

'Wave of silence' spread around world during coronavirus pandemic

Level 2 • Upper intermediate

KEY

2 Key words

1. unprecedented
2. vibration
3. lockdown
4. seismic
5. high frequency
6. restriction
7. substantial
8. faultline
9. rumbling
10. field

3 Comprehension check

1. A seismologist says that the way the quietening spread over time, starting in China and then moving to Italy and beyond, can almost be seen as a wave.
2. Records show that high-frequency noise fell by as much as 50%.
3. It was collected from 268 seismic sensors in 117 countries across the world.
4. in busy cities
5. It has allowed scientists to spot early warning signs of potential natural catastrophes such as earthquakes, volcanoes and landslides.
6. It is unprecedented, as far as records go back.

4 Vocabulary

- a.
1. station – a permanent installation of a seismic sensor and possibly a seismic recorder
 2. sensor – an instrument that measures ground motion when it is shaken by a movement
 3. vibration – noise as detected by a seismic sensor
 4. data – data collected by a seismic sensor
 5. activity – the types, frequency and size of earthquakes that happen over a period of time in a certain area
 6. wave – a wave of energy that travels through the Earth's layers and is a result of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions
- b.
1. seismologist
 2. seismometer