

Avalanche

Avalanches move down moderately steep slopes at speeds faster than an express train. They can do great damage.

Q1. What is an avalanche made of?



Q2. What triggers an avalanche?



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Q3. The start of an avalanche has been drawn on diagram **1** on the right. Draw in what happens on diagrams **2** and **3**.

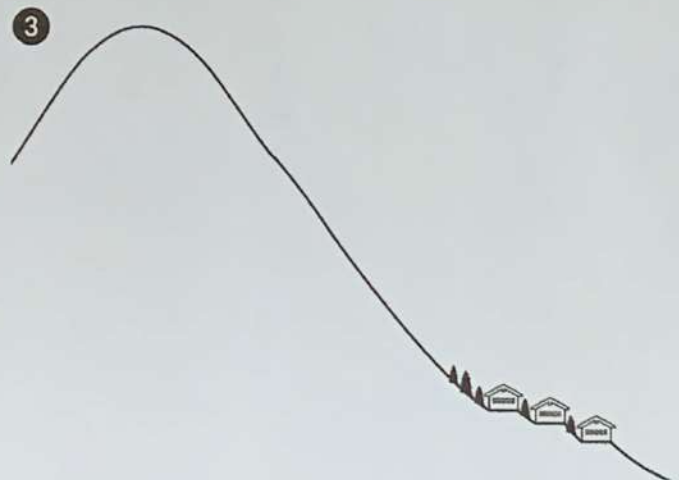
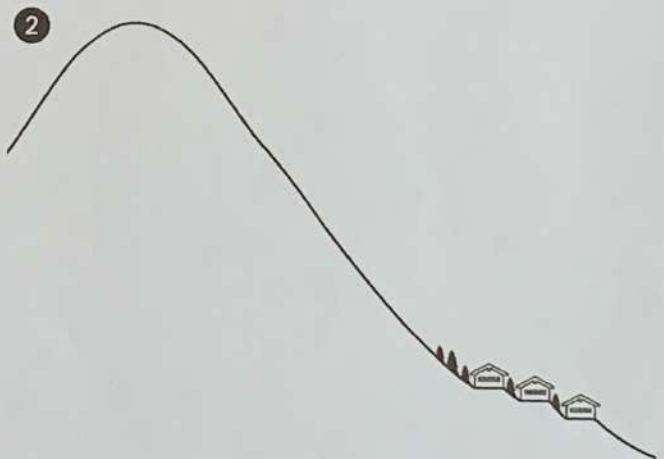
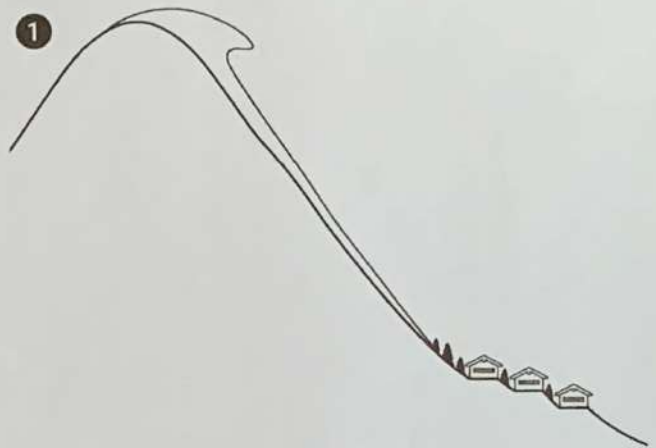
Q4. What happens to the houses?



Q5. What is an avalanche fence?




Q6. Mark on the diagram the place where you would build an avalanche fence.



Mountain valleys and waterfalls

Many mountain valleys owe their spectacular features to the recent Ice Age.

