

STAAR Practice 1

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the passage and answer _____ questions per night. You will check the answers in class the following morning. This packet will serve as your homework for multiple nights. Remember to do the following when reading and answering the questions:

Read the questions before you read the passage. Keep the questions in mind while reading the passage.

Use the skills and strategies learned in class.

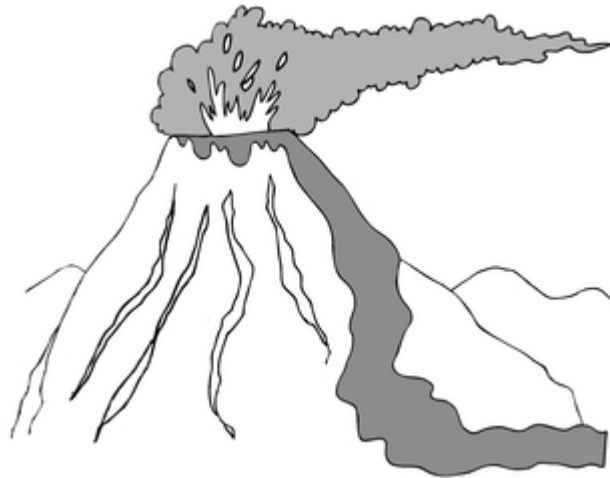
Take a deep breath, relax, and do your best!

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The Black Sands of Hawaii

by Laura Bresko

1 The force of the ocean creates the sand you find at the beach. As the waves beat against the ocean's bottom, shells and rocks are crushed into sand. The sand is washed up on the shore and creates a beach over time. Usually, beaches are made of white sand. But when you go to Hawaii, some beaches are a different color.



2 Hawaii is famous for its volcanoes. When a volcano erupts, it pours out red hot lava from deep within Earth's core. The lava flows downhill and destroys anything in its path. Many Hawaiians have lost their homes to lava flows.

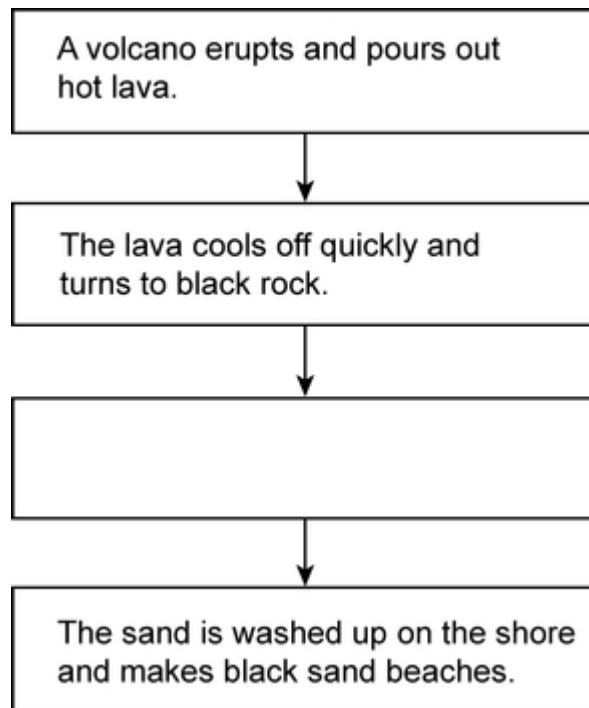
3 When lava reaches the ocean, it cools off quickly and turns to black rock. Then the force of the ocean crushes the black rock into black sand. When the sand washes up on the Hawaiian coast, it makes black sand beaches.

4 Black sand beaches are different than white sand beaches. Black sand beaches are very hot. White sand stays cooler in the sun. Black sand does not. You can burn your feet if you walk on black sand without shoes. Unlike white sand beaches, there are few seashells on a black sand beach. And you won't find many people building sandcastles or playing in the surf. Many people visit the black sand beaches, but most come to look and not to touch!



- 1** How are black sand and white sand beaches alike?
- A** You can build sandcastles out of both types of sand.
 - B** You can walk barefoot on both types of beaches.
 - C** Both are made of crushed rock.
 - D** Volcanoes formed both kinds of beaches.
- 2** Why did the author write this selection?
- F** To inform the reader about an unusual part of nature
 - G** To explain why the reader should take action to avoid volcanoes
 - H** To entertain the reader with a story about a volcano
 - J** To persuade the reader that black sand beaches are better than white sand beaches

