**Designing earthquake-prone buildings**

**Study the following words and their meanings:**

***Seismic*** – connected with or caused by earthquakes

***To rumble*** – make a long deep sound

***Rim*** – edge of something round

***To withstand****-withstood-withstood* – to be strong enough not to be damaged, to resist

***Tremor*** – a small earthquake in which the ground shakes slightly

***Magnitude*** – the size of an earthquake

***To blame*** *–* to say that sb/sth is responsible for sth

***Embedded***– firmly fixed into a solid object

***To put sb/sth through their/its paces*** – to make sb/sth perform a difficult task to see what they are capable of

***Partition*** – a wall or screen that separates one part of a room from another

***Brace*** – a device that holds things firmly together

***To retrofit*** – to furnish a building, computer or some other system with new or modified equipment not available at the time of manufacture

The **Pacific Rim** comprises the lands around the rim of the [Pacific Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Ocean)

a **shear wall** is a [structural system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_system) composed of [braced](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braced_frame) panels to counter the effects of [lateral load](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lateral_load) acting on a structure.