

Learn Words About a New Subject

Vocabulary Words

crater lava
dormant magma
eruption

Word Learning Tip!

When you read words about a new subject, you may see words that you have not seen before in your everyday reading. These words are often the longest and most difficult words in the text. They tell you something specific about the topic. To learn these new words, think about the big idea or subject. In this lesson, all of the words tell about volcanoes.

Vocabulary Building Strategy

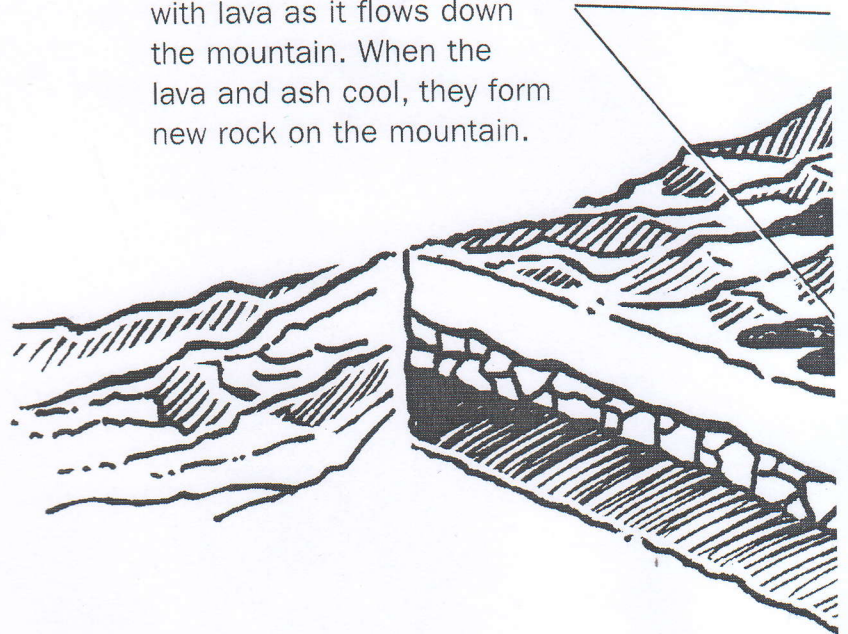
To learn the meaning of content words that tell about a new subject, make connections between the unknown word and the big idea or subject. The new word will tell something specific about that big idea or subject. Tie together the big idea and the meanings of other content words that you know in the text. This will help you learn the exact meaning of the unknown content words.

Directions Look at the diagram of a volcano erupting, or exploding. Read the text and labels to learn about the parts of a volcano and about how the explosion of a volcano happens.

Eruption of a Volcano

The **eruption** of a volcano is a terrifying sight. A volcano can be **dormant**, or “sleeping,” for a long time. Then it can explode or erupt. Melted rock called **magma** pushes through the mountain and comes out of the **crater**. The **magma** becomes **lava**, or hot liquid, that flows down the mountain. Hot ash and gases also come out of the crater. This is called an **eruption**.

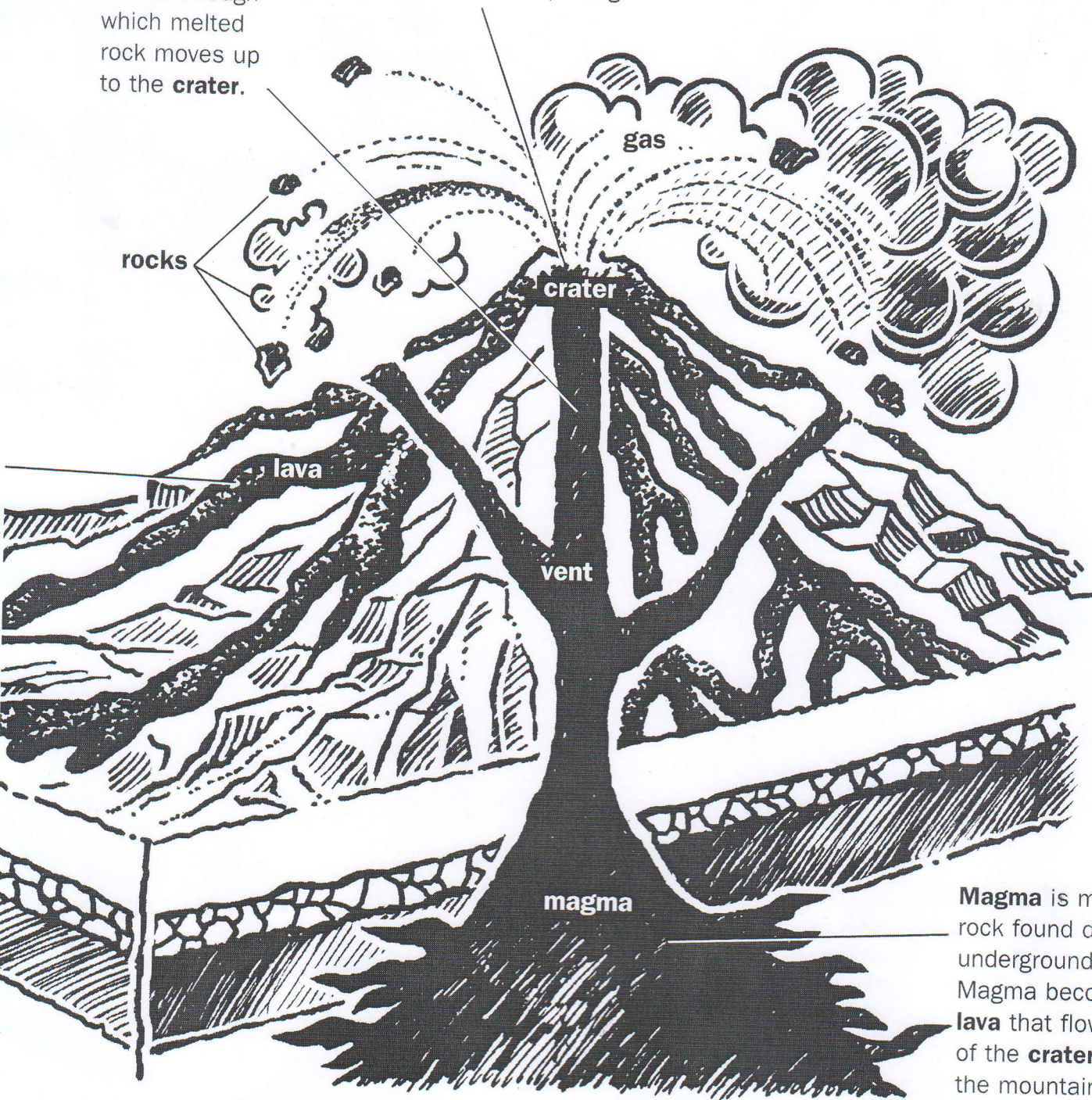
Lava is hot liquid rock that pours out of a volcano when it erupts. Hot ashes mix with lava as it flows down the mountain. When the lava and ash cool, they form new rock on the mountain.



A **dormant** volcano is one that is not active. But it could erupt again and then the volcano is active, not **dormant**.

A **vent** is the tunnel through which melted rock moves up to the **crater**.

The mouth of the volcano is called the **crater**. Melted rock, gases, ashes, and pieces of rock come out of this opening.



Magma is melted rock found deep underground. Magma becomes **lava** that flows out of the **crater** of the mountain.