

**Subject:** Geography  
**Year:** 10  
**Term:** 1a  
**Topic:** Tectonics (1B)

**Lesson Sequence**

1. Earth's structure
2. Convection currents + plate boundaries
3. Volcanoes
4. Volcanoes – case studies
5. Earthquakes
6. Earthquakes – case studies

**Key Assessments**

1. Exam paper 1
2. Past Exam paper.

**Core Texts**  
Edexcel Geography B (9-1)  
John Hopkin (ed.); Pearson

| Key Words        |   |                    |   |
|------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| lithosphere      | Made of the earth's crust and upper mantle  | seismometer        | An instrument that measures movements of the ground, especially during earthquakes  |
| asthenosphere    | The upper layer of then Earth's mantle, below the lithosphere, in which convection currents cause tectonic plate movement | epicentre          | The point at the Earth's surface directly above the earthquake's focus  |
| subduction zone  | The zone where one tectonic plate sinks (subducts) under another  | lahars             | A mudflow r3esulting from ash mixing with melting ice or water – a secondary hazard for a volcano                           |
| faults           | A fracture or break in rocks  | focus              | The point in the Earth's crust where the earthquake begins  |
| plate boundary   | The margin at which two plates meet   | convection current | Circular current of heat in the mantle  |
| pyroclastic flow | A lethal hot mixture of broken rocks and gases that races down the sides of a volcano                                     | radioactive decay  | The process where natural radioactive materials in the Earth's rocks break down, giving out energy and heat as they do so   |
| primary impact   | the immediate effects of a natural hazard, caused directly by it  | hotspots           | A section of the Earth's crust where plumes of magma rise, weakening the crust; these re usually away from plate boundaries |
| secondary impact | The knock-on, or indirect, effects of a volcanic eruption or earthquake that take place on a longer time-scale            | supervolcano       | A colossal volcano that erupts at least 1000km <sup>3</sup> of material   |
| tsunami          | Giant sea wave travelling at high speed   | 'vog'              | Volcanic smog   |

**Earth Structure**

1. **Crust** – thinnest outer layer
2. **Mantle** – thickest layer, under the crust.
3. **Outer core** – made of liquid iron; dense.
4. **Inner core** – made of solid ball; dense.

**Types of Crust**

- **Continental** – land crust
- **Oceanic** – under water crust

**Types of Lava**

- **Andesitic lava** – erupts from composite volcanoes.
- **Basaltic lava** – erupts from shield volcanoes.

**Types of Plate Boundaries**

| Type         | Description  | Features  | Examples                             |
|--------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Convergent   | Plates collide into each other (ocean + ocean)       | <b>Composite volcanoes;</b> fold mountains; deep trenches |                                      |
| • Collision  | Plates collide into each other (ocean + continental) | "   | Mount St Helens (Washington, U.S.A.) |
| Divergent    | Plates separate from each other                      | <b>Shield volcanoes;</b> mid-ocean ridge; rift valley     | Mauna Loa, Hawaii (U.S.A.)           |
| Conservative | Plates slide past each other                         | (Violent) earthquakes                                     | San Andreas fault line               |

**Types of Volcanoes**

- **Shield volcano** - curved shape, less violent but more frequent eruptions
- **Composite volcano** – cone-like shape, very violent and less frequent eruptions.

**MEASRING EARTHQUAKES**

- **Richter scale**
- **Moment magnitude scale (Mw)**

**Case Studies - VOLCANOES**

- Developed country – KILAUEA ERUPTIONS, HAWAII U.S.A., (2011)
- Emerging country – PINATUBO ERUPTION, PHILIPPINES, (1991)

**Case studies - EARTHQUAKES**

- Developed country - TOHOKU EARTHQUAKE, JAPAN, (2011)
- Developing country – HAITI EARTHQUAKE, (2010)