

4.112

1. Earthquake. An earthquake shook the city today.
2. Tsunami. It resulted in a tsunami that sent a huge wave over the city.
3. Tremors. Several tremors shook the buildings.
4. Debris. There were pieces of debris across the road.
5. Cracks. We started to see cracks in the walls.
6. Blackout. With no electricity, there was a complete blackout.
7. Destruction. The earthquake caused widespread destruction in the area.
8. Emergency crew. The emergency crew arrived on the scene.

4.113

1. We all panicked when the earthquake struck.
2. When the tremors started, we were a bit confused.
3. We felt terrified when the building started shaking.
4. We didn't feel safe when some people on the streets were hit by flying debris.
5. We were really worried when some of the old buildings collapsed.
6. We felt frustrated during the blackout.
7. We were lucky that the tsunami didn't wash over the whole city.

4.114

Woman A powerful earthquake struck the Hawaiian Island of Oahu this morning a few minutes before 8 a.m., causing widespread destruction throughout the Honolulu and Waikiki areas. Some older commercial and residential buildings collapsed, and most of the island is without electricity or water. Emergency crews are working hard to help everyone in need. Our reporter, Andy Mowatt, is on the scene, Andy?

4.115

Andy Andy Mowatt here outside Paradise Palms Hotel in downtown Waikiki. I'm talking to Harry Benson, a tourist visiting Hawaii for the first time. Harry, where were you when the earthquake struck?

Harry I was in bed when the tremors started. I felt confused. The hotel was shaking and the furniture moved a bit. Some glasses fell off the table.

Andy What's the first thing you did after the tremors stopped?

Harry Well, my wife got into a panic, but my two boys were really excited. But I knew I had to get them out of the building. We were on the fourteenth floor. So we grabbed our passports and airline tickets and ran down stairs onto the street. Then there was a blackout all over the island.

Andy You must have felt terrified!

Harry No, it was OK. We found a safe spot away from many falling debris. When things calmed down, I ran off to buy groceries and bottles of water ... Most of the stores and

restaurants were soon closed, so it was a good thing to do.

Andy What did you do next?

Harry We stayed away from the beach until we heard there was no tsunami and knew it was safe to return to our hotel. One hundred and eighty-six steps to the room ... We did it a few times. We also helped a few older people with their bags.

Andy Thanks, Harry.

4.116

Andy Now, here's local resident Karen Porter. Karen, you must feel very lucky.

Karen I sure do. When the earthquake struck, my place was left standing but the two houses on either side of mine collapsed. There were some cracks in my walls, but I was mostly worried about my neighbors.

Andy Fortunately, everyone was OK.

Karen Yes, I made sure my neighbors weren't hurt. But they were terrified. Information was almost impossible to come by. We didn't know if there was going to be any food or water available.

Andy But I understand that you shared what you had.

Karen My neighbors had almost nothing to eat or drink. I have a big barbecue, so I fired it up and started cooking for anyone who needed a meal.

4.117

Andy Andy Mowatt here for Island News, talking to local heroes after last week's earthquake. Angela, where were you when the earthquake struck?

Angela Just outside my house.

Andy Is that when you heard Mrs. Harris?

Angela I could only see her – er, see her arm – but I guessed she was the older woman who lived across the street.

Andy Was she calling out?

Angela Yes, but quietly. I couldn't get her out of the debris. I held her hand and told her everything would be OK.

Andy And how long did you wait until help came?

Angela Oh, at least three hours. She said having someone with her is what helped her pull through.

4.118

Andy We're here at what used to be Aloha Elementary School, talking with one of the teachers, David Simmons. David, what was the first thing you thought of when the earthquake struck?

David Er, the children are going to get hurt! Several walls of the school had collapsed.

Andy But the roof was still in place?

David Most of it. I thought to myself, those kids probably feel terrified. Lots were standing around crying and a couple were even trying to go back into the building. I knew it wasn't safe. I told an older kid to take the rest to safety over by the road. In the building, I found a girl and carried her out. Then again and again. I don't know how many times I went in, but the roof kept making noises and I knew we were running out of time.

Andy The roof finally collapsed?

David There was dust everywhere. You wouldn't believe how much dust there was.

4.119

Andy We're with ambulance driver, Erin Steadman. Erin, where was your ambulance when it happened?

Erin On the highway. The earthquake struck and we found ourselves cut off from the hospital. But people were hurt, so our ambulance became a sort of mini-hospital. People were coming with burns, lots of cuts, some broken arms and legs. Some people we just couldn't help. It was terrible.

Andy I understand you put in quite a few hours.

Erin Yeah, must have been twenty hours straight, maybe more. But when people need help, you can't stop. You just have to keep going.

4.120

Example: A powerful earthquake struck Oahu.

1. My two boys were really excited.
2. We were on the fourteenth floor.
3. I knew we were running out of time.
4. Was the roof still in place?
5. When people need help, you can't stop.
6. Here's local resident Karen Porter.
7. Several walls of the school had collapsed.
8. There was a blackout all over the island.

4.121

The Tohoku earthquake was a magnitude 9.0 undersea earthquake off the coast of Japan that occurred on Friday the 11th of March 2011. It was the most powerful earthquake ever recorded to have hit Japan and the fourth most powerful earthquake in the world since 1900. The earthquake triggered powerful tsunami waves that reached heights of 40.5 meters.

The earthquake and following tsunamis caused widespread injuries, deaths and destruction along the east coast of Japan. On March the 10th 2015, the Japanese National Police Agency reported that approximately 16,000 deaths, 6000 injuries and 2,500 missing persons were caused by the disaster. In addition, almost a million buildings were either damaged or totally destroyed.

The tsunami also caused nuclear accidents, with meltdowns occurring at three nuclear reactors at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. Many electrical generators were affected, causing many places to lose power after the accident and residents within a 20km radius of the power plant were evacuated.

Early estimates placed financial losses from the disaster between \$15 and \$35 billion US dollars. However, recently the World Bank estimated the total cost to be a staggering \$235 billion US dollars, making it the costliest natural disaster in world history.

Following the disaster, Japan received messages of condolence and offers of assistance from many international leaders. Japan specifically requested teams from Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States to assist the affected areas. By March 2012, just a year after the disaster, a total of \$4.5 billion US dollars in donations had been raised as part of the relief effort.