

# Volcanology Basics for Students

Volcanology · Practice Test · 25 Questions

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**1. What is the molten rock called while it is still beneath the Earth's surface?**

- A) Lava
- B) Magma
- C) Ash
- D) Tephra

**2. Which of the following is a wide, gently sloping volcano formed by thin, runny lava flows?**

- A) Shield volcano
- B) Cinder cone
- C) Stratovolcano
- D) Lava dome

**3. What is the name of the tectonic region surrounding the Pacific Ocean known for frequent volcanic activity?**

- A) The Atlantic Ridge
- B) The Ring of Fire
- C) The Mid-Ocean Belt
- D) The Alpine Fault

**4. Which volcanic feature is formed when the top of a volcano collapses after an eruption?**

- A) Vent
- B) Fissure
- C) Caldera
- D) Crater

**5. What is the term for a volcanic hazard consisting of a fast-moving current of hot gas and rock?**

- A) Lahar
- B) Pyroclastic flow
- C) Tsunami
- D) Lava fountain

**6. Which gas is most commonly emitted in large quantities by active volcanoes?**

- A) Oxygen
- B) Nitrogen
- C) Water vapor
- D) Helium

**7. What type of rock is formed when volcanic lava cools and solidifies?**

- A) Sedimentary
- B) Metamorphic
- C) Igneous
- D) Limestone

**8. A 'Lahar' is specifically defined as what type of volcanic hazard?**

- A) A flow of mud and volcanic debris
- B) An earthquake triggered by magma
- C) A cloud of toxic sulfur gas
- D) A large ocean wave

**9. Which instrument is primarily used by scientists to detect volcanic earthquakes?**

- A) Barometer
- B) Seismograph
- C) Thermometer
- D) Anemometer

**10. What is the most common material ejected during an explosive volcanic eruption?**

- A) Solid gold
- B) Volcanic ash
- C) Liquid iron
- D) Frozen water

**11. What do geologists call a volcano that is not currently erupting but is expected to erupt again in the future?**

- A) Extinct
- B) Dormant
- C) Active
- D) Defunct

**12. Which type of volcano is typically symmetrical, cone-shaped, and built of alternating layers of lava and ash?**

- A) Composite volcano
- B) Shield volcano
- C) Cinder cone
- D) Fissure vent

**13. What is the name of the opening in the Earth's crust through which volcanic materials reach the surface?**

- A) Conduit
- B) Vent
- C) Magma chamber
- D) Fissure

**14. Which state in the United States is famous for its massive shield volcanoes, such as Mauna Loa?**

- A) California
- B) Alaska
- C) Hawaii
- D) Washington

**15. What is the name of the study of volcanoes and volcanic phenomena?**

- A) Seismology
- B) Volcanology
- C) Meteorology
- D) Hydrology

**16. Small, steep-sided volcanoes built entirely from loose volcanic fragments are known as:**

- A) Cinder cones
- B) Shield volcanoes
- C) Stratovolcanoes
- D) Composite volcanoes

**17. Which volcanic hazard refers specifically to the cooling of lava into solid rock?**

- A) Tephra fall
- B) Lava flow
- C) Pyroclastic surge
- D) Ash fall

**18. What is the name for the large underground pool of liquid rock beneath a volcano?**

- A) Magma chamber
- B) Lava lake
- C) Crater
- D) Vent

**19. Volcanic ash is made up of tiny fragments of what?**

- A) Plastic and rubber
- B) Hardened mud
- C) Glass, minerals, and rock
- D) Compressed organic matter

**20. Which of these is considered a 'dormant' volcano in the United States, famously erupting in 1980?**

- A) Mount St. Helens
- B) Kilauea
- C) Yellowstone
- D) Mauna Kea

**21. What term describes the thickness or 'stickiness' of magma?**

- A) Buoyancy
- B) Viscosity
- C) Density
- D) Gravity

**22. Which of the following is often a precursor signal that a volcano might erupt?**

- A) Increased earthquake activity
- B) Decrease in temperature
- C) Change in wind direction
- D) Cloud formation

**23. What is the name of a long crack in the Earth's surface through which lava can erupt?**

- A) Fissure
- B) Caldera
- C) Summit
- D) Vent

**24. Approximately how many active volcanoes are there on Earth?**

- A) About 100
- B) About 1,500
- C) About 50,000
- D) Over 1 million

**25. Which volcanic product is often mined and used in items like pumice stones or concrete?**

- A) Pumice
- B) Basalt
- C) Diamond
- D) Coal