

“Reading Series 2 - Earthquake” @ <http://www.youtube.com/ESL4free>

Magnetotellurics is valuable in the study of earthquakes because..

- A.** electromagnetic waves reveal the location of fault zones.
- B.** it can find the location of water-bearing rocks.
- C.** temperature and rock pressure can be studied.
- D.** it reveals the direction of the movement of water.

Reading Text - Earthquake:

Magnetotellurics probes earthquake zones using naturally occurring low-frequency electromagnetic waves generated by solar activity and lightning storms. These waves penetrate the earth's surface and bounce off rocks, providing information about the electrical conductivity of rocks. The more water rocks contain, the more conductive they are and the more they reflect the waves. By measuring the conductivity of rocks, it can be determined where water is being concentrated. Under conditions of high temperature and pressure, water is released upwards and collects in cooler rocks that are located at a less deep level. It has been found that clusters of water-bearing rocks that sit just below fault zones in the earth's crust can trigger earthquakes. Such is the pressure of water building up beneath a fault that a significant rupture can occur.

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SOME WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS IN THE TEXT

Bounce off: reflect after hitting the surface.
Cluster: a group of similar things.

Conductive: allowing something to pass through.
Rupture: the breaking apart of something.