How do earthquakes occur?

Your tasks:
Using the diagram above to help you, explain what happens during an earthquake and list the steps involved in chronological order.
How do earthquakes occur?

1. Convection currents in the Earth's mantle layer lead the tectonic plates in the crust to move. We can see that in this diagram as the two plates move past each other.

2. These tectonic plates sometimes get stuck as they brush past each other leading to a build up of pressure and energy.

3. This pressure builds up until the stress rises and breaks, suddenly allowing one plate to move, releasing the stored energy. The sudden movement is the earthquake.

Your tasks:
Using the diagram above to help you, explain what happens during an earthquake and list the steps involved in chronological order.

Answers