

II

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UNIT/ASST
DATE

## BRITISH COUNCIL ASSOCIATION

Name of Activity - Essay writing competition

Topic - Earthquake as natural disaster

disturbs the balance of the earth in countries like Japan, Indonesia, Nepal, India & Pakistan

Earthquake is a natural disaster. An earthquake is also known as quake, tremor, temblor is the shaking of the earth surface of the Earth, resulting from the sudden release of energy in the Earth's lithosphere that creates seismic waves.

The seismicity, or seismic activity, of an area is the frequency, type & size of earthquakes experienced over a period of time.

An earthquake is caused mostly by rupture of geological faults, but also by other events such as volcanic activity, landslides & nuclear tests.

An earthquake's point of initial rupture is called its focus or hypocenter. The epicenter is the point at a ground level directly above the hypocenter.

Nepal → Nepal is a seismic zone country that faces many earthquakes. One of the destructive earthquake occurs

in April 2015 known as Gorkha earthquake killed nearly 9,000 people & injured nearly 22,000. Its epicenter is east of Gorkha district of Barpak & its hypocenter was at depth of approximately 8.2 km. It was the worst natural disaster that strikes Nepal since 1934. Nepal - Bihar earthquake, are the ground motion recorder in capital of Nepal was of low frequency along with its occurrence at an hour where many people in rural areas were working outside, caused the loss of property & human made buildings that are proud of country or heritage sites of UNESCO.

Japan - The Japanese archipelago is located in an area where several continental & oceanic plates meet. This is the cause of frequent earthquakes & the presence of many volcanoes & hot springs across Japan. Many parts of country have experienced devastating earthquakes & tidal waves in the worst in Japanese history, hit the Kanto plain around Tokyo.

Indonesia - Indonesia is an archipelago that includes thousands of volcanic islands which are created overtime as plates shift & molten rock, or magma, exert pressure. The Southeast Asian country is located on the Pacific Ring

of Fire, where slabs of the earth's crust tectonic plates - dash, creating earthquakes when the plates shove against one another. 90% earthquakes occur along the Ring of Fire.

Among the most deadly earthquakes in history was the magnitude 9.1 quake that struck off the west coast of Indonesian island of Sumatra on Dec 26, 2004.

Pakistan - Pakistan is one of the most seismically active countries in the world crossed by several major faults, as a result earthquake occurs often and are destructive.

Pakistan geologically overlaps the Eurasian & Indian tectonic plates. Hence this region is prone to violent earthquakes as the two tectonic plates collide. Some earthquake zones of Pakistan are Sindh, Azad Kashmir, Gilgit, Lahore.

India - The Indian subcontinent has a history of devastating earthquakes. As per the geographical statistics, almost 64% of the land in India is vulnerable to earthquakes. With some research cities which are observed high earthquake prone are

Guwahati - Assam  
Srinagar - Jammu & Kashmir  
Delhi  
Mumbai - Maharashtra  
Chennai; Kochin

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