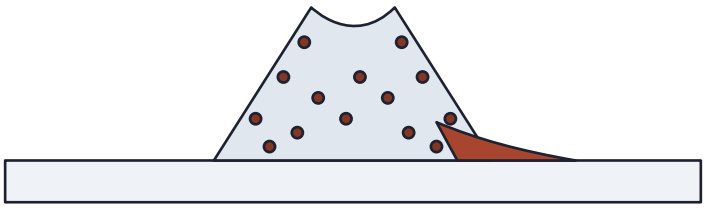
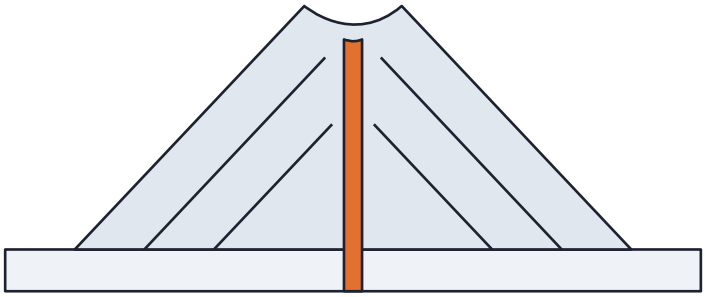
Four kinds of volcano

Write the kind of volcano under each picture. The word bank has the names.

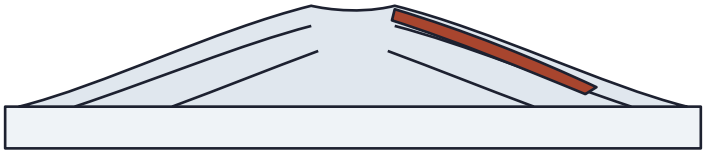
Name _____ Date _____



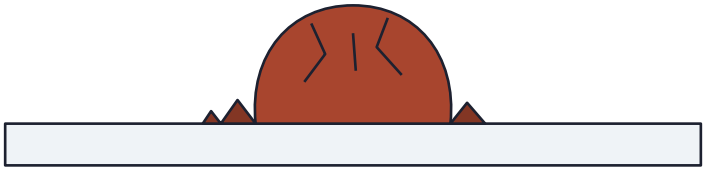
1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

Word bank

Cinder cone | Composite volcano | Lava dome | Shield volcano

1. Which kind has the gentlest slopes?

_____

2. Which kind is built of cinders around a single vent?

_____

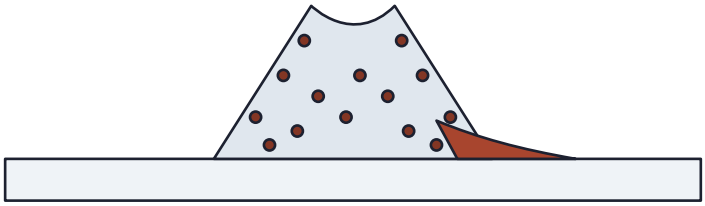
3. Which kind is built in layers of lava, ash and cinders?

_____

From the U.S. Geological Survey. The pictures are not to scale.

Four kinds of volcano: answer key

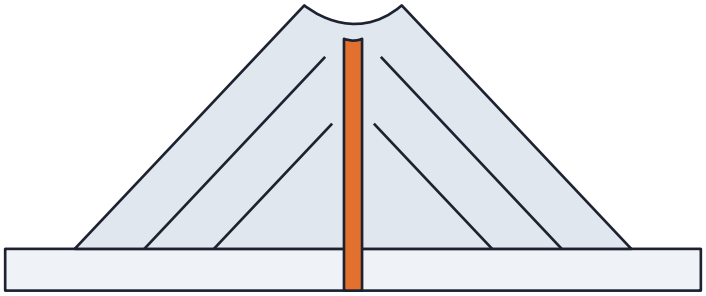
The four main kinds of volcano, as the U.S. Geological Survey groups them.



Cinder cone

Rarely more than about 1,000 feet high

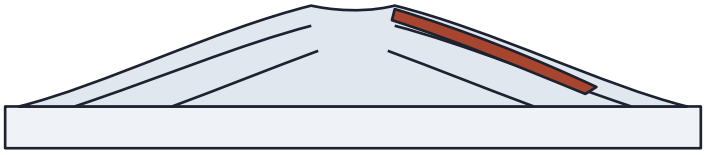
The simplest kind: a small, steep cone of cinders blown out of a single vent, with a bowl-shaped crater on top. Parícutin in Mexico is one.



Composite volcano

Up to 8,000 feet above its base

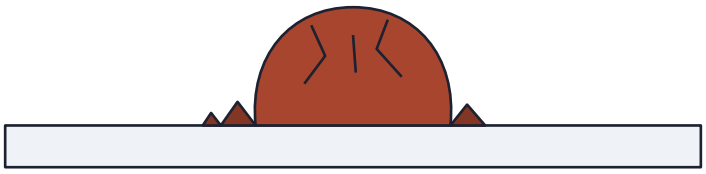
A tall, steep cone built of layers of lava, ash and cinders, with a crater at the top. Mount St. Helens and Mount Fuji are composite volcanoes.



Shield volcano

Mauna Loa: 13,677 feet above sea level

A broad volcano with gentle slopes, built almost entirely of runny lava flows, shaped like a warrior's shield. Mauna Loa and Kilauea in Hawaii are shield volcanoes.



Lava dome

Novarupta in Alaska: 200 feet high

A small, rounded heap of lava too thick to flow far, so it piles up over its vent. Domes often grow in the craters of composite volcanoes.

Answers: 1. A shield volcano. 2. A cinder cone. 3. A composite volcano.

From the U.S. Geological Survey. The pictures are not to scale.