

World Volcanoes

There are several interesting **volcanoes** around the world.

Mount Saint Helens

Mount Saint Helens is 2549 metres tall and is found in Washington, USA. On 18th May 1980, a powerful **eruption** took place here and many forests, roads and homes were destroyed. The eruption blew off the top 400 metres of the volcano.



Kilauea

Kilauea is one of the most active volcanoes in the world. It is found in Hawaii, USA, and is about 1222 metres tall. Kilauea means 'spewing' or 'much spreading' in Hawaiian. In local legend, it is the home of the volcano goddess, Pele.



Mauna Loa

Also in Hawaii, Mauna Loa is the largest active volcano on the planet and its name means 'long mountain'. It rises 4169 metres and its base is another 5km below water on the ocean floor.

Popocatépetl

Popocatépetl means 'smoking mountain' in the Aztec language but it is nicknamed 'El Popo' by locals in Mexico. El Popo is 5465 metres tall and has had several small eruptions since 2005.



Mount Vesuvius

Mount Vesuvius stands at 1281 metres high and is located near Naples, Italy. In the last 2000 years, it has erupted over 30 times. Its most famous eruption took place on 24th August AD 79, when it erupted and buried the nearby Roman city of Pompeii.



Krakatoa

Krakatoa is a small, deserted island located in Indonesia. On 27th August 1883, its volcano of the same name erupted violently and sent ash 50 miles up into the sky. The ash blocked out the Sun from the surrounding area for about two and a half days.

Did You Know...?

Many scientists believe that Krakatoa's eruption created the loudest sound ever heard in history.

Mount Fuji

Mount Fuji is an active volcano and the highest mountain in Japan. It stands at 3776 metres tall and is known as a holy place. It last erupted on 16th December 1707.

Mount Etna

Mount Etna's name comes from Greek and means 'I burn'. It is located on the island of Sicily, Italy, and it is 3357 metres above sea level.

Glossary

eruption: When a volcano throws out smoke, ash and lava.

volcano: A mountain with a large opening at the top through which gases and lava are or have been forced out.



Questions

1. Which volcano is the home of the goddess Pele? Tick one.

- Krakatoa
- Mauna Loa
- Kilauea
- Mount Etna

2. Which volcano has had several small eruptions since 2005? Tick one.

- Mount Etna
- Mount Hood
- Mount Vesuvius
- Popocatépetl

3. Which volcano has erupted over 30 times in the last 2000 years? Tick one.

- Mount Vesuvius
- Mount Saint Helens
- Mount Hood
- Mount Fuji

4. Which volcano is considered a holy place? Tick one.

- Mount Etna
- Mount Fuji
- Mount Hood
- Popocatépetl

5. Look at the section called **Mount Vesuvius**. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'close' or 'not far away'.

6. Fill in the missing words.

The _____ blew off the top 400 _____ of the volcano.

7. Why do you think people find volcanoes interesting? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Which volcano is the home of the goddess Pele? Tick one.

- Krakatoa
- Mauna Loa
- Kilauea**
- Mount Etna

2. Which volcano has had several small eruptions since 2005? Tick one.

- Mount Etna
- Mount Hood
- Mount Vesuvius
- Popocatépetl**

3. Which volcano has erupted over 30 times in the last 2000 years? Tick one.

- Mount Vesuvius**
- Mount Saint Helens
- Mount Hood
- Mount Fuji

4. Which volcano is considered a holy place? Tick one.

- Mount Etna
- Mount Fuji**
- Mount Hood
- Popocatépetl

5. Look at the section called **Mount Vesuvius**. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'close' or 'not far away'.

nearby

6. Fill in the missing words.

The **eruption** blew off the top 400 **metres** of the volcano.

7. Why do you think people find volcanoes interesting? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think people find volcanoes interesting because they can erupt at any time. They are also pretty exciting to see with all the ash and lava pouring out.

