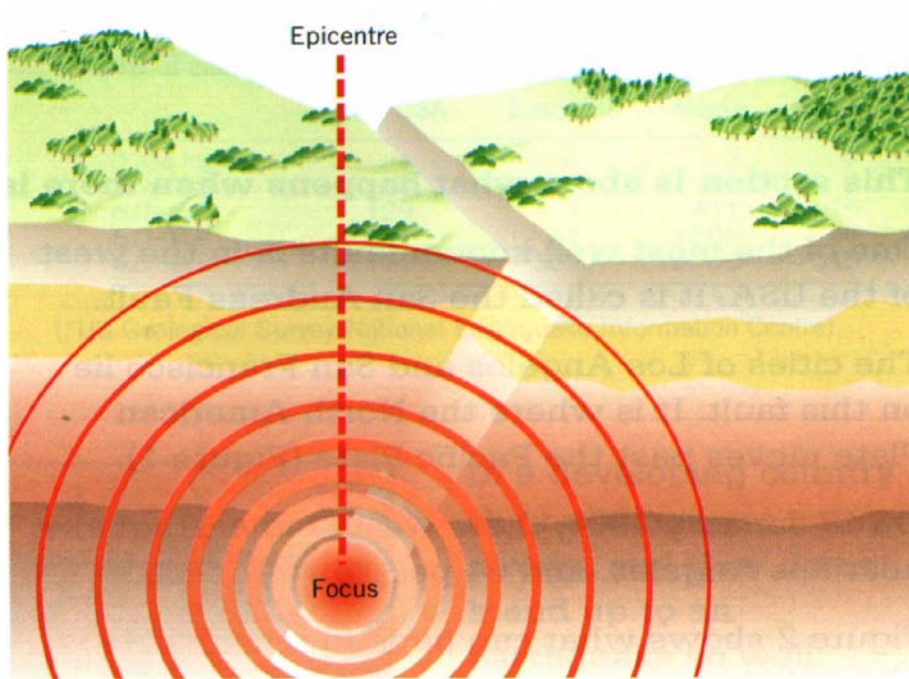


Epicentre and Focus



The place where the plates hit each other under the ground is called the *focus*. The place on the land directly above the focus is called the *epicentre*. It is at the epicentre that the earthquake is the strongest. And if you move away from the epicentre, the earthquake will become lighter.

An earthquake may not last for very long, but it can do lot of damage. In the Japanese city of Kobe, the earthquake of 1995 lasted for just twenty seconds, but it killed more than 5000 people.

Complete the sentences!

The place under the ground where there is an earthquake is called the _____.

The place above the ground where there is an earthquake is called the _____.

An earthquake lasts for a _____ time.

The earthquake is very strong _____.