Passage Hawaii islands 14

Hawaii is the most recent of the 50 U.S. states (joined the Union on August 21, 1959), and is the only U.S. state made up

entirely of islands. Hawaii’s diverse natural scenery, warm tropical climate, abundance of public beaches and oceanic surrounding, and active volcanoes make it a popular destination for tourists, surfers, biologists, and volcanologists alike.The chain of islands or **archipelago**formed as the Pacific plate moved slowly northwestward over a hotspot in the Earth’s mantle at about 32 miles (51 km) per million years .Hawaiʻi island is the biggest and youngest island in the chain, built from five volcanoes. Mauna Loa, comprising over half of the Big Island, is the largest shield

volcano on the Earth. The measurement from sea level to summit is more than 2.5 miles (4 km), from sea level to sea floor about 3.1 miles (5 km).

The Hawaiian Islands have many earthquakes, generally caused by volcanic activity. Most of the early earthquake monitoring took place in Hilo. From 1833 to 1896, approximately 4 or 5 earthquakes were reported per year.

Hawaii accounted for 7.3% of the United States’ reported earthquakes with a magnitude 3.5 or greater from 1974 to 2003, with a total 1533 earthquakes. Hawaii ranked as the state with the third most earthquakes over this time period, after Alaska and California. The Hawaiian Islands are subject to **tsunamis**, great waves that strike the shore. Tsunamis are most often caused by earthquakes somewhere in the Pacific. The waves produced by the earthquakes travel at speeds of 400–500 miles per hour (600–800 km/h) and can affect coastal regions thousands of miles (kilometers) away.

Tsunamis may also initiate in the Hawaiian Islands. Explosive volcanic activity can cause tsunamis. The island of Molokaʻi had a catastrophic collapse or debris avalanche over a million years ago; this underwater landslide likely caused tsunamis. The Hilina slump on the island of Hawaiʻi is another potential place for a large landslide and resulting tsunami.

The climate of the Hawaiian Islands is tropical, but it experiences

many different climates, depending on altitude and weather. The islands receive most rainfall from the trade winds on their north and east sides.

In general, the lowlands of Hawaiian Islands receive most of their rainfall during the winter months (October to April). Drier conditions generally prevail from May to September. The tropical storms, and occasional hurricanes, tend to occur from July through November.

**1-A 2-A 3-C 4-D 5- A 6-B**

**Questions**

1. **The underlined word “archipelago” in paragraph 1 probably means”:**
2. a) a group of islands
3. b) Pacific plate
4. c) northwestward
5. d) hotspot
6. **The largest shield volcano on the Earth is called Mauna Loa and it is ——————high.**
7. a) 4 km
8. b) 51 km
9. c) 2.5 km
10. d) 5km
11. **——————– ranked as the state with the 2nd most earthquakes from 1974 to 2003.**
12. a) Hawaii
13. b) Alaska
14. c) California
15. d) Texas
16. **The underlined word tsunamis probably means—————–:**
17. a) Volcanoes
18. b) Earthquakes
19. c) Climate
20. d) Great waves
21. **Most tsunamis on the islands of Hawaii are caused by—————-**
22. a) Earthquakes
23. b) Volcanoes
24. c) Landslides
25. d) Rainfall
26. **Rain may fall on Hawaii islands in —————–**
27. a) May and June
28. b) December and January
29. c) June and September
30. d) May and August www.dalilk4step.com 11