World Volcanoes

There are several volcanoes worldwide that have changed our planet and intrigued the human race throughout history.

Mount Hood

Mount Hood is an inactive **stratovolcano** located in Oregon, USA. It stands tall at 3425 metres and its last notable eruption took place on 21st September 1865.

Mount Saint Helens

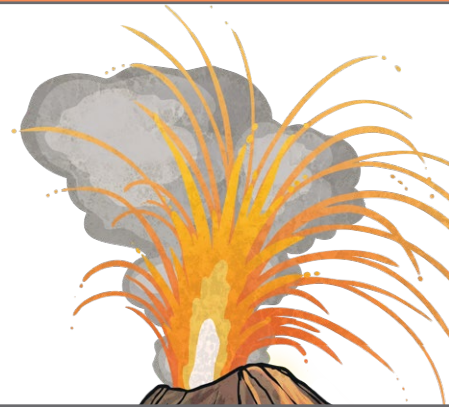
Located in Washington, USA, Mount Saint Helens is an active stratovolcano that is 2549 metres tall. On 18th May 1980, an explosive eruption took place here and many forests, roads and homes were destroyed. The eruption blew off the top 400 metres of the volcano.

Kilauea

Around 1222 metres tall, Kilauea is one of the most active **shield volcanoes** in the world and is found in Hawaii, USA. From 1983 to 2018 it erupted almost non-stop.

Did You Know...?

Kilauea means 'much spreading' in Hawaiian and in local legend, it is said to be the home of the volcano goddess, Pele.



Mauna Loa

Situated next to Kilauea, Mauna Loa is the largest active shield volcano on the planet and its name means 'long mountain'. It rises 4169 metres and descends another 5km underwater to the ocean floor. Mauna Loa has erupted over 30 times since 1843.



Popocatépetl

Located in Mexico, Popocatépetl means 'smoking mountain' in the Aztec language but it is nicknamed 'El Popo' by locals. El Popo is 5465 metres tall and has had several small eruptions since 2005.

Mount Vesuvius

Located near Naples, Italy, this stratovolcano stands at 1281 metres high and is the only active volcano in mainland Europe. In the last 2000 years, Mount Vesuvius has erupted over 30 times. Its most famous eruption took place on 24th August AD 79, when it erupted and buried the nearby Roman city of Pompeii.



Krakatoa

Located in Indonesia, Krakatoa is a small, uninhabited volcanic island. On 27th August 1883, its volcano of the same name erupted violently, sending ash 50 miles up into the sky and then spread over 300,000 square miles. It blocked out the Sun from the surrounding area for about two and a half days. Many scientists believe that its eruption created the loudest sound ever heard in history.

Mount Fuji

Known as a sacred place and the highest mountain in Japan, Mount Fuji is an active stratovolcano that stands 3776 metres tall. It last erupted on 16th December 1707. It is also a popular mountain to climb.

Mount Etna

Towering at 357 metres above sea level on the island of Sicily, Italy, Mount Etna's name comes from Greek and means 'I burn'. This stratovolcano has one of the longest records of eruptions, dating back to 1500 BC.



shield volcano: A wide, gently sloping volcano.
stratovolcano: A volcano with a steep, cone shape, consisting of hardened layers of ash and lava.

Glossary

Questions

1. Which volcanoes are shield volcanoes? Tick **two**.

- Mount Hood
- Mauna Loa
- Kilauea
- Mount Vesuvius

2. Which volcano is the largest active shield volcano on the planet? Tick one.

- Krakatoa
- Mauna Loa
- Kilauea
- Mount Etna

3. Which of these volcanoes is located on an island? Tick one.

- Mount Etna
- Mount Hood
- Mount Vesuvius
- Popocatépetl

4. Draw **four** lines and match each volcano to its height in metres.

Mount Fuji

Kilauea

Mount Saint Helens

Popocatépetl

5465 metres

1222 metres

3776 metres

2549 metres

5. Look at the section called **Mount Hood**. Find and copy a synonym for 'important'.

6. Fill in the missing words.

There are several volcanoes worldwide that have changed our planet and _____
the human race _____ history.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about volcanoes in 25 words or fewer.

