Three Basic Fault Types

[text from narration <https://www.iris.edu/hq/inclass/animation/636>]

In a normal fault, the block above the fault, called the hanging wall, moves down relative to the block below the fault, called the foot wall. This fault motion is caused by tensional forces and results in extension.

In a reverse fault, the hanging wall moves up relative to the foot wall. This motion is caused by compressional forces and results in overall shortening.

A strike-slip fault is a near-vertical fracture where the ground has shifted parallel to earth’s surface due to horizontal shearing forces. If you stand on one side of the fault & the block opposite you shifts left, it is called a left lateral fault. If it moves right, it is a right-lateral fault.