

Earthquakes in Taiwan

ESL Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com



Taiwan has many earthquakes. An earthquake is when the **ground** shakes. Taiwan is on top of two **plates** in the earth. When these plates move, the ground shakes.

Most earthquakes are very small. You might not even **feel** them. But sometimes they are big. Big earthquakes can knock things off tables. Pictures on walls might fall down.

Schools teach children what to do. You should **drop** to the ground. Then you should **cover** your head under a desk. Hold on until the shaking stops. This is called "Drop, Cover, Hold On."

Buildings in Taiwan are made to be **strong**. They can bend a little during an earthquake. Taipei 101 has a giant ball that helps keep it **safe**. Engineers work hard to protect buildings.

After an earthquake, check if you are okay. Help others who need help. **Earthquakes** are part of life in Taiwan. People learn to be **prepared** and stay calm.

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. ground _____ | a. to notice with your body |
| 2. plates _____ | b. when the ground shakes |
| 3. feel _____ | c. ready for something |
| 4. drop _____ | d. to get down low |
| 5. cover _____ | e. big pieces of the earth that move |
| 6. strong _____ | f. to protect yourself |
| 7. safe _____ | g. not in danger |
| 8. earthquakes _____ | h. the earth under your feet |
| 9. prepared _____ | i. not easy to break |
| 10. engineers _____ | j. people who design buildings |

B. True or False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Taiwan never has earthquakes. _____ | 2. Earthquakes happen when plates move. _____ | 3. All earthquakes are very big. _____ |
| 4. You should run outside during an earthquake. _____ | 5. Schools teach what to do in earthquakes. _____ | 6. Buildings in Taiwan are made to be strong. _____ |
| 7. Taipei 101 has a special ball inside. _____ | 8. You should stand up during shaking. _____ | 9. People should be prepared for earthquakes. _____ |

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: ground, plates, drop, cover, strong, safe, prepared

1. An earthquake is when the _____ shakes.
2. Taiwan is on top of two _____ in the earth.
3. You should _____ to the ground.
4. Buildings in Taiwan are made to be _____.
5. People learn to be _____ and stay calm.

D. Comprehension Questions

1. What is an earthquake?
2. Why does Taiwan have earthquakes?
3. What should you do during an earthquake?
4. How are Taiwan's buildings made?
5. What should you do after an earthquake?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever felt an earthquake?
2. Why is it important to know what to do?
3. What makes you feel safe at school or home?

Answer Key

A. Vocabulary: 1-h, 2-e, 3-a, 4-d, 5-f, 6-i, 7-g, 8-b, 9-c, 10-j

B. True/False: 1-F, 2-T, 3-F, 4-F, 5-T, 6-T, 7-T, 8-F, 9-T

C. Fill Blanks: 1-ground, 2-plates, 3-drop, 4-strong, 5-prepared

D. Comprehension: 1. When the ground shakes; 2. It sits on two plates that move; 3. Drop, Cover, Hold On; 4. Strong and can bend a little; 5. Check if you are okay, help others