8. Would you like to climb Mount Fuji? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Which volcanoes are shield volcanoes? Tick **two**.

- Mount Hood
- Mauna Loa**
- Kilauea**
- Mount Vesuvius

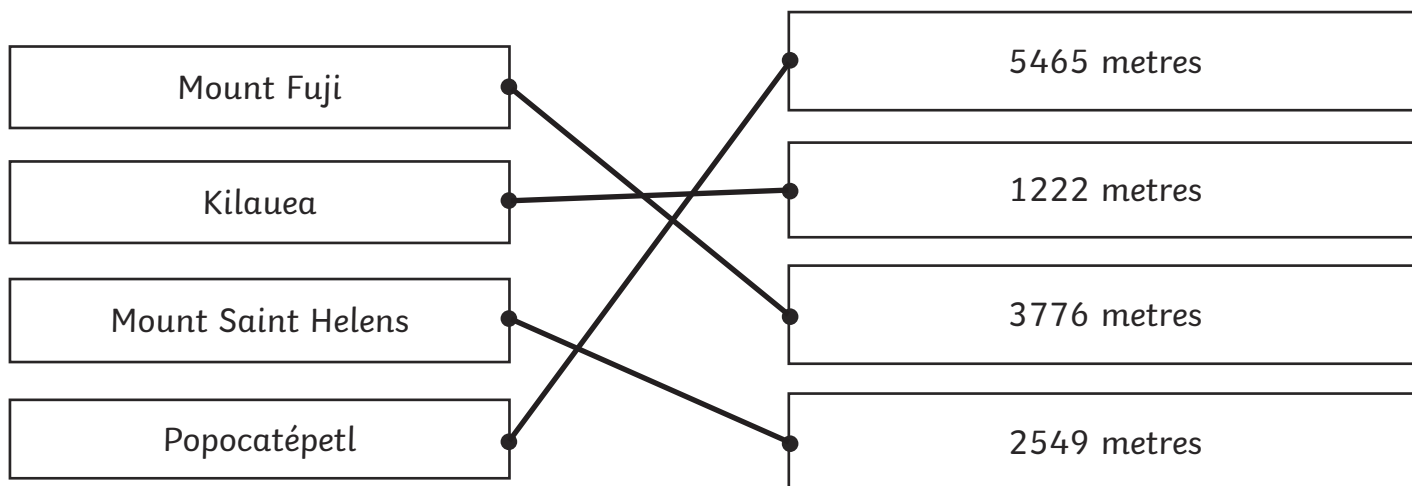
2. Which volcano is the largest active shield volcano on the planet? Tick one.

- Krakatoa
- Mauna Loa**
- Kilauea
- Mount Etna

3. Which of these volcanoes is located on an island? Tick one.

- Mount Etna**
- Mount Hood
- Mount Vesuvius
- Popocatépetl

4. Draw **four** lines and match each volcano to its height in metres.



5. Look at the section called **Mount Hood**. Find and copy a synonym for 'important'.
notable

6. Fill in the missing words.

There are several volcanoes worldwide that have changed our planet and **intrigued** the human race **throughout** history.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about volcanoes in 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Earth has many volcanoes. The two kinds of volcanoes are stratovolcanoes and shield volcanoes. They can erupt at any time and destroy things around them.

8. Would you like to climb Mount Fuji? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Yes, I think I would like to climb Mount Fuji because it is a sacred mountain and hasn't erupted in a while.

World Volcanoes

Around the world, there are numerous volcanoes that have altered our planet and captivated the human race for centuries.

Mount Hood

Mount Hood is an inactive **stratovolcano** located in Oregon, USA. It stands tall at 3425 metres and its last important eruption took place on 21st September 1865.

