

# Natural Disasters - Volcanoes

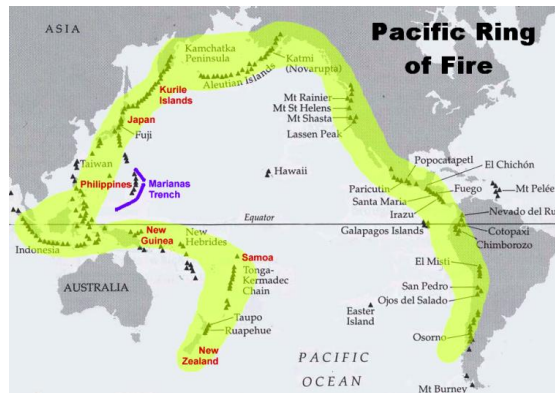
## Information Report

Title

Opening statement with lead in sentence to introduce and define the topic.

A volcano is a geological feature which is an opening, or rupture, in a planet's surface or crust, which allows hot magma, volcanic ash and gases to escape from the magma chamber below the surface.

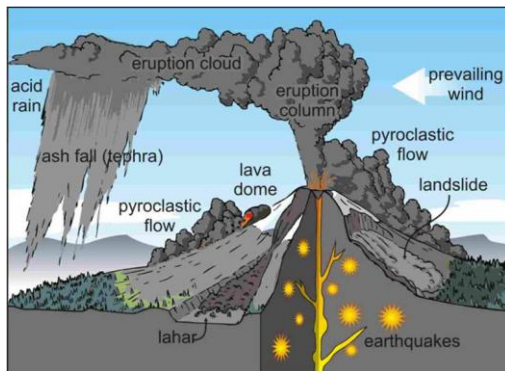
Volcanoes tend to exist along the edges between tectonic plates, massive rock slabs that make up Earth's surface. About 90 percent of all volcanoes exist within the Ring of Fire along the edges of the Pacific Ocean.



Language features:

- Technical language related to subject
- Formal and impersonal language
  - Uses timeless, present tense e.g. Adelaide is popular with international students.
- Often uses the passive voice e.g. "are being created"

Volcanoes can cause widespread devastation and destruction due to primary and secondary hazards. The primary effects include the volcanic eruption itself, the fall of rock, lava flows, volcanic ash and gases and pyroclastic flows. Lava flows will destroy everything in its path including buildings and forests and cause fires.

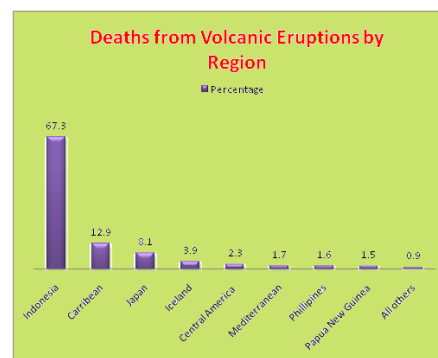


Volcanic ash is another primary hazard which has the consistency of ground glass and will choke human and animal life. Volcanic gases can lead to acid rain and air pollution downwind from a volcano.

The biggest direct killer of humans is pyroclastic flows. These flows consist of a cloud of hot volcanic ash that builds up in the air above the volcano and rushes down the slopes when the eruption no longer supports the lifting of the gases.

Many of the deaths associated with volcanoes, however, are secondary hazards. These include famines due to crop damage, lahars or mud flows, landslides and also tsunamis.

Increasingly more people and property are at risk from volcanic activity. As populations increase, areas near volcanoes are being inhabited and aviation routes are increasing. As a result, future eruptions could affect hundreds of thousands of people.



Series of paragraphs form the body of the text.

Each paragraph is about a different aspect of the subject.

Each begins with a topic sentence or point.

Focus is on facts not opinion

Conclusion

To help prevent loss of life and property. Geologists and volcanologists monitor these volcanoes using volcano seismology, gas, thermal, and surface deformation measurement to predict eruptions. Public officials are then able to issue warnings and make preparations that can reduce disaster and devastation from potentially catastrophic volcanic eruptions.