Description [Factual]:

Icelandic volcanoes

Iceland has many active volcanoes because of its unique location on the mid-Atlantic ridge. The island has 30 active volcanic systems, 13 of which have erupted since the settlement of Iceland.

When volcanoes erupt, molten lava flows from them. Gases and ash are also spewed into the atmosphere. The ash that rises from volcanoes is very fine and can float for many hundreds of kilometres. Throughout their history, the people of the Icelandic region have been severely affected by volcanic ash and gases. On many occasions, their lives and communities have been devastated. People have been forced to move to other areas to escape the danger of poisonous gases.

Volcanic ash blocks rivers, destroys fishing sites and causes flooding. Consequently, the economy is seriously affected because fish and fish products are a major export item. In addition volcanic eruption causes destruction of crops and livestock in a country where agriculture is a major occupation. If flooding occurs, roads and bridges are wiped out and communication is severely affected. Human and natural landscapes can be destroyed or changed forever.

The high level of heat and activity inside the Earth, close to the volcano, can provide opportunities for generating geothermal energy. When this energy is harnessed, it is of significant benefit to the community. The use of geothermal heat has been one of Iceland’s most valuable power sources for more than 60 years.

The lava and ash which is deposited during an eruption breaks down to provide valuable nutrients producing very fertile soil in the long term. After these eruptions many people return to their farms to take advantage of this rich soil.

Description [Literary]:

The Fender

The old Fender guitar sits in the corner waiting for its owner to return. Dust gathers on the stained brown cover. Inside a bright red strap lies ready to be attached. Tied to the handles are two tattered airline tags from journeys made in another time. The cream guitar within lies waiting, longing for fingers to pluck at its strings again. At the top of the long neck, where each string is hooked through the eye of a silver tuning key, knobs are ready to be turned to tighten them, to restore their tune. They stretch down the slender neck of light brown wood snuggling into the off white body of the instrument. The wood is slightly chipped along the edges and the broken volume knob indicates the many turns of the past. Frets are worn from the constant use of fingers pressing chords and picking notes. 'Stratocaster' made by Fender is still displayed proudly on the top.

It longs to be used. Where are the fingers to make those strings come alive again?

First sentence introduces the topic.

Word pictures with adjectives – stained brown cover, tattered airline tags, slender neck of light brown

Descriptive verbs – snuggling, displayed, stained