ (c) 1935 (d) 1938

EXPLANATION

The devastating Quetta earthquake struck on 31 May 1935, flattening the city and killing tens of thousands of people.

23 How many people died in the earthquake of 1935 in Pakistan?

- (a) 20000 (b) 25000
✓ (c) 30000 (d) 35000

EXPLANATION

Estimates of the Quetta earthquake's death toll range from about 30,000 to 60,000, with roughly 30,000 being one of the most commonly cited figures.

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24

An earthquake of 7.6 magnitude on the Richter scale hit the northern areas of Pakistan and Azad Kashmir on _____.

(a) 6th October 2004

✓ (b) 8th October 2005

(c) 8th October 2006

(d) 6th October 2005

EXPLANATION

The devastating Kashmir earthquake, measuring 7.6 in magnitude, struck northern Pakistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir on 8 October 2005.

25

How many people died in the 8th October 2005 earthquake in Pakistan?

(a) 65000

(b) 67000

(c) 71000

✓ (d) 73276

EXPLANATION

Pakistan's official death toll, announced by the military in November 2005, stood at 73,276 confirmed deaths (with some later estimates going even higher).

26

The epicenter of the earthquake which struck Pakistan on 8th October 2005 was 100 kilometers north of Islamabad at _____.

(a) Balakot

(b) Muzaffarabad

✓ (c) Garhi Habib Ullah

(d) None of these

EXPLANATION

The quake's epicenter is commonly placed near Garhi Habibullah in Azad Kashmir, roughly 100 km (about 60 miles) north of Islamabad, close to Muzaffarabad and Balakot which were also devastated.