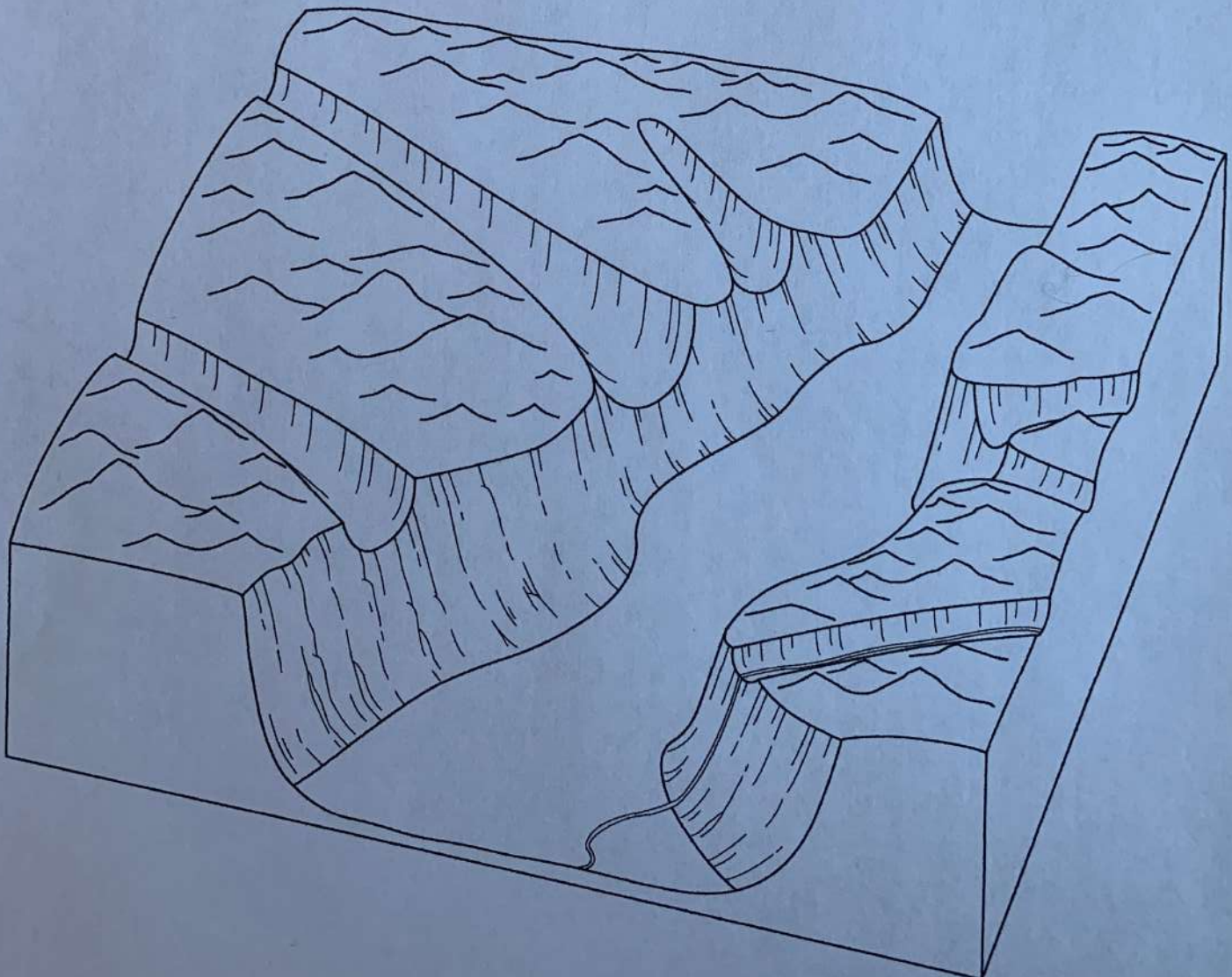
Q1. What letter of the alphabet is used to describe the shape of a valley that was once filled by a glacier?



Q2. What kind of valley produces a waterfall?



Q3. The diagram below shows a valley that has been scoured by ice. The ice has now melted away. Mark in the new rivers and waterfalls. One waterfall has already been drawn in for you.




Routes through the mountains

Both the harsh winter weather and the steep slopes often make it difficult to travel through mountains.


Q1. What part of the natural landscape allows people to get from one valley to another?




Q2. In what way are roads designed to make it easier for cars get up steep slopes?



