



# BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Earthquake Hits Britain 英国遭遇地震

## Earthquake Hits Britain 英国遭遇地震

### The Biggest Tremor in 25 Years 二十五年来最强烈的地震

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, something very unusual happened in the UK; there was a rather large earthquake.

It was the biggest earthquake in 25 years in the UK. There have been very small tremors in the past but they pale into insignificance compared to this one.

It was felt in a large area across the country too, from as far north as Edinburgh in Scotland to as far south as Plymouth on the south coast of England.

The epicentre of the earthquake was in a small town in Lincolnshire, which is an area about two and a half to three hours north of London by car. A magnitude of 5.2 was registered on the Richter scale.

There were lots of reports in the news from people who felt the earth move. One man said, "We had loads of vibrating and wall shaking and stuff, noise coming off the roof. I came outside – the chimney's on the floor!"

A collapsed chimney was the cause of what was probably the worst injury from the earthquake; a man broke his pelvis when the chimney fell on him.

Another man who spoke to the BBC described the moment the earthquake occurred, "Everything was shaking. As soon as it happened we all went outside and saw everyone else down the street, coming out and just realised it was an earthquake."

The huge rumble that was felt by a lot of people, surprisingly caused very little structural damage to property.

Most British people would be surprised to learn that there are 200-300 earthquakes in Britain every year, but most of them are so small, they go unnoticed.

The magnitude of this earthquake is fairly small in comparison to some other natural disasters that have made international news, but for the people affected, it certainly came as quite a surprise.

## Glossary 词汇表

tremors – 震动	pale into insignificance – 显得无关紧要，没有这个地震这么强烈
epicentre – 震中	magnitude – 地震) 级数
the Richter scale – 里氏震级	vibrating – 震动
and stuff – 等等，还有其它东西的震动	chimney – 烟囱
collapsed – 倒塌	injury – 伤亡，受伤
pelvis – 骨盆	occured – 发生
rumble – 隆隆声	structural damage – 建筑构造上的破坏
go unnoticed – 未被察觉的，不被注意到的	natural disasters – 自然灾害

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. There are big earthquakes in Britain all the time. True / False
2. The last big earthquake in Britain happened 25 years ago. True / False
3. The epicentre of the earthquake was in London. True / False
4. No one died in the earthquake. True / False
5. Lots of properties were very badly damaged in the earthquake.  
True / False

## 2. Comparatives 比较级

We use the comparative form of the adjective when we are comparing two things. This is formed by adding **-r** or **-er** to an adjective with two syllables or less, or by placing the word 'more' before an adjective with more than two syllables.

我们用形容词的比较级来比较两者之间的差别。我们通常在单音节或双音节的形容词后加上 **r** 或 **er** 来构成它的比较级；或者是在多音节的形容词前加上 **more** 来构成它的比较级。

There are of course exceptions – here are two of the most common. The comparative form of 'good' is 'better' and the comparative form of 'bad' is 'worse'.

当然也会有特例，我们一起来看看最长见的两个特例。Good 的比较级是 better，bad 的比较级是 worse.

Complete the sentences below choosing the correct option:

请从每句话里的两个词中选择正确的一个来完整下列句子。

1. The recent earthquake in Britain was **more bad / worse** than any other tremor in the last 25 years.
2. Most of the many tremors that happen in Britain are **more small / smaller** than the one that happened in February.
3. Earthquakes are **more dangerous / dangerouser** than tremors.
4. The recent earthquake was **more weak / weaker** than some of the major natural disasters that have happened in the past few years around the world.
5. This was a **more important / importanter** story in the news because the earthquake was quite a big one.
6. It is **more unusual / unusualer** for an earthquake to happen in the UK than in Japan.

### 3. Jumbled Sentences 打乱顺序的句子

The words in the following sentences are in wrong order. Can you rearrange them to make a correct sentence in English?

以下句子中的单词顺序被打乱了，你能把这些单词从新排序后写出正确的句子吗？

The first word of the sentence will be one of the words with a capital letter.

下列每句话中第一个字母大写的单词是这句话的第一个词。

1. an UK the earthquake was in 2008 In February there.

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2. biggest It UK the years the 25 in earthquake in was.

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3. The north earthquake was in the epicentre of the England.

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4. a 5.2 of earthquake had The magnitude.

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5. no pelvis were his break but There man did a deaths.

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6. every tremors in small Lots unnoticed go year of.

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#### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with earthquakes in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与英国遭遇地震有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的 (g) 垂直的 (i) 或对角的 (m) 形式出现。

e	p	i	e	a	r	t	h	q	u	i	k
p	a	c	o	l	l	p	s	f	e	n	c
i	n	r	u	m	b	l	e	i	n	t	o
c	o	l	t	r	e	m	b	l	e	d	l
e	o	e	s	h	a	k	i	n	g	o	l
n	u	l	i	s	q	u	i	b	b	l	a
t	t	f	l	e	h	u	g	s	u	r	p
r	r	u	m	a	r	s	a	k	i	n	s
e	e	d	a	m	p	h	i	k	u	l	e
o	m	a	g	n	i	t	u	d	e	g	d
e	o	e	a	d	a	m	a	g	e	d	z
a	r	s	u	r	p	r	i	s	e	l	f

earthquake	tremor	huge	collapsed	epicentre
magnitude	damage	shaking	rumble	surprise

# Answers 答案

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Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假?请圈出正确答案。

- There are big earthquakes in Britain all the time. **False**
- The last big earthquake in Britain happened 25 years ago. **True**
- The epicentre of the earthquake was in London. **False**
- No one died in the earthquake. **True**
- Lots of properties were very badly damaged in the earthquake. **False**

## 3. Jumbled Sentences 打乱顺序的句子

The words in the following sentences are in wrong order. Can you rearrange them to make a correct sentence in English?

以下句子中的单词顺序被打乱了,你能把这些单词重新排序后写出正确的句子吗?

- In February 2008 there was an earthquake in the UK.
- It was the biggest earthquake in 25 years in the UK or It was the biggest earthquake in the UK in 25 years.
- The epicentre of the earthquake was in the north of England.
- The earthquake had a magnitude of 5.2.
- There were no deaths but a man did break his pelvis.
- Lots of small tremors go unnoticed every year in Britain.

## 2. Comparatives 比较级

Complete the sentences below choosing the correct option:

请从每句话里的两个词中选择正确的一个来完整下列句子。

- The recent earthquake in Britain was **worse** than any other tremor in the last 25 years.
- Most of the many tremors that happen in Britain are **smaller** than the one that happened in February.
- Earthquakes are **more dangerous** than tremors.
- The recent earthquake was **weaker** than some of the major natural disasters that have happened in the past few years around the world.
- This was a **more important** story in the news because the earthquake was quite a big one.
- It is **more unusual** for an earthquake to happen in the UK than in Japan.

## 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

e													
p	a												c
i		r	u	m	b	l	e						o
c			t										l
e			s	h	a	k	i	n	g				l
n					q								a
t	t					u							p
r	r						a						s
e	e						h		k				e
	m	a	g	n	i	t	u	d	e				d
	o			d	a	m	a	g	e				
	r	s	u	r	p	r	i	s	e				