



1. Rationale

Our Earth beneath our feet is constantly moving and changing. This brings many fascinating and unique events that have shaped our World. Understanding the causes of these natural disasters as well as the short- and long-term impacts these can have on communities is a significant and crucial part of a geographer's journey.

2. Key terminology

1.	Earthquake	a sudden or violent movement within the Earth's crust followed by a series of shocks
2.	Volcano	a large landform, typically conical in shape, formed by a series of volcanic eruptions over a long period of time
3.	Tsunami	huge waves caused by earthquakes
4.	Conservative plate margin	two plates sliding alongside each other, in the same or different directions
5.	Constructive plate margin	tectonic plate margin where rising magma adds new material to plates that are diverging or moving apart
6.	Continental crust	the low density, thick outer layer of Earth which forms our continents
7.	Convection currents	circular movement of heat within Earth which drive the movement of tectonic plates
8.	Destructive plate margin	tectonic plate margin where two plates are converging, and oceanic plate is subducted – there could be violent earthquakes and explosive volcanoes
9.	Fold mountains	uplifted land that is crumpled by the collision of two plates
10.	Lava	magma that has erupted from a volcano
11.	Magma	molten rock beneath the Earth's surface
12.	Mantle	a hot, dense layer of Earth found between the crust and core
13.	Oceanic crust	the dense, thin outer layer of Earth that lies underneath the ocean
14.	Plate margin	the border between two tectonic plates
15.	Seismicity	the frequency and distribution of earthquakes in a certain area, recorded by seismographs
16.	Subduction	at a destructive margin, where the denser oceanic plate moves beneath the less dense continental plate
17.	Immediate responses	reaction of people as the disaster happens and in the immediate aftermath
18.	Long-term responses	later reactions that occur in the weeks, months and years after the event
19.	Disaster planning	actions taken to enable communities to respond to, and recover from, natural disasters
20.	Plate tectonic theory	Plate tectonics is a scientific theory that explains how major landforms are created as a result of Earth's subterranean movements.

3. Case Studies

4. Command Words

1.	Iceland's Eyjafjallajokull volcano	Describe and explain
2.	Mount St Helen's USA	Assess and To what extent
3.	Yellowstone	Justify