Volcanology Basics

Geology · Answer Key · 15 Questions

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

A) Lava
B) Magma
C) Ash
D) Obsidian

2. Which type of volcano is formed by layers of lava and ash, typically having a steep, conical shape?

A) Shield volcano
B) Cinder cone
C) Composite volcano
D) Lava dome

3. What is the term for the opening at the top of a volcano through which volcanic materials are ejected?

A) Crater
B) Vent
C) Chamber
D) Fissure

4. Which of these is a common gas released by a volcanic eruption?

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

5. What is the 'Ring of Fire' primarily known for?

A) High levels of volcanic activity
B) Extreme cold weather
C) Ancient coral reefs
D) Dense tropical forests

6. Which material is created when lava cools very quickly on the Earth's surface?

A) Granite
B) Limestone
C) Obsidian
D) Marble

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7. What type of volcano is wide, broad, and built almost entirely of fluid lava flows?

A) Shield volcano
B) Composite volcano
C) Cinder cone
D) Strato-volcano

8. What are the small, pyroclastic particles thrown into the air during an eruption called?

A) Pumice
B) Basalt
C) Volcanic ash
D) Tuff

9. What instrument is used by scientists to detect vibrations caused by moving magma?

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

10. Which of these describes a volcano that is not currently erupting but is expected to erupt again in the future?

A) Extinct
B) Dormant
C) Active
D) Expired

11. Where is the vast majority of the Earth's volcanic activity located?

A) In the middle of deserts
B) Along plate boundaries
C) Underneath large lakes
D) On the tops of mountains

12. What is the thick, sticky molten rock that flows slowly during an eruption called?

A) High-viscosity lava
B) Low-viscosity magma
C) Steam
D) Tephra

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13. What is the name for a massive, bowl-shaped depression that forms when a volcano collapses after an eruption?

A) Caldera
B) Fissure
C) Vent
D) Pipe

14. Which rock is formed from the cooling and solidification of magma or lava?

A) Sedimentary rock
B) Igneous rock
C) Metamorphic rock
D) Organic rock

15. What do scientists call a scientist who studies volcanoes?

A) Archaeologist
B) Geologist
C) Volcanologist
D) Meteorologist

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