***Mauna Loa***

Location and Background: The Mauna Loa is in Hawaii in exactly the centre of one of its islands to the west of the American main land but part of the pacific plate but nearly right next to a hot-spot. A tsunami has hit Hawaii in the past in 1946 which 1 destroyed the most of Hilo, the second largest city of Hawaii.

Type of volcano: The Mauna Loa is a shield volcano on a hot-spot and vast, stretching for hundreds of metres underground and above the surface but unlike other shield volcanoes it has very gently sloping sides.

The cause of the volcano: As I indicated before, Mauna Loa is on a hot-spot and not directly next to a plate boundary like most volcanoes in the region and so the people of Hawaii are unlucky to have it right on their doorstep.

The Economic, Social and Environmental effects of previous eruptions: For social effects, a huge pyroclastic thundered down the mountain and reached towns in as little as seven hours and 16 houses were destroyed at the end of 1983 and during the beginning of 1984. Furthermore, at times it came to coastal highways and the rare beach.

For economic effects, as the lava flows destroyed hundreds of visitor centres, tourism was incredibly low for about ten years due to the volcano and so money didn’t come.

For Environmental effects, the lava destroyed the view due to the destruction of hills and beaches.

People who live near the volcano and why: The town of Hilo lives right underneath the volcano because land is cheaper and it’s great exercise and great to climb the vast mountains.

 ***Mount Pinatubo***

Location and Background: Mount Pinatubo is in the Philippines in Asia and has been dormant for over 500 years until June 1991 where unleashed the second biggest explosion of the 20th century.

Type of volcano: It is either a strato or composite volcano but geologists aren’t sure and so gives out huge volcanic rock bombs and sulphur dioxide gas.

The Cause of the volcano: The cause was an earthquake woke the volcano and caused it to erupt.

The Economic, Social and environmental effects of previous eruptions: For social effects, over 300 people died and thousands were displaced and put into help shelters whilst their homes were being destroyed by the lava.

For economic effects, official government buildings were destroyed, army and air force bases were covered with ash and thousands of homes were damaged and so they had to pay for repairs and it damaged their economic status.

For Environmental effects, 20 million tons of sulphur dioxide were spread in the atmosphere increasing pollution and global warming. Moreover, vast mudflows (lahars) swamped acres of villages and crop fields. In addition, the ash and pumice pebbles (large stones) covered hills and parts of the countryside ruined the great view.

People who live near the volcano and why: Many people in small shacks lived on the slopes of the volcano for good views and cheap land.