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Level 5 – 7th March, 2021

Iceland has 18,000 earthquakes in a week

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210307-iceland-earthquakes-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210307-iceland-earthquakes-5.html>

Unbelievably, Iceland has had 18,000 earthquakes in the space of a week. Most were too small to feel. The largest quake was a magnitude 5.6. This seismic activity suggests that a volcano in the southwest of Iceland may erupt soon. Volcanoes in that area have been dormant for over 800 years, but seismologists believe an eruption could be imminent. Iceland is a volcanic island and is used to tremors. However, the recent quakes have unsettled residents in the capital city Reykjavik. Scientists say despite the large number of quakes, there has been little damage.

Iceland is situated on top of tectonic plates that are deep in the earth. These are pieces of Earth's crust around 100km thick. Earth's land mass sits on them. The plates below Iceland are splitting apart and pushing North America and Eurasia away from each other. One Reykjavik resident spoke about his anxiety caused by the recent quakes. He said: "I have experienced earthquakes before, but never so many in a row. It is very unusual to feel the Earth shake 24 hours a day for a whole week. It makes you feel very small and powerless against nature."

Sources: <https://nbc-2.com/news/national-world/2021/03/04/iceland-hit-with-17000-earthquakes-in-the-past-week-a-volcanic-eruption-could-be-near1/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/04/world/europe/earthquakes-eruption-iceland.html>
<https://people.com/human-interest/iceland-18000-earthquakes-last-week-signaling-potential-eruption/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210307-iceland-earthquakes-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. 18,000 earthquakes in the | a. unsettled residents |
| 2. Most were too small | b. dormant |
| 3. The largest quake was a | c. damage |
| 4. Volcanoes in that area have been | d. to feel |
| 5. an eruption could | e. of quakes |
| 6. the recent quakes have | f. space of a week |
| 7. despite the large number | g. be imminent |
| 8. there has been little | h. magnitude 5.6 |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Iceland is situated on top | a. nature |
| 2. deep in the | b. on them |
| 3. These are pieces of | c. are splitting apart |
| 4. Earth's land mass sits | d. earth |
| 5. The plates below Iceland | e. in a row |
| 6. One Reykjavik resident spoke | f. of tectonic plates |
| 7. so many | g. about his anxiety |
| 8. powerless against | h. Earth's crust |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210307-iceland-earthquakes-5.html>

Unbelievably, Iceland has had 18,000 earthquakes in (1) _____ a week. Most were too small to feel. The largest quake (2) _____ 5.6. This seismic activity suggests that a volcano in the southwest of Iceland may erupt soon. Volcanoes in that area have (3) _____ over 800 years, but seismologists believe an eruption (4) _____. Iceland is a volcanic island and is used to tremors. However, the recent quakes (5) _____ in the capital city Reykjavik. Scientists say despite the large number of quakes, there has (6) _____.

Iceland (7) _____ top of tectonic plates that are deep in the earth. These are pieces of Earth's crust around 100km thick. Earth's (8) _____ on them. The plates below Iceland are (9) _____ pushing North America and Eurasia away from each other. One Reykjavik resident spoke about his (10) _____ the recent quakes. He said: "I have experienced earthquakes before, but never so many (11) _____. It is very unusual to feel the Earth shake 24 hours a day for a whole week. It makes you feel very small and (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210307-iceland-earthquakes-5.html>

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EARTHQUAKES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210307-iceland-earthquakes-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Earthquakes in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

