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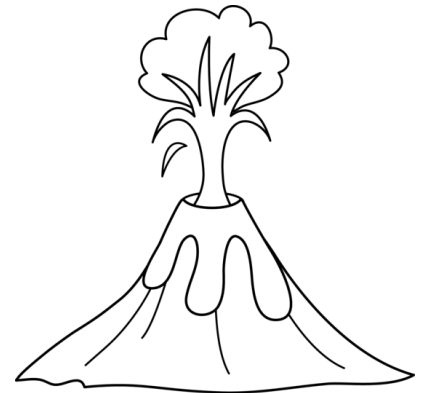
♥ Marie

VOLCANO ARTICLES & MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

There are two short articles in this download. The first is a “What is a Volcano” one-page article explaining how volcanoes form. Afterwards, the students are offered ten multiple-choice questions to test their comprehension. Secondly, there is another one-page article on the “Parts of a Volcano.” Eight multiple-choice questions follow to test your students’ comprehension. Happy learning!

What Is a Volcano?

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust where melted rock, gases, and ash can escape from deep inside the Earth. Volcanoes are powerful landforms that help shape the surface of our planet. Some volcanoes look like mountains, while others may form cracks or openings in the ground. Although volcanoes can be dangerous, they also play an important role in building new land and changing the Earth's surface.



Deep beneath the Earth's surface, the inside of our planet is extremely hot. This heat can melt rock into a thick, hot liquid called **magma**. When magma rises toward the Earth's surface and comes out of a volcano, it is called **lava**. The movement of magma is one of the main reasons volcanoes form.

What Causes Volcanoes?

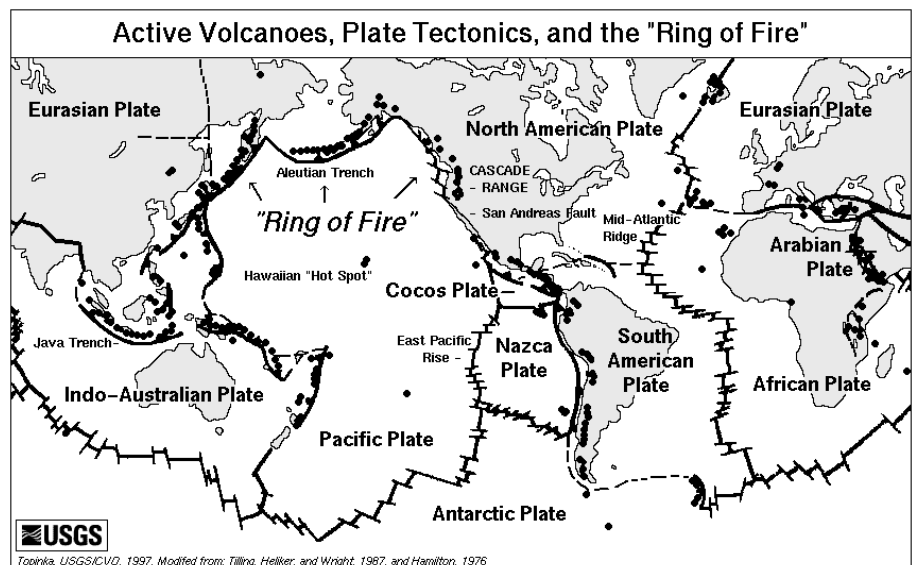
Volcanoes are mainly caused by the movement of the Earth's tectonic plates. The Earth's crust is broken into large pieces called **tectonic plates**. These plates are always moving, even though we cannot feel it. Sometimes tectonic plates move apart. When this happens, magma from below the Earth can rise up through the cracks. Other times, one plate pushes under another plate in a process called **subduction**. The rock melts under the surface, creating magma. Over time, the magma builds up pressure and looks for a way to escape. If it finds an opening, a volcano can form.

In some places, volcanoes form over **hot spots**. A hot spot is an area deep inside the Earth where extra heat rises toward the surface. This heat melts rock and creates magma, which can break through the crust and form a volcano.

Where Are Volcanoes Found?

Volcanoes can be found all over the world, but most are located near the edges of tectonic plates. Many volcanoes are found around the Pacific Ring of Fire, a large area surrounding the Pacific Ocean where many tectonic plates meet.

Volcanoes can also be found on the ocean floor. In fact, many underwater volcanoes help create new parts of the ocean floor. Some islands, like the Hawaiian Islands, were formed by volcanoes over hot spots.



