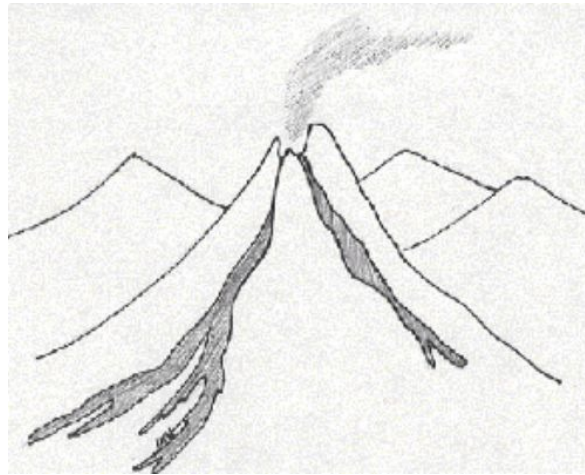


# Earth Science - Volcanoes

by ReadWorks

In Hawaii, there is an active volcano named Kilauea (*kill-a-way-a*). It is one of the most active volcanoes in the world.



Lynn M. Hanousek

*Illustration by Lynn M. Hanousek*

When plates in the Earth spread apart, molten lava comes up from the planet's inner layers. It then spits out of the mouth of the volcano. Lava is very hot. It is 10 times as hot as boiling water. If you stand too close to flowing lava, your eyelashes and eyebrows will instantly burn off.

Lava spews out of a volcano. Sometimes it shoots high up into the air. Lava rivers quickly form and travel down the sides of the volcano. They are a grave danger to those who live on or around the volcano. Lava sets trees and houses on fire. If the flow is fast, people can die if they don't get out of the way in time.

Kilauea is a special volcano because it is on what used to be a small island. As lava rivers run into the ocean, it cools, hardens, and becomes earth, expanding the size of the island. In fact, all Hawaiian Islands were formed from the eruption of volcanoes.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What comes out of a volcano when it erupts?

- A. melted rock
- B. burnt plants
- C. hot water
- D. pure fire

2. Volcano eruptions are caused by

- A. growing islands.
- B. underground lava rivers.
- C. plates in the Earth moving.
- D. the Earth's core exploding.

3. Based on the passage, the reader can infer that

- A. Living close to a volcano can be dangerous.
- B. Volcanoes usually destroy islands when they erupt.
- C. Touching molten lava would not hurt as much as boiling water.
- D. Kilauea is the only volcano on the Hawaiian islands.

4. Read the following sentences: "They are a grave danger to those who live on or around the volcano. Lava sets trees and houses on fire."

The word **grave** means

- A. small
- B. strange
- C. silent
- D. serious

5. What is the main idea of this passage?

- A. Hawaii is in constant danger from the destruction of flowing lava.
- B. Volcanoes spew dangerous, molten lava and can create islands.
- C. Volcanoes only exist on islands because that is where lava is located.
- D. Kilauea is one of the most active volcanoes in the world.

6. What dangers does lava cause?

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7. Explain how volcanoes both create and destroy things.

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8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

Lava hardens when it cools, so \_\_\_\_\_ the rock can form new land.

- A. before
- B. on the other hand
- C. previously
- D. as a result

9. **Vocabulary Word:** expand: to get bigger.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence

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