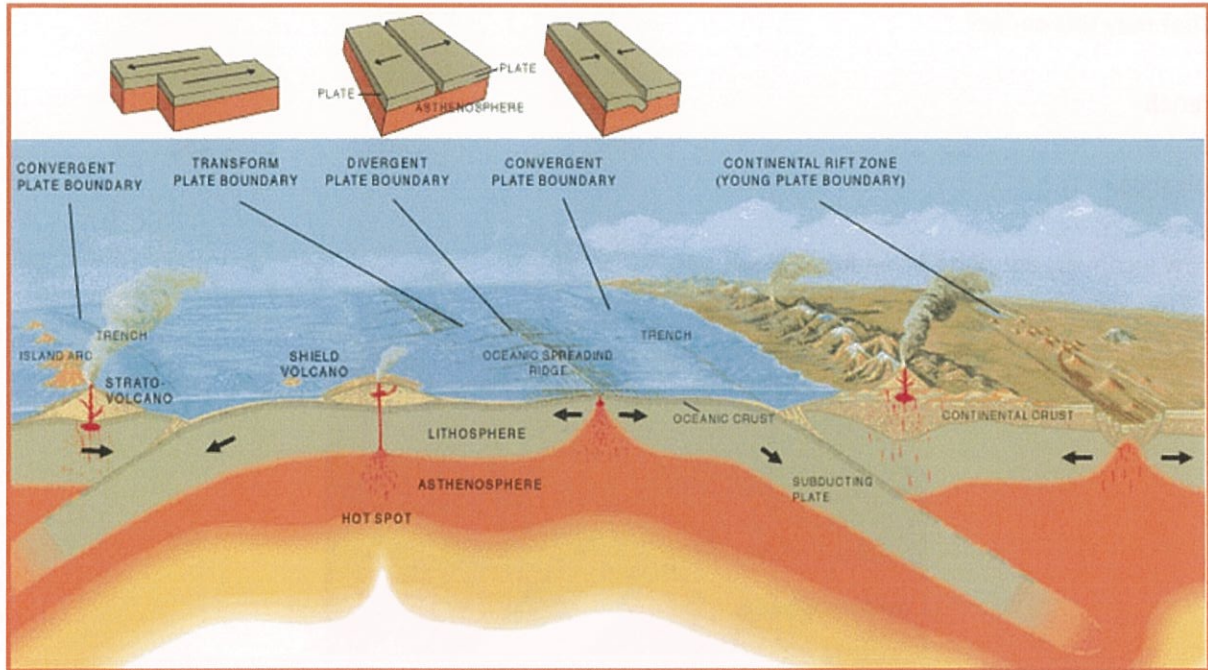


**What is Plate Tectonics?****Answers**

**Plate tectonics** is a theory that suggests that the Earth's outer layer (crust) is made up of large, moving pieces called **plates** that glide over the mantle. All of Earth's land and water sit on these **plates**. The **plates** are made of solid rock.



There are three types of plate boundaries: **Divergent, Convergent and Transform boundaries.**

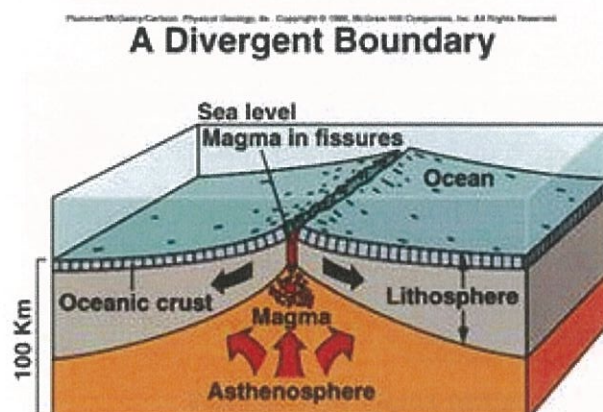
Describe what occurs at a divergent plate boundary.

A **divergent boundary** is an area where two plates are separating and moving away from each other. Most of these tectonic plate boundaries are located on the floor of the oceans.

What may this cause?

As the oceanic plates move apart they produce cracks in the ocean floor. Magma rises up from the mantle and oozes out from the cracks like a long, thin undersea volcano. This magma cools to form a new crust of igneous rock. = **Mid ocean ridge**

Draw a divergent plate boundary below.



Describe what occurs at a convergent plate boundary.

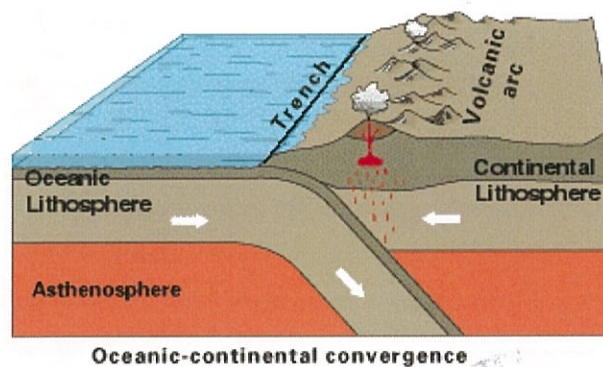
**Oceanic and Continental Plates.** When continental and oceanic plates collide, the thinner and more dense oceanic plate is overridden by the thicker and less dense continental plate. The oceanic plate is forced down into the mantle in a process known as "subduction."

What may this cause?

**Trench**

**Volcanos**

Draw a convergent plate boundary below.



Describe what occurs at a transform plate boundary.

**Transform boundaries** are places where plates slide sideways past each other. At **transform boundaries** lithosphere is neither created nor destroyed. Many **transform boundaries** are found on the sea floor, where they connect segments of diverging mid-ocean ridges. But can also occur on land

What may this cause?

**Earthquakes**

Draw a transform plate boundary below.

