

Paragraphs in Non-Fiction

On Shaky Ground

Why Do Earthquakes Happen?

Earthquakes happen because the Earth's surface is made up of large, flat pieces of rock. These fit together like a giant 3D jigsaw puzzle. They are called tectonic plates. These plates move very slowly and sometimes they collide. This leads to a sudden release of energy called seismic waves. These waves travel through the Earth and cause tremors and shakes.

Destructive Earthquakes

Earthquakes are measured on a Richter scale. This scale measures the magnitude (the energy it creates) of an earthquake. A strong earthquake can cause the following:

- shocking loss of life
- damage to whole cities
- landslides
- tsunamis

Class	Magnitude
great	8 +
major	7 – 7.9
strong	6 – 6.9
moderate	5 – 5.9
light	4 – 4.9
minor	3 – 3.9

Tsunamis

These happen when there is an earthquake at the bottom of the ocean. This causes waves of water to be forced upwards. The water creates a huge wave called a tsunami. When a tsunami reaches land, it can be deadly. In December 2004, a massive earthquake occurred in the Indian Ocean. The resulting tsunamis caused damage in many countries, and more than 200,000 people died.

1. Mark the subheading that could be used as an alternative for paragraph two with an 'X'.

How are Earthquakes Measured?

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What are Earthquakes?

☐

2. Mark the correct statement with an 'X'.

Subheadings summarise what the paragraph is about.

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Subheadings summarise what the whole text is about.

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3. True or false? The following sentence should be added to the paragraph under the subheading 'Destructive Earthquakes'.

The strongest earthquake ever recorded had a magnitude of 9.5.

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The Beatles

Who Were They?

The Beatles were an English rock and roll band. They formed in Liverpool in 1960. The band consisted of: John Lennon (rhythm guitar), Paul McCartney (bass guitar), George Harrison (lead guitar) and Ringo Starr (drums).

Number 1 Hits

Their first hit was called, "Please, Please Me". The album reached number 1 in the British charts in 1963. They had 17 British number 1 singles.

Beatlemania

This was the word used to describe the effect they had on their fans. In 1964, they travelled to the United States. When they arrived, they were greeted at the airport by thousands of screaming fans. Whilst there, they appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show. The show was watched by 74 million people, which was a record number of viewers.

A Lasting Impression

The band inspired many people. Thanks to The Beatles, many young people wanted to play guitars and form their own bands. Their fashion sense was copied around the world. They were proof that a group of boys, from simple backgrounds, could go on to achieve fame and fortune.

4. Circle a suitable subheading from the selection below to extend the text. Write the opening sentence of your new paragraph.

End of an Era

Where are
they Now?

Famous Fans
of The Beatles

5. Rewrite paragraph four to include bullet points. Use a colon to introduce the bullet pointed list.

6. The author has written the sentence below.

In 1967, "Hello, Goodbye" spent seven weeks at number 1 in the British charts.

Under which sub-heading should it be placed?
Explain your answer.

Chart Toppers

Beatlemania