

A2 GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL: Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards

What Board do we study?

AQA; www.aqa.org.uk

This website contains useful information on the course content and practice papers and mark schemes. Type 'Geography' into course search finder, scroll down to A Level Geography (2030), click on this. Scroll down to 'Specification', click on 'Past papers and mark schemes'. Check which Unit you want to look at and click on the relevant past papers to open them.

What is Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards?

Tectonics involves looking at the theory of plate movement to understand volcanicity and seismicity. We will study landforms at different plate margins using and examine associated hazards. For both volcanicity and seismicity we will look at causes, effects and human responses.

Practicalities – What do I need? What should I read?

Paper and a file with dividers (getting organised now will avoid wasting time during revision)

Lots of common sense

Pens, ruler and pencils

Books:

Barker R. Redfern D. Skinner M. AQA A2 Geography, Phillip Allen

Smith J. & Knill R. AQA A2 Geography, Nelson Thornes

Parsons R. A2-Level Geography Exam board AQA Complete revision and practice, CGP

Websites:

<http://coolgeography.co.uk/>

www.volcano.wr.usgs.gov

www.fema.gov

www.redcross.org.cn

www.oxfam.org

www.ocha.unog.ch

What do I need to know?

RAG rate the following throughout, or at the end of the Unit.

Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards	R	A	G
Unit content			
Earth Structure			
Plate tectonics theory			
Convection currents and sea floor spreading			
Evidence of continental drift, palaeomagnetism			
Destructive, constructive, conservative and collision plate margins			
Landforms of volcanicity – fold mountains, rift valleys, ocean ridges, deep sea trenches, island arcs			

Hot spots and their relationship with plate movement			
Variations in type and frequency of volcanic activity in relation to plate margin and types lava			
Major forms of extrusive activity – types of volcano			
Minor forms extrusive activity – geysers, hot springs, boiling mud			
Intrusive landforms – batholiths, laccolith, sill, dyke			
2 recent case studies – MEDC & LEDC inc. nature of hazard, impact of event, management and response			
Causes and characteristics of earthquakes			
Focus and epicentre			
Seismic waves			
Earthquake measurement			
Tsunamis – characteristics and causes			
2 recent case studies – MEDC & LEDC inc. nature of hazard, impact of event, management and response			
Unit skills			
ICT skills			
Map skills (do you know your way around a world map?)			
High quality literacy skills (can you write with sophisticated fluency?)			
Interpreting data and trends (graphs, tables, percentages)			
High quality evaluation skills (balanced arguments and your own opinions)			
Ability to think synoptically (using content from a range of topics and units)			