

**I. Choose the words that best complete the sentences in the text.**

Earthquakes are amongst the most destructive ..... (1) disasters. They usually ..... (2) without any warning and ..... (3) in a great ..... (4) of life and an enormous demolition of buildings. Additionally, they may cause devastating landslides or create gigantic tidal waves which, in ..... (5), are colossal walls of water smashing into seashores with such force that they are ..... (6) of destroying coastal cities. However, the ..... (7) majority of fatalities and serious injuries ..... (8) about when buildings ..... (9) .

Most frequently, the earthquake lasts 30 to 60 seconds, so usually there is no time to ..... (10) the mortal ..... (11) once the shaking starts. The savage forces of an earthquake trigger ..... (12) a complex chain ..... (13) in the building's structure when it is shaken, lifted, pushed or pulled. A building's height, its shape and construction materials are the most significant ..... (14) deciding about the survival or collapse of the structure and, consequently, about the life or death of its ..... (15).

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|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. a) nature    | b) naturalistic | c) natural     | d) native      |
| 2. a) hit       | b) strike       | c) fall        | d) attack      |
| 3. a) result    | b) effect       | c) lead        | d) cause       |
| 4. a) fatality  | b) waste        | c) harm        | d) loss        |
| 5. a) fact      | b) certainty    | c) honesty     | d) truth       |
| 6. a) potential | b) conceivable  | c) capable     | d) possible    |
| 7. a) wide      | b) broad        | c) full        | d) vast        |
| 8. a) bring     | b) come         | c) lay         | d) make        |
| 9. a) demolish  | b) jumble       | c) destroy     | d) collapse    |
| 10. a) avert    | b) evade        | c) abstain     | d) restrain    |
| 11. a) upkeep   | b) upturn       | c) upshot      | d) uptake      |
| 12. a) up       | b) on           | c) out         | d) off         |
| 13. a) activity | b) motion       | c) progress    | d) reaction    |
| 14. a) factors  | b) phenomena    | c) points      | d) ingredients |
| 15. a) settlers | b) citizens     | c) inhabitants | d) burghers    |

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**AT    BETWEEN    BY    IN    FOR    FROM    OF    ON    WITH**

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1. Although Mrs Parker was bitterly jealous ..... her friends' higher wages in the company, she managed to avoid making sharp comments.
2. The committee doesn't support any immediate changes. They say the modifications should be introduced step ..... step.
  
3. The landlord was very generous to us. All that we consumed in his inn was ..... the house.
4. We can't give up. Now that we have gone through the most difficult part of the route we must reach Khartoum ..... any cost.
5. If you had informed us ..... advance that you wouldn't be giving any seminar we wouldn't have gone to the trouble of making all the necessary arrangements.
6. Jack's great interest ..... Unidentified Flying Objects seems quite odd to his friends, but the boy considers it an absorbing hobby.
7. What unavoidably makes me angry ..... Frank is his inability to take prompt decisions.
8. The football star is going to spend holidays in a secluded place where he expects to hide ..... the curious journalists and photographers.
9. All the candidates, except ..... Mr Jenkins, have scored the required number of points.
10. Customers used to complain about the high prices of food, meat ..... particular.
11. Learning this long definition ..... heart, at first, seemed an impossible task. But, finally, I was successful ..... memorizing it.
12. Instead ..... a long speech at the beginning of the meeting, the chairman only gave a short welcome to all the participants.
13. Only Mark was keen ..... going fishing early in the morning. The rest of the company felt too tired after their long journey.
14. Tell the children to stop fooling around or I'll lose my patience ..... them.
15. There's no difference ..... price ..... these two printers.