Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

PRACTICE: Earthquakes

1. Describe elastic rebound.

2. Explain the difference between the epicenter and the focus of an earthquake.

3. Compare body waves and surface waves.

4. Describe P waves and S waves.

5. Explain how the structure of Earth's interior affects the seismic wave speed and direction.

6. Explain why earthquakes generally take place at plate boundaries.

7. Describe a fault zone, and explain how earthquakes occur along fault zones.

8. If a seismic station measures P waves but no S waves from an earthquake, what can you conclude about the earthquake's location?

9. Describe the instrument that is used to record seismic waves.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

10. Compare a seismograph to a seismogram.

11. Summarize the method that scientists used to identify the location of an earthquake before computers became widely used.

12. Describe the scales that scientists use to measure the magnitude of an earthquake.

13. Explain the differences between magnitude and intensity of an earthquake.

14. Explain why it would be difficult for scientists to locate the epicenter of an earthquake if they have seismic information from only two locations.

15. Explain why an earthquake with a moderate magnitude might have a high intensity.

16. Discuss the relationship between a tsunamis and earthquakes.

17. Describe two possible effects of a major earthquake on buildings.

18. Describe how identifying seismic gaps may help scientists predict earthquakes.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

19. What type of building construction and location regulations should be included in the building code of a city that is located near an active fault?