

Name _____

Nova: The Day the Earth Shook

Directions: Listen to the video and try to answer as many of the following questions as possible.

1. What statistics characterize each of the earthquakes in the video? How does Makiko Yoshihara describe her experiences in both earthquakes?
2. Why was there a delay in people outside Kobe finding out about the quake? Describe the experience of Norio Seki in the Kobe newsroom.
3. Describe the damage in Kobe. What impeded assistance to the victims? What other problems made the situation worse?
4. What do seismologists know about the causes of the Kobe and Northridge quakes? Why was it difficult to obtain seismic records of what caused them?
5. How were the earthquakes in Kobe and Northridge different? How were they similar? Why was there so much more damage in Kobe?

6. Describe the impact of building construction in a major earthquake. What other damages were prevalent? Describe the destruction of freeways, bridges and docks.

7. What were the economic effects of the Northridge and Kobe quakes?

8. Why do different areas experience different levels of shaking? What is Dr. Irikura's theory about basin originated waves, and how does it apply to Kobe?

9. What lessons have been learned from the Kobe earthquake? In what ways is Tokyo prepared for a major quake?

10. What information can computer simulation provide? How will it help rescue efforts? Describe the characteristics of the response systems now in place in Japan and the U.S.