

Name _____

Shaky Ground: Where Do Earthquakes Most Commonly Occur?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Divergent boundaries involve tectonic plates moving apart (e.g., the Mid-Atlantic Ridge), convergent boundaries involve plates moving toward each other and colliding (e.g., the Himalayan Mountains), and transform boundaries involve plates sliding past each other horizontally (e.g., the San Andreas Fault). Each type can lead to earthquakes due to the stress and pressure generated at these boundaries.
2. Safety measures for earthquake preparedness include creating an emergency kit, having a family emergency plan, securing heavy furniture and objects, and knowing how to "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" during an earthquake.
3. Studying intraplate earthquakes is important because they can still be highly destructive, even though they occur away from plate boundaries. Understanding their causes and patterns can help improve earthquake prediction and preparedness.
4. The specific recent earthquake events may vary, but examples could include the earthquake in Haiti in August 2021 and the earthquake in Greece in September 2021. These events impacted their respective regions, causing damage to buildings and infrastructure and affecting local communities.

