

# AQA Geography A-Level

## Hazards

Definition Flashcards



# Accretion Wedge



## Accretion Wedge

The accumulation of material at the point of subduction.



# Aseismic Buildings



## Aseismic Buildings

Buildings designed to withstand or minimise destruction during an earthquake.



# Asthenosphere



## Asthenosphere

The upper mantle layer of the Earth. It is semi-molten and approximately 2000km wide.



# Ash





## Ash

Fine particles and dust ejected during an eruption, which can remain airborne as clouds or accumulate on the ground.



# Continental Crust



## Continental Crust

Crust that forms the continents of the lithosphere, on average 35km thick.



# Continental Drift



## Continental Drift

The movement of tectonic plates, due to varying weights of crust. It was originally thought that convection currents caused the movement of the plates, but now Slab Pull is thought of as the primary driving force.



# Controlled Burning



## Controlled Burning

Intentionally burning vegetation with the aim of reducing fuel available for a wildfire and disrupting the fire's path.



# Convection Currents





## Convection Currents

The circulation of magma within the mantle (asthenosphere). Magma is heated by radioactive processes in the core and cools at the surface, and so circulates between the two places.



# Coriolis Effect



## Coriolis Effect

The Earth's spin affects the movement of air masses and winds, depending on a location's latitude.



# Crown Fires



## Crown Fires

Wildfires that burn the entirety of a tree (from top to bottom), often the most destructive and dangerous type of wildfire.



# Degg's Model



## Degg's Model

This model shows that a hazard becomes a disaster if it affects a vulnerable population.



# Epicentre





## Epicentre

The point on the surface, directly above the earthquake's origin.



# Fatalism



## Fatalism

The belief that hazards are uncontrollable, so any losses should be accepted and mitigation is unnecessary.



# Fire Breaks



## Fire Breaks

The felling of trees and clearing vegetation to create a gap to disrupt a wildfire's path.



# Focus



## Focus

The place in the crust where the pressure/seismic energy is released.



# Ground Fires





## Ground Fires

Wildfires that burn through the peat and vegetation beneath the surface, making them slow but difficult to extinguish.



# Hazard Management Cycle



# Hazard Management Cycle

The sequence of governance of a natural hazard: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.



# Hot Spot



## Hot Spot

Volcanoes found away from the plate boundary, due to a magma plume closer to the surface.



# Jokulhaup



## Jokulhaup

A sudden glacial flood caused by a glacier on top of or near a volcano melting due to the heat from the eruption.



# Lahar





# Lahar

A flow of mud and debris.



# Lithosphere



# Lithosphere

The upper crust of the Earth (average thickness = 100km)



# Love Waves



## Love Waves

A surface earthquake wave with horizontal displacement.



# Mid-Ocean Ridge



## Mid-Ocean Ridge

Parting oceanic plates at a constructive plate boundary creates a ridge, with new land at the base of the oceanic valley.



# Moment Magnitude Scale





# Moment Magnitude Scale

A measure of an earthquake's energy released, considered the most accurate measure.



# Oceanic Crust



## Oceanic Crust

Crust, usually thinner than continental crust, that forms the sea floor. It is on average 7km thick.



# Paleomagnetism



# Paleomagnetism

The alternating polarisation of new land created. As magma cools, the magnetic elements within will align with the Earth's magnetic field, which can alternate over thousands of years.



# Park's Model



## Park's Model

A model describing the decline and recovery of a country over time, following a natural disaster.



# Partial Melting





## Partial Melting

Elements within the lithosphere have different melting points, and so rock is partially melted, partially solid



# Primary Waves



## Primary Waves

An earthquake wave causing compressions within the body of rock.



# Pyroclastic Flow



## Pyroclastic Flow

A mixture of gases and rock fragments, at high temperatures travelling at rapid speeds.



# Rayleigh Waves



## Rayleigh Waves

A surface earthquake wave causing both horizontal and vertical displacement.



# Richter Scale





# Richter Scale

A logarithmic measure of earthquake's intensity.



# Secondary Waves



## Secondary Waves

An earthquake wave causing vertical displacement within the body of rock.



# Seismic Waves



## Seismic Waves

The energy released during an earthquake, in the form of Primary, Secondary, Love and Rayleigh Waves.



# Slab Pull



## Slab Pull

The force contributing to the movement of tectonic plates. Slab Pull is due to the weight of the plate.



# Subduction





## Subduction

Oceanic plate is forced below continental plate, due to the oceanic plate being more dense than the continental plate.



# Surface Fires



## Surface Fires

Wildfires that only burn the leaf litter, and so are the easiest kind to extinguish.



# Tropical Storm



## Tropical Storm

A low pressure system of spiralling winds (due to the Coriolis Effect). Also called hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons depending on the location they occur in.



# Tsunami



# Tsunami

Initial vertical water displacement (often from a submarine earthquake) creates waves, with large destructive power.



# Volcanic Explosivity Index (VEI)





# Volcanic Explosivity Index (VEI)

A measure of the magnitude of a volcano's eruptions



# Volcanic Island Arc



## Volcanic Island Arc

A series of volcanoes (often in the shape of an arc) that are formed consecutively, as a tectonic plate moves across a magma plume.



# Wadati-Benioff Zone



## Wadati-Benioff Zone

A region of the subducting plate, most affected by pressure and friction, where most destructive margin earthquakes originate.



# Wildfire



## Wildfire

A large, uncontrolled fire that quickly spreads through vegetation.