Mount Saint Helens

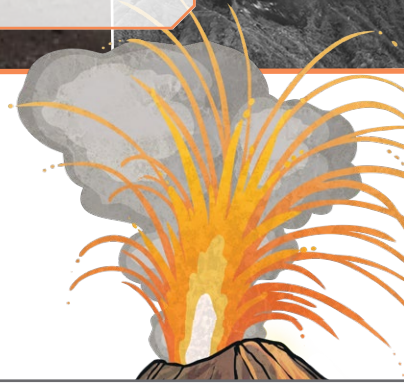
Located in Washington, USA, Mount Saint Helens is an active stratovolcano that is 2549 metres tall. On 18th May 1980, an explosive eruption took place here. Many forests, roads and homes were destroyed by the resulting mudslides, avalanches, floods and **pyroclastic flows**. The eruption was so powerful that the top 400 metres of the volcano were blown away.

Kilauea

Found on the island of Hawaii, USA, and approximately 1222 metres tall, Kilauea is one of the most active **shield volcanoes** in the world. Its name means 'much spreading' in Hawaiian. From 1983 to 2018, Kilauea erupted almost continuously. In Hawaiian legend, it is the home of the Hawaiian volcano goddess, Pele.

Mauna Loa

Next to Kilauea, Mauna Loa (Hawaiian for 'long mountain') is the largest active volcano on the planet. This shield volcano rises 4169 metres and descends another 5km below the water's surface to the ocean floor. Mauna Loa has erupted over 30 times since 1843.



Popocatepetl

Called El Popo by local residents, Popocatepetl is located between Puebla and Mexico City, Mexico. Its name comes from the Aztec language and means 'smoking mountain'. It is 5465 metres tall and has experienced small, inconsistent eruptions since 2005.

Mount Vesuvius

Located near Naples, Italy, this stratovolcano stands at 1281 metres above sea level and is the only active volcano in mainland Europe. In the last 2000 years, Mount Vesuvius has erupted over 30 times. Its most famous eruption took place on 24th August 79 AD, when it erupted and buried the nearby Roman city of Pompeii.



Krakatoa

Located between the island nations of Java and Sumatra in Indonesia, Krakatoa is a small, uninhabited volcanic island. On 27th August 1883, its volcano of the same name erupted violently with several powerful explosions that sent ash 50 miles up into the sky, over 300,000 square miles. It blocked out the Sun from the surrounding area for about two and a half days. It also caused several tsunamis. Many scientists believe that its eruption created the loudest sound ever heard in history.

Mount Fuji

Known as a sacred place and the highest mountain in Japan, Mount Fuji is an active stratovolcano that stands 3776 metres tall. It last erupted on 16th December 1707.

Mount Etna

Towering at 3357 metres above sea level on the island of Sicily, Italy, Mount Etna is one of the most active volcanoes in Europe. Its name comes from Greek, meaning 'I burn'. This stratovolcano has one of the longest records of eruptions, dating back to 1500 BC.

Glossary

pyroclastic flows: Thick, fast-moving flows, consisting of hot, solidified lava, ash and gases.

shield volcano: An extremely wide, gently sloping volcano, shaped like a lying shield.

stratovolcano: A volcano with a steep, cone shape, consisting of hardened layers of ash and lava.



Questions

1. Where is Popocatépetl located? Tick one.

- between Java and Sumatra
- near Naples, Italy
- between Mauna Loa and Kilauea
- between Mexico City and Puebla

2. Draw **four** lines and match each volcano to its height in metres.

Mount Etna	1281 metres
Mount Vesuvius	3425 metres
Mount Hood	3357 metres
Mauna Loa	4169 metres

3. What is Popocatépetl's nickname?

4. Look at the section called **Kilauea**.

Find and copy one word that means the same as 'non-stop'.

