

Teaching text: Mountains

Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	CD/Mark	Useful strategies
1. Suggest a heading for the first paragraph of text.	What is a mountain? Mountains Mountain	2f 1 mark	<i>Question focus: understand how headings contribute to the meaning of the text as a whole.</i> <i>Strategies:</i> - Carefully read the first paragraph and consider what its main purpose is. - Look at other headings. What is their function? How do they relate to the information that follows them? - Write a heading that captures the idea of the information.
2. Write the meaning this text gives for "mountain range".	A mountain range is a group of mountains (that can stretch for hundreds of miles).	2b 1 mark	<i>Question focus: find information in the text.</i> <i>Strategies:</i> - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Consider where in the text to look for the answer. - Scan the paragraph to look for information to include.
3. Draw a simple diagram of a volcano using information from the text. Label the crater and lava.	Simple diagram copied from the text. The crater and lava should be labelled. Other features may be included: plates/crust/rock/magma/liquid rock.	2c 2 marks	<i>Question focus: summarise main ideas.</i> <i>Strategies:</i> - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Consider where in the text to look for the answer. - Carefully read the information, relating it to the diagram. Award 1 mark for a simple diagram and the second mark for accurate labels.
4. "The plates fit together like jigsaw pieces" (paragraph 4). Why do you think the writer included this information? Tick: ☐ Because she has a jigsaw showing the Earth's plates. ☐ Because the Earth's plates are a jigsaw. ☐ Because she's trying to help readers to imagine what the plates are like. ☐ Because the Earth's crust is broken into plates.	Because she's trying to help readers to imagine what the plates are like.	2g 1 mark	<i>Question focus: identify how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.</i> <i>Strategies:</i> - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Consider where in the text to look for information. - Scan the text for the quotation in the question. - Think about how the author's choice of words helps you to understand what she is trying to say.

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5. Complete this list of events using information from the text: How a mountain is formed from a volcano: (a) Magma erupts through a crack in the Earth's crust. (b) (c) Layers of rock form a cone-shaped mountain.	(b) Lava cools/hardens into rock.	2c 1 mark	<i>Question focus: Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Consider where in the text the answer will be. - Scan that part of the text, looking for the answer.
6. "Dust and smoke, and hot rocks called lava, burst into the air" (paragraph 7). In this sentence, "burst" is closest in meaning to which option? Tick one. ☐ They trickle slowly. ☐ They are red, like balloons. ☐ They come out gradually and gently. ☐ They come out suddenly and powerfully.	They come out suddenly and powerfully.	2a 1 mark	<i>Question focus: comment on the author's use of language.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. Read and remember the options. - Consider where in the text the answer will be. - Scan that part of the text, looking for the words. - Consider why the author chose these words. - Reread the options in the question and choose the best one.