Name: Date: Score: / 6

Hawaii's Volcanoes: Comprehension

Nonfiction: Places · about 200 words

Read the passage. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

🌋 Hawaii's Volcanoes

The Hawaiian Islands are a chain of islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, more than 2,000 miles from the mainland United States. Every one of these islands was built by volcanoes.

Deep beneath the Pacific Plate is a "hot spot," a place where melted rock rises from deep inside Earth. Over millions of years, lava erupted from the ocean floor and piled up, layer upon layer, until it rose above the water to form islands. The Pacific Plate slowly moves to the northwest, so new islands form over the hot spot while older ones move away. That is why the oldest main islands are in the northwest and the youngest, the Big Island of Hawaii, is in the southeast.

The Big Island has two of the world's most active volcanoes: Kilauea and Mauna Loa. Mauna Loa is the largest active volcano on Earth. Measured from its base on the ocean floor, nearby Mauna Kea is taller than Mount Everest, though most of it is underwater.

At Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, visitors can see steaming vents and fields of black, hardened lava. When lava flows into the ocean, it cools and creates new land. Hawaii is still growing!

1. **Main idea:** What is this passage mostly about?

   A. how to climb Mount Everest B. beaches in Hawaii C. how volcanoes built the Hawaiian Islands D. the history of the Pacific Ocean

2. **Vocabulary:** A hot spot is...

   A. a very hot day B. a sunny beach C. a restaurant D. a place where melted rock rises from deep inside Earth

3. **Inference:** Why are the oldest islands in the northwest?

   A. The ocean is colder there. B. The wind blew them there. C. The plate moves northwest, carrying older islands away from the hot spot. D. They were built first by people.

4. **Detail:** What is the largest active volcano on Earth?

   A. Mount Everest B. Mount Rushmore C. Kilauea D. Mauna Loa

5. **Detail:** Which island is the youngest?

   A. the oldest one in the northwest B. the Big Island of Hawaii C. Alaska D. none

6. **Detail:** How is Hawaii still growing?

ANSWER KEY

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6. **Detail:** How is Hawaii still growing?
   Lava flows into the ocean, cools, and creates new land.