

Volcano Reading Comprehension

Read the passage carefully:

Volcanoes are powerful openings in the Earth's crust where molten rock, gas and ash can escape. There are around 1,900 active volcanoes on Earth today, and many of them are found along the edges of tectonic plates. When pressure builds inside a magma chamber, it can force magma upwards, causing an eruption. Some eruptions are gentle, releasing slow-moving lava, while others are explosive and send ash clouds high into the sky.

Not all volcanoes erupt frequently. Some remain dormant for hundreds or even thousands of years. A dormant volcano is one that has not erupted recently but could erupt again in the future. An extinct volcano, however, is unlikely to erupt again because its magma supply has stopped.

Scientists study volcanoes closely using special equipment that measures heat, gas levels and ground movement. This helps them predict when an eruption might happen so they can warn people living nearby. In some countries, whole towns have evacuation plans in case a volcano becomes active again. Although volcanoes can be dangerous, they also create new land and produce rich, fertile soil that helps plants grow.

Questions

A. Retrieval (find the answer in the text)

1. How many active volcanoes are there on Earth today?
2. Where are many volcanoes found?
3. What causes magma to rise and create an eruption?
4. What is a dormant volcano?
5. What do scientists measure to help them predict eruptions?
6. Why do some towns have evacuation plans?
7. What benefit do volcanoes bring to the environment?

B. Vocabulary

8. Find and copy a word that means *explosive or forceful*.
9. Find and copy a phrase that shows volcanoes can be helpful, not just dangerous.
10. What does the word *fertile* mean in the passage?

C. Inference (use clues + your thinking)

11. Why do you think scientists need to warn people living near volcanoes?
12. Why might a dormant volcano still be dangerous?
13. Why do you think some eruptions are gentle while others are violent?

D. Summary Challenge

14. Summarise the **whole passage** in **two sentences**. Try to include the ideas of:
 - what volcanoes are
 - why they erupt
 - how scientists keep people sa