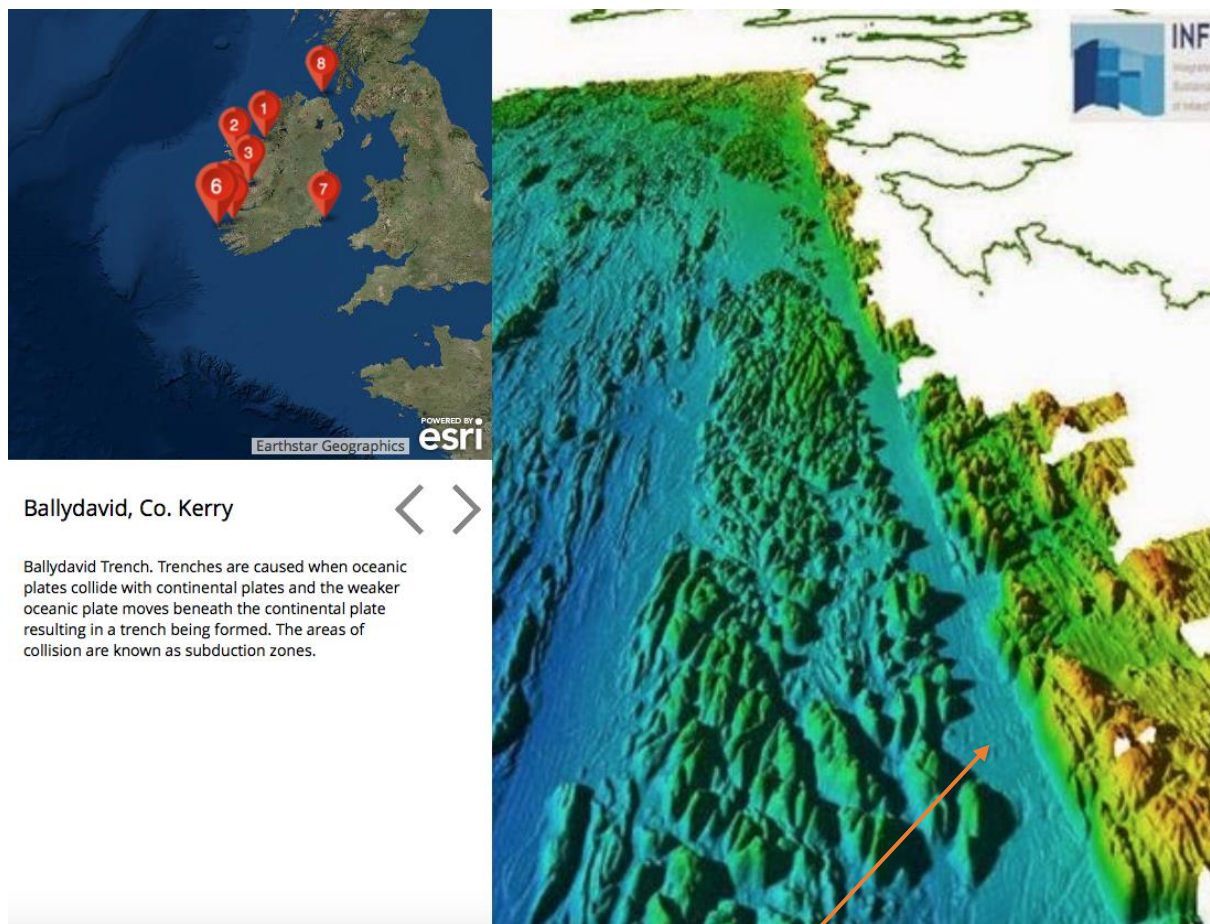


Sea Trench: Feature of convergent plate boundaries

This example is from Ballydavid off the coast of Co. Kerry, it is marked with a Number 6 on the map of Ireland below. This image was collected by INFOMAR using bathymetric (measuring water depths) imagery.

The image shows a deep sea trench that was created when two tectonic plates crashed into each other. The blue on the image indicates deeper water and the lighter colours from yellow to red show shallower waters.



Sea Trench

Image taken from INFOMAR Story Map:

<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapTour/index.html?appid=d2c9b1436b5e48c9846b4602a0d2dce4>

Formation

Sea trenches are formed at convergent, also known as destructive plate boundaries. They occur at the boundary between an oceanic and a continental plate. These plates are moving towards each other and collide. The heavier oceanic plate subducts (moves below) the continental plate where it will once again be turned into molten magma in the mantle (subduction zone). Here an ocean trench forms, it is an over deepened section of the sea floor.

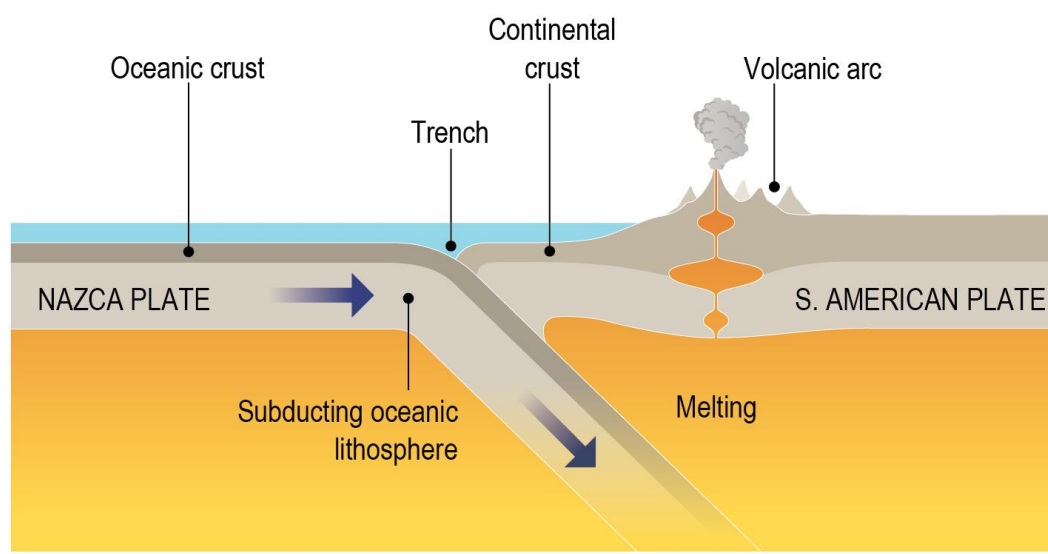


Diagram taken from Horizons Book 1 by Tara Fitzharris

Answer the following questions:

1. From what section of your geography course does this material link to?

2. What different types of sources did you examine on sea trenches today?

3. Did you try to ask geographical questions of the information such as Who? What? Why? How? When? Where?

4. What other physical features can form at a divergent plate boundary?

5. What geographical skills have you used today?

6. Write down one piece of new information that you have learned from today's work?