Volcanoes are found on every continent, including Antarctica.

Volcano Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is a volcano?

- A. A hole filled with water
- B. An opening in Earth's crust where magma, gases, and ash escape
- C. A type of weather storm
- D. A deep cave

2. What is melted rock called when it is below Earth's surface?

- A. Lava
- B. Magma
- C. Ash
- D. Gas

3. What is magma called when it reaches Earth's surface?

- A. Lava
- B. Steam
- C. Rock
- D. Dust

4. What mainly causes volcanoes to form?

- A. Rain
- B. Wind
- C. Tectonic plate movement
- D. Snow

5. What are tectonic plates?

- A. Pieces of Earth's crust
- B. Pieces of lava
- C. Layers of clouds
- D. Ocean waves

6. What happens when tectonic plates move apart?

- A. The ground freezes
- B. Magma can rise through cracks
- C. Volcanoes disappear
- D. Oceans dry up

7. What is subduction?

- A. When lava cools
- B. When one tectonic plate pushes under another
- C. When ash falls
- D. When mountains form

8. Where are most volcanoes found?

- A. In deserts
- B. Near the edges of tectonic plates

C. In forests

D. In rivers

9. What is the Pacific Ring of Fire?

A. A large desert

B. A circle of volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean

C. A wildfire area

D. A mountain range

10. How do volcanoes help the Earth?

A. They build new land

B. They stop storms

C. They cool the Earth

D. They stop earthquakes

Volcano Multiple Choice Questions- **Teacher Answer Key**

1. What is a volcano?

- A. A hole filled with water
- B. An opening in Earth's crust where magma, gases, and ash escape
- C. A type of weather storm
- D. A deep cave

Answer: B

2. What is melted rock called when it is below Earth's surface?

- A. Lava
- B. Magma
- C. Ash
- D. Gas

Answer: B

3. What is magma called when it reaches Earth's surface?

- A. Lava
- B. Steam
- C. Rock
- D. Dust

Answer: A

4. What mainly causes volcanoes to form?

- A. Rain
- B. Wind
- C. Tectonic plate movement
- D. Snow

Answer: C

5. What are tectonic plates?

- A. Pieces of Earth's crust
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Answer: A

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- B. Magma can rise through cracks
- C. Volcanoes disappear
- D. Oceans dry up

Answer: B

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- C. When ash falls
- D. When mountains form

Answer: B

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- A. In deserts
- B. Near the edges of tectonic plates
- C. In forests
- D. In rivers

Answer: B

9. What is the Pacific Ring of Fire?

- A. A large desert
- B. A circle of volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean
- C. A wildfire area
- D. A mountain range

Answer: B

10. How do volcanoes help the Earth?

- A. They build new land
- B. They stop storms
- C. They cool the Earth
- D. They stop earthquakes

Answer: A

Parts of a Volcano

Volcanoes are made up of several important parts that work together during an eruption. In the last lesson, you learned that a volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust where magma, gases, and ash escape. But how does magma travel from deep inside the Earth to the surface? Each part of a volcano has a job that helps this happen.

Magma Chamber

Deep beneath the volcano is the **magma chamber**, a large underground area where melted rock collects. This is where magma builds up over time. As more magma gathers, pressure increases inside the chamber. When the pressure becomes too great, the magma begins moving upward.

Pipe

The **pipe** is the underground passage that connects the magma chamber to the surface. It acts like a tunnel, allowing magma to travel upward. Without the pipe, magma would not have a pathway to escape.

Main Vent

The **main vent** is the main opening where magma reaches the Earth's surface. When magma pushes through the main vent, it becomes lava. Gases and ash can also blast out of the vent during an eruption.

Side Vent

Some volcanoes also have **side vents**, which are smaller openings on the sides of the volcano. If the main vent becomes blocked or pressure finds another pathway, magma can escape through these side vents.

Cone

The **cone** is the mountain-shaped part of the volcano that we usually see. It forms over many eruptions as layers of lava, ash, and rock pile up around the vents. Over time, these layers build the volcano higher and wider.

