

# The Mercalli Scale **Answers**

<p>5 Felt by nearly everyone. Sleeping people may be woken. Trees and Telegraph poles sway.</p>	<p>1 Felt by no-one.</p>
<p>6 Felt by all. People run outside. Furniture moves. Slight damage to property.</p>	<p>12 Total destruction. Waves seen on the ground.</p>
<p>3 Felt by many but they don't realise it is an earthquake.</p>	<p>10 Many buildings destroyed. Ground is badly cracked.</p>
<p>4 Felt indoors by most people. Vibrations similar to a lorry hitting a building.</p>	<p>11 Almost all buildings destroyed. Wide cracks in the ground. Water, gas and electric out of action.</p>
<p>8 Specially designed buildings damaged, others collapse.</p>	<p>2 Felt by very few people. Hanging objects may swing.</p>
<p>7 Felt by all. People run outside. Moderate damage to buildings.</p>	<p>9 All buildings damaged. Cracks appear in the ground.</p>

## Gold

Why might the descriptions for an earthquake of a certain Mercalli intensity differ in different places?

*It depends on how built-up the area is and how well constructed the buildings are.*