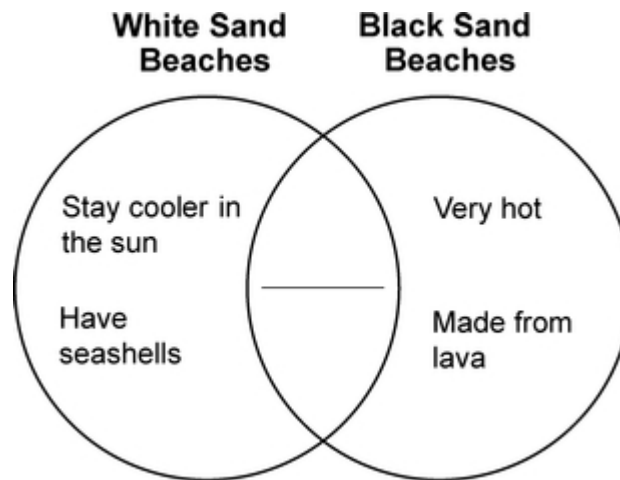
- 3** The chart below shows how black sand beaches are made.



Which of the following belongs in the empty box?

- A** Lava pours out of the earth's core.
- B** The ocean crushes the black rock into black sand.
- C** The lava flows downhill.
- D** The lava reaches the ocean.

4 Read the diagram below and use it to answer the question.



Which of these belongs on the empty line?

- F** Are made by waves crushing things on the bottom
- G** Are too dangerous to walk on without shoes
- H** Are fun to build sandcastles on
- J** Are perfect for playing in the surf

5 Which is the best summary of this selection?

- A** When most people think of the beach, they picture white sandy areas along the shoreline, but not in parts of Hawaii. The cool white sand has been replaced by Mother Nature. The waves grind the black lava rock from volcanoes into black sand, which forms black sand beaches.
- B** Many people visit the black sand beaches of Hawaii, but most come to look and not touch. The black sand is so hot it can burn. The black sand is created when waves grind the lava rock on the ocean floor and then washes it ashore.
- C** Hawaii is famous for its volcanoes. When a volcano erupts, it sends hot molten lava into the ocean where it quickly cools into black rock. The lava destroys anything in its path, and many Hawaiians have lost their homes to lava flows.
- D** Hawaii's black sand beaches result from lava rocks being crushed by waves over time. The beaches are beautiful, but hot! Unlike white sand beaches, most people don't build sandcastles or find seashells on the black sand beaches.

6 With which statement would the author of the selection most likely agree?

- F** It is a good idea to build a house near a volcano.
- G** Hawaii has many interesting natural features.
- H** Black sand beaches are a good place to relax.
- J** Shells and rocks make black sand.

7 Hawaii is most famous for its —

- A** palm trees.
- B** ocean.
- C** volcanoes.
- D** beaches.

- 8** The most commonly found beaches are —
- F** sandy white beaches.
 - G** black sand beaches.
 - H** rocky beaches.
 - J** many colors of sand.
- 9** When lava flows into the ocean, it —
- A** causes huge waves of water to wash ashore.
 - B** disappears under the surface of the water.
 - C** cools off quickly, forming black rocks.
 - D** gets hotter and turns the water to steam.
- 10** Most people probably like white sand beaches better than black sand beaches because —
- F** the white sand beaches are not near volcanoes.
 - G** they can walk to them.
 - H** they will not find shells on white sand beaches.
 - J** the sand is cooler.

- 11** How might people act differently at black sand beaches than at white sand beaches?
- A** They build sandcastles at black sand beaches but not at white sand beaches.
 - B** They play in the water at black sand beaches but not at white sand beaches.
 - C** They collect sea shells at black sand beaches but not at white sand beaches.
 - D** They wear shoes at black sand beaches but not at white sand beaches.
- 12** Why don't people play on black sand beaches?
- F** Black sand beaches are very hot and can burn you.
 - G** They don't like to walk on the beach in their shoes.
 - H** They want to build sandcastles.
 - J** They don't like the feel of the sand.
- 13** Why do some beaches have black sand?
- A** Because the lava flow cools off
 - B** Because someone painted the sand
 - C** Because the ocean makes cooled lava rock into sand
 - D** Because there are no volcanoes nearby

- 14** Why might Hawaiians be afraid of volcanoes?
- F** Because they are hot
 - G** Because lava flows downhill
 - H** Because the hot lava destroys everything
 - J** Because they are active
- 15** What is the purpose of the photograph in the selection?
- A** To show how black sand beaches are made
 - B** To bring tourists to the black sand beaches
 - C** To show the beautiful black sand beaches
 - D** To show the trees that grow on black sand beaches
- 16** Which word means the same as destroys in paragraph 2?
- F** Ruins
 - G** Covers
 - H** Moves
 - J** Restores