5. Underline **one** word in the quotation below that suggests that many people find volcanoes interesting.

Around the world, there are numerous volcanoes that have altered our planet and captivated the human race for centuries.

6. If you could come up with a nickname for Mount Saint Helens, what would it be and why? Explain your answer.

7. Why do you think the author chose to identify each volcano as either a stratovolcano or a shield volcano? Explain your answer.

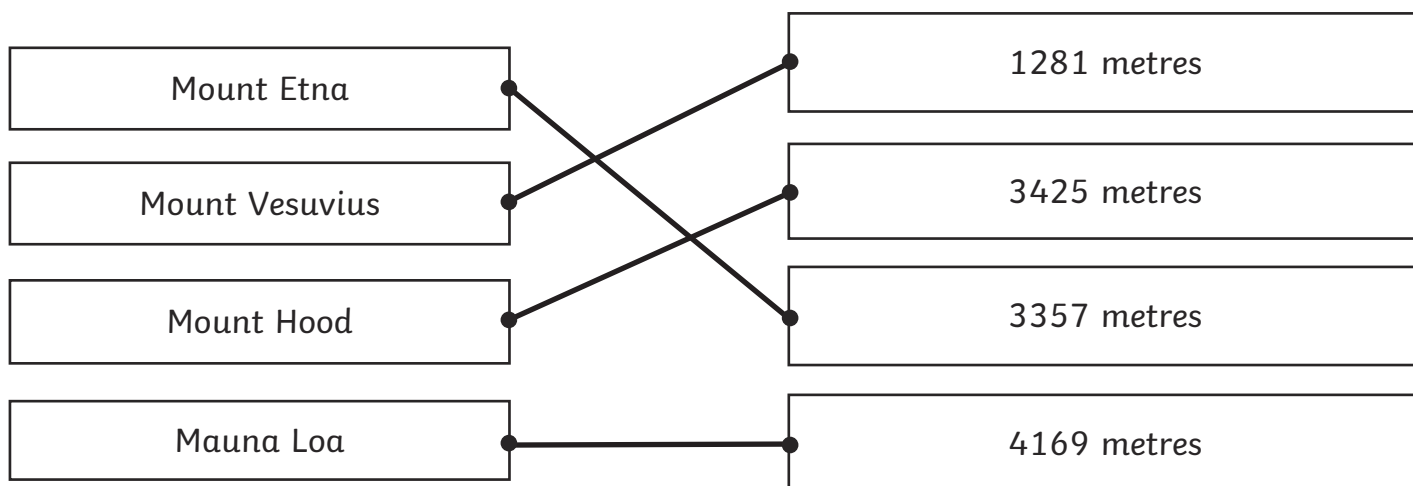
8. How does the organisation of this text help us to understand volcanoes better? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Where is Popocatépetl located? Tick one.

- between Java and Sumatra
 near Naples, Italy
 between Mauna Loa and Kilauea
 between Mexico City and Puebla

2. Draw **four** lines and match each volcano to its height in metres.



3. What is Popocatépetl's nickname?

Popocatépetl's nickname is El Popo.

4. Look at the section called **Kilauea**.

Find and copy one word that means the same as 'non-stop'.

continuously

5. Underline **one** word in the quotation below that suggests that many people find volcanoes interesting.

Around the world, there are numerous volcanoes that have altered our planet and captivated the human race for centuries.

Award 1 mark for:

- **captivated**

6. If you could come up with a nickname for Mount Saint Helens, what would it be and why? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think I would name it 'dynamite mountain' because it blew its top off and destroyed everything near it.

7. Why do you think the author chose to identify each volcano as either a stratovolcano or a shield volcano? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the author chose to identify each volcano this way to help us picture them in our minds as either a tall, cone-shaped volcano or as a wide shield that gently rises up to its peak.

8. How does the organisation of this text help us to understand volcanoes better? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The text is organised by volcano and features some interesting facts as well as their location and height. This helps us to picture what the volcano looks like and where it is in the world.