

Lessons of history

This plaster cast shows a man killed in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, which devastated the Roman towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum in 79 CE (pp. 26–31).



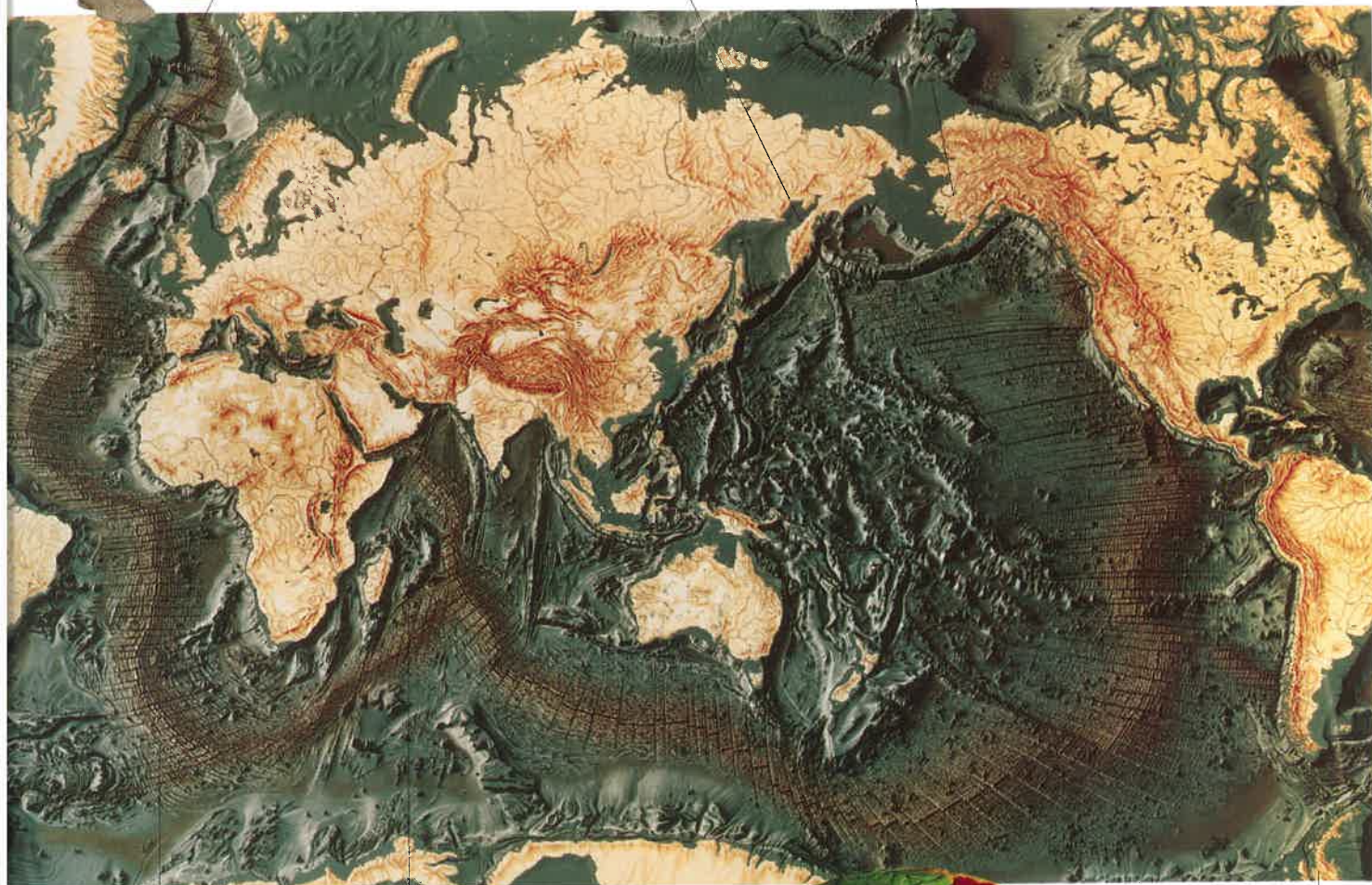
Living on the Ring of Fire

Volcanoes and earthquakes are frequent events in Japan. This huge quake in 1925 damaged the ancient city of Kyoto.

Iceland sits on top of the Mid-Atlantic spreading ridge (pp. 24–25)

Like Japan, Kamchatka is part of the Pacific Ring of Fire

Alaska and the Aleutian Islands have many volcanoes and earthquakes



The Mid-Atlantic ridge is part of the largest mountain range in the world

The island of Réunion was formed by a hot spot (pp. 22–23) that was under India 30 million years ago

Indonesia, home to over 125 active volcanoes, is at the boundary of two plates

Antarctica is surrounded by new ocean made by spreading ridges (pp. 24–25)



Mount Erebus, an active volcano in Antarctica

Drifting plates

This globe has been coloured to highlight the tectonic plates. It is the plates, and not the continents, that are on the move.



There are no active volcanoes in Australia, which sits in the middle of a plate