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英語樂



Goodies

Wednesday
LS World

Devastating earthquakes

We are praying for the safety of people affected by the earthquake.

We should all learn what to do in the event of an earthquake.

A HUGE rescue and relief operation is taking place in Nepal (尼泊爾) after an earthquake caused death and destruction. More than 7,000 people have been killed following the quake at the end of April near Kathmandu (加德滿都), the capital of the country. The final death toll could be 10,000.

Finding survivors has been difficult because many of the worst hit areas are very difficult for rescuers to get to. Dangerous aftershocks, which are smaller tremors that come after a big quake, are also creating more misery and fear.

Editor's Note

It is very sad to see the pictures on the television and in the newspapers of the earthquake disaster in Nepal. There are many Nepalese people living in our city so it must be heartbreaking for them to see their country like this. We are very lucky to have never experienced earthquakes or any other natural disasters in Hong Kong, so be grateful of what we have and never take it for granted. To learn more about earthquakes, turn to G02.



Simon



Cover Feature

Wednesday 6 May 2015

• Text: Mike Lau • Photos: AP, Xinhua

How earthquakes happen

The Earth's surface is called the crust and it is about 100km thick. It is arranged like a giant jigsaw puzzle with **individual** pieces slotting together. These pieces are called tectonic plates. The edges where these plates come together are called fault lines. Places like Sichuan (四川) and Kathmandu lie on fault lines.

Energy from deeper layers of the Earth cause the plates to constantly move, yet their rough edges remain stuck together. But after a while the **pressure** becomes too much so the edges become unstuck and the plates slide past one another.

This slipping releases lots of energy which spreads out like an **explosion**, causing the ground to shake. The centre of the quake is called the epicentre.



I'm very fast. I will just run outside if there's an earthquake.

That's a stupid thing to do! Outside you're more likely to be hit by falling objects.

What to do during an earthquake

Although Hong Kong is not affected by major earthquakes, the mainland is. Most recently, almost 69,000 people were killed in an earthquake in Sichuan. Here is what to do if you feel the ground shake:

1. Drop down onto your hands and knees. This will stop you being **knocked over**.
2. Cover yourself. Hiding under a strong table is a good option.
3. Hold on to the **shelter** tightly. If you cannot, then hold onto your neck and head.

Myths about earthquakes

Myth 1: The biggest danger is being trapped in **collapsed** buildings.

Truth : The biggest danger is being **hit by falling objects**.

Myth 2: When a building collapses everything inside is crushed.

Truth : People have **survived by hiding under furniture**.

Myth 3: The safest place is outside.

Truth : **Outside you are more likely to hit by falling bricks, windows and other building parts.**

Myth 4: Moving to a safe location when the Earth is shaking is recommended.

Truth : **Moving during a tremor can be very dangerous.**



Vocabulary

individual (adj) 個別的
pressure (n) 壓力

explosion (n) 爆炸
knock over (ph v) 撞到

shelter (n) 遮蓋物
collapsed (adj) 倒塌的



Challenge

