Earthquakes - Choose the words that best fit into the blanks

Earthquakes are the most destructive (1) ________________ disasters. They usually (2) ________________ without any warning and result in a great (3) ________________ of life and an enormous demolition of buildings. Additionally, they may cause (4) ________________ landslides or create gigantic tidal waves which, in (5) ________________, are colossal walls of water smashing into seashores with such (6) ________________ that they are (7) ________________ of destroying coastal cities. However, the (8) ________________ majority of fatalities and serious injuries (9) ________________ about when buildings collapse.

Most frequently, the earthquake lasts 30 to 60 seconds, so usually there is no time to (10) ________________ once the shaking starts. The savage forces of an earthquake trigger off a (11) ________________ chain reaction in the building’s (12) ________________ when it is shaken, lifted, pushed or pulled. A building’s height, its (13) ________________ and construction materials are the most significant (14) ________________ deciding about the survival and collapse of the structure and, consequently, about the life or death of its (15) ________________.

(1) nature, natural, native, naturalistic  
(2) hit, strike, fall, attack  
(3) fatality, waste, harm, loss  
(4) overwhelming, disturbing, devastating, destructive  
(5) certainty, honesty, truth, fact  
(6) liveliness, force, influence, command  
(7) potential, capable, conceivable, possible  
(8) vast, wide, broad, full  
(9) bring, come, lay, make  
(10) escape, divert, abandon, discard  
(11) compound, composite, complex, complicated  
(12) design, configuration, formation, structure  
(13) shape, figure, character, spirit  
(14) keys, reasons, causes, factors  
(15) settlers, citizens, inhabitants, natives
Earthquakes - Choose the words that best fit into the blanks

Earthquakes are the most destructive (1) **natural** disasters. They usually (2) **hit** without any warning and result in a great (3) **loss** of life and an enormous demolition of buildings. Additionally, they may cause (4) **devastating** landslides or create gigantic tidal waves which, in (5) **fact**, are colossal walls of water smashing into seashores with such (6) **force** that they are (7) **capable** of destroying coastal cities. However, the (8) **vast** majority of fatalities and serious injuries (9) **come** about when buildings collapse.

Most frequently, the earthquake lasts 30 to 60 seconds, so usually there is no time to (10) **escape** once the shaking starts. The savage forces of an earthquake trigger off a (11) **complex** chain reaction in the building’s (12) **structure** when it is shaken, lifted, pushed or pulled. A building’s height, its (13) **shape** and construction materials are the most significant (14) **factors** deciding about the survival and collapse of the structure and, consequently, about the life or death of its (15) **inhabitants**.

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