

To what extent are the primary effects of earthquakes more significant than the secondary effects?

The conclusion

In conclusion the primary effects of earthquakes are typically more significant than the secondary effects. However, there are exceptions to this. Where earthquakes trigger tsunamis the secondary effects are usually greater. It is also worth noting that the secondary effects of earthquakes tend to be greater in LICs than HICs due to the limited resources available to respond to the impact of the earthquakes.

Command Word(s

To what extent - I need to give a view on how valid a statement is after looking at different evidence.

Examples

The case studies I will use are Nepal (LIC) 2015, Japan (HIC) 2011 and L’Aquila (HIC) 2009.

Identify facts

* In some cases the primary effects of earthquakes can be greater than secondary effects e.g. in Nepal and L’Aquila
* Secondary effects greater in Nepal compared to L’Aquila - give explanation why
* In other cases the secondary effects of earthquakes can be greater than the primary effects (especially when there is a tsunami!). For example, impact of tsunami caused by the Japan 2011 earthquake.

Decipher the question

* The question is asking me to evaluate whether the primary effects (what happens immediately such as buildings and roads collapsing) of an earthquake are greater than the secondary effects (things that happen after the earthquake such as fires, tsunamis, landslides and diseases).
* Effects - can be social, economic and environmental
* I’ll need to show knowledge of what primary and secondary effects are
* I’ll need to use evidence of case studies to back up your answers.

Sensible Structure

* Difference between primary and secondary effects (AO1 knowledge)
* I’ll discuss how the primary effects greater in Nepal and L’Aquila (AO2) compared to secondary separately
* I will make the point that secondary effects can be greater in LICs - link to case studies (AO2)
* I’ll discuss examples where secondary has a greater impact e.g. linked to tsunamis - Japan case study
* Conclusion (AO3)

DISSECT Alien Questions