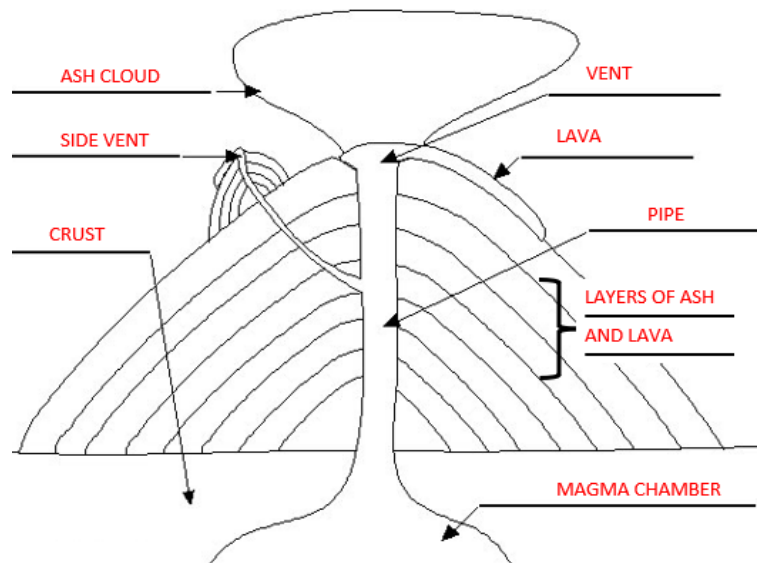
Ash Cloud

During some eruptions, tiny pieces of rock, dust, and ash shoot into the sky and form an **ash cloud**. These clouds can travel far with the wind and cover the land below. Ash clouds can affect plants, animals, and even airplanes.

Lava Flow

When magma reaches the Earth's surface, it is called **lava**. As lava pours out and moves across the ground, it is called a **lava flow**. Lava flows can destroy plants and buildings, but when they cool, they create new rock and sometimes new land.

All of these parts work together to make a volcano erupt. The magma chamber stores magma, the pipe and vents provide a pathway, and the lava and ash help build the cone over time. Understanding the parts of a volcano helps us understand how these powerful landforms shape the Earth.



Parts of a Volcano Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the magma chamber?

- A. The opening at the top of the volcano
- B. A cloud of ash in the sky
- C. A large underground pocket where magma collects
- D. A flow of lava on the ground

2. What does the pipe do in a volcano?

- A. Stores lava
- B. Carries magma from the chamber to the surface
- C. Forms the ash cloud
- D. Builds the cone

3. What is the main vent?

- A. A side opening in the volcano
- B. The underground magma chamber
- C. The main pathway magma uses to reach the surface
- D. The top of the ash cloud

4. What are side vents?

- A. Small openings on the sides of the volcano
- B. Underground tunnels
- C. Pieces of ash
- D. Layers of lava

5. How is the cone of a volcano formed?

- A. By rain and wind
- B. By layers of lava, ash, and rock piling up
- C. By earthquakes
- D. By ocean waves

6. What is an ash cloud made of?

- A. Water vapor
- B. Tiny pieces of rock, dust, and ash
- C. Only smoke
- D. Melted rock

7. What is lava flow?

- A. Magma moving underground
- B. Lava moving across the Earth's surface
- C. Ash falling from the sky
- D. Gas escaping from a volcano

8. What happens to magma when it reaches the Earth's surface?

- A. It turns into lava
- B. It turns into ash
- C. It cools into water
- D. It disappears

Parts of a Volcano Multiple Choice Questions - **Teacher Answer Key**

1. What is the magma chamber?

- A. The opening at the top of the volcano
- B. A cloud of ash in the sky
- C. A large underground pocket where magma collects
- D. A flow of lava on the ground

Answer: C

2. What does the pipe do in a volcano?

- A. Stores lava
- B. Carries magma from the chamber to the surface
- C. Forms the ash cloud
- D. Builds the cone

Answer: B

3. What is the main vent?

- A. A side opening in the volcano
- B. The underground magma chamber
- C. The main pathway magma uses to reach the surface
- D. The top of the ash cloud

Answer: C

4. What are side vents?

- A. Small openings on the sides of the volcano
- B. Underground tunnels
- C. Pieces of ash
- D. Layers of lava

Answer: A

5. How is the cone of a volcano formed?

- A. By rain and wind
- B. By layers of lava, ash, and rock piling up
- C. By earthquakes
- D. By ocean waves

Answer: B

6. What is an ash cloud made of?

- A. Water vapor
- B. Tiny pieces of rock, dust, and ash
- C. Only smoke
- D. Melted rock

Answer: B

7. What is lava flow?

- A. Magma moving underground
- B. Lava moving across the Earth's surface
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Answer: B

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