

Geography—How risky is North America?

Year 8

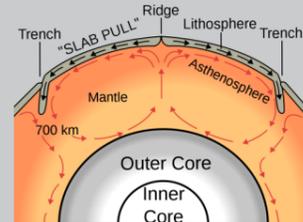
Term 2



How do plates move?

Convection Currents

1. This is where the heat from the core (which is created by radioactive decay).
2. This causes the rocks to move upwards (because hot things rise) and the rock begins to cool as it reaches the top of the mantle.
3. This dragging movement moves the plates either away, against or towards themselves.



Why was the Haiti earthquake so devastating?

- Haiti has an earthquake on 12th January 2010 and had a magnitude of 7.0 and it struck near the capital Port-au-Prince.

Impacts	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.3 million people were made homeless and the death toll was 316,000. All hospitals were destroyed in the capital. 250,000 homes were destroyed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency rescue teams arrived from a number of countries, eg Iceland. United Nations troops and police were sent to help distribute aid and keep order. 'Cash for work' programs are paying Haitians to clear rubble.

Why was the earthquake so bad?

- Haiti is **located on a fault line** that has not experienced an earthquake in 70 years and therefore was due an earthquake. Port-au-Prince, the capital city of Haiti is **not prepared with earthquake proof buildings**.
- Haiti is extremely poor**—it is the poorest country in the Western hemisphere, with **80% of the population living on less than \$1.25 per day**.
- Haiti has experienced **several dictatorships** and was once a **colony of France**. To become independent (it's own country) Haiti had to pay **France 10 million gold Francs**. This has made **Haiti extremely poor** as a result.

Key Words

Convection Currents	A convection current is the mechanism that drives the movement of plates. Heat from the core heats the magma, which rises and cools at the crust and sink, moving the plates.
Conservative Margin	A conservative plate margin is where plates are moving in the same direction, and pressure and friction build up creating an earthquake.
Destructive Margin	This is where an oceanic plate subducts underneath the continental plate. This pressure and friction that is created creates an earthquake. Volcanoes are also found at this margin.
Constructive Margin	This is where plates move away from each other. As they move away, the magma rises from the mantle and this creates a volcano.
Impacts	This is the damage that is created as a result of tectonic activity.
Responses	These is how the country deals with the tectonic activity after it has happened.
Corruption	This is where the government take money for themselves and it doesn't get to the people who need it the most.
GNI per capita	This is an economic measurement of wealth. It is measuring the economy of a country—it is measured in US Dollars (\$)
Earthquake	This is the sudden release of energy from tectonic plates.
Geothermal	This is energy that is created from the head of the core of the earth.

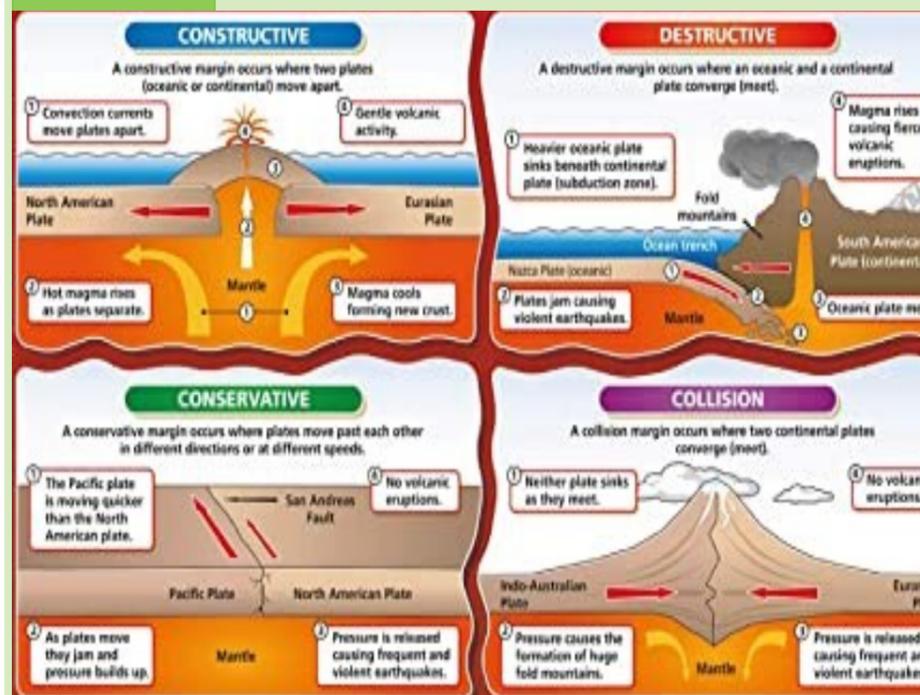
Iceland—the land of fire and ice

- Iceland is a tectonically active island that is located in the middle of the Atlantic. It is the middle of the Eurasian and North American plate.
- While Iceland has a small population, it uses the geothermal energy to heat it's streets, it's homes and produce it's own farm products such as tomatoes (that shouldn't be able to grow in such a cold country).
- Many tourists are attracted to Iceland due to its unique landscape of glaciers, rivers and volcanoes.
- Iceland is known as the land of fire and ice due it been covered by glaciers and 130 active volcanoes.
- In recent times, the Eyjafjallajökull volcano erupted in 2010 and caused massive impacts across Europe. This is because the lava melted the glacier above it, creating a large plume of smoke.
- This eruption stopped all travel to and around Europe for a week.
- Iceland faces many threats from climate change—the glaciers that make up the island are being threatened and are melting at a really quick rate.
- Glaciers are vital to study for scientists as they show us how quickly the temperatures are rising across the world.
- A human risk is the journey that many migrants take to get to a 'better life' in the United States of America.

Migration from Central America to the USA

- There are many push factors (reasons why people leave) and pull factors (what is drawing them to a place) for the migration.
- Immigration has always been a complex issue and this has been complicated by different presidents who have different viewpoints on it.

Push Factors	Pull Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug cartels are a massive problem across Central America. There are many killing a year as a result of this. Education, healthcare and housing is often poorer in Central America countries. Wages are lower in Central America countries and there are often not enough jobs in these countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pull of the American dream—this is the idea of having a good life with a good wage (what often happens is the opposite to this). Better opportunities for education and healthcare. Better wages than in Central America.



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Trinity TV > Year 8 > Geography > Topic 2—How risky is North America?