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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/122/2021_2022__E8_8B_B1_E8_AF_AD_E5_9B_9B_E7_c83_122616.htm After the violent earthquake that shook Los Angeles in 1994, earthquake scientists had good news to report: The damage and death toll could have been much worse. More than 60 people died in this earthquake. By comparison, an earthquake of similar intensity that shook America in 1988 claimed 25,000 victims. Injuries and deaths were relatively less in Los Angeles because the quake occurred at 4:31 a.m. on a holiday, when traffic was light on the city's highways. In addition, changes made to the construction codes in Los Angeles during the last 20 years have strengthened the city's buildings and highways, making them more resistant to quakes. Despite the good news, civil engineers aren't resting on their successes. Pinned to their drawing boards are blue prints for improved quake-resistant buildings. The new designs should offer even greater security to cities where earthquakes often take place. In the past, making structures quake-resistant meant firm yet flexible materials, such as steel and wood, that bend without breaking. Later, people tried to lift a building off its foundation, and insert rubber and steel between the building and its foundation to reduce the impact of ground vibrations. The most recent 5 designs give buildings brains as well as concrete and steel support. Called smart buildings, the structures respond like living organisms to an earthquake's vibrations. When the ground shakes and the building tips forward, the computer

would force the building to shift in the opposite direction. The new smart structures could be very expensive to build. However, that would save many lives and would be less likely to be damaged during earthquakes. 6. One reason why the loss of lives in the Los Angeles earthquake was comparatively low is that _____. [A] improvements had been made in the construction of buildings and highways [B] it occurred in the residential areas rather than on the highways [C] large numbers of Los Angeles residents had gone for a holiday [D] new computers had been installed in the buildings 7. The function of the computer mentioned in the passage is to _____. [A] help strengthen the foundation of the building [B] predict the coming of an earthquake with accuracy [C] counterbalance an earthquake's action on the building [D] measure the impact of an earthquake's vibrations 8. The smart buildings discussed in the passage _____. [A] would cause serious financial problems [B] would be worthwhile though costly [C] would increase the complexity of architectural design [D] can reduce the ground vibrations caused by earthquakes 9. It can be inferred from the passage that in minimizing the damage caused by earthquakes attention should be focused on _____. [A] the increasing use of rubber and steel in capital construction [B] the reduction of the impact of ground vibrations [C] the development of flexible building materials [D] early forecasts of earthquakes 10. The author's main purpose in writing the passage is to _____. [A] compare the consequences of the earthquakes that occurred in the U.S. [B] encourage civil engineers to make more extensive use of computers

[C] outline the history of the development of quake-resistant building materials [D] report new developments in constructing quake-resistant buildings 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com