A Level Geography Transition Work

Week 7 – Hazardous Earth

The Hazardous Earth topic is a unit that comes form the Geographical Debates section of the OCR Specification. This topic builds on the tectonic hazards that you studied at GCSE and introduces you to more advanced concepts such as palaeo-magnetism/magnetic striping and more modern theories surrounding plate movements.

The Hazard Event Profile



The diagram above is a hazard event profile, it represents the characteristics of different hazards. This profile was for a volcanic eruption in Hawaii. It had a relatively low magnitude (strength) and a slow speed of onset (it didn’t start very quickly). By using the descriptors on the profile you can build a picture of the severity of different hazards.

Your Tasks:

1. Justify the profile shown above for the volcanic eruption iin Hawaii.
2. Draw your own hazard event profiles for the following hazard events and justify your positioning of the different indicators.
3. The Haiti Earthquake of 2010
4. The Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan 2011
5. The Eruption of Mount Merapi, Indonesia 2010T
6. A Supervolcano Eruption at Yellowstone National Park
7. The Christchurch Earthquake of 2011

You will probably need to carry out some extra research and reading about these hazards in order to complete these profiles.

1. Evaluate the usefulness of the hazard event profile in understanding differences in the hazards produced by tectonic events.