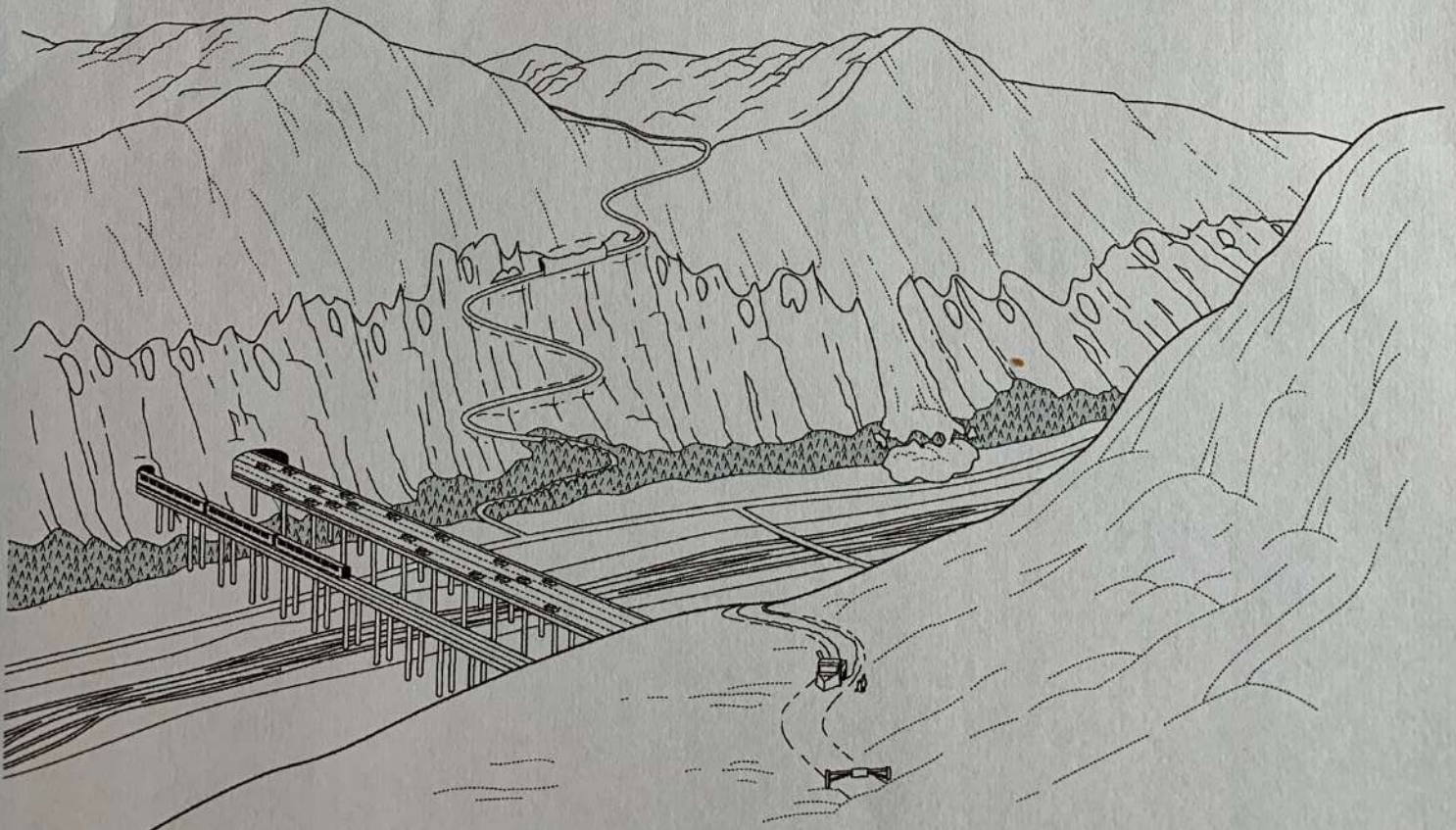
Q3. What happens when there are no easy road passes across mountains?



Q4. How do trains get between valleys in mountain areas?



Q5. On the diagram below, mark the way in which weather hazards might affect roads and railways.



Where towns are found

For safety and winter warmth, homes have traditionally been built only in special parts of a mountain valley.

Q1. Write down a weather reason for choosing to build on one side of the valley.

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Q2. Write down one way in which this would lead people to decide not to build in the bottom of a valley.

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Q3. Why would people choose not to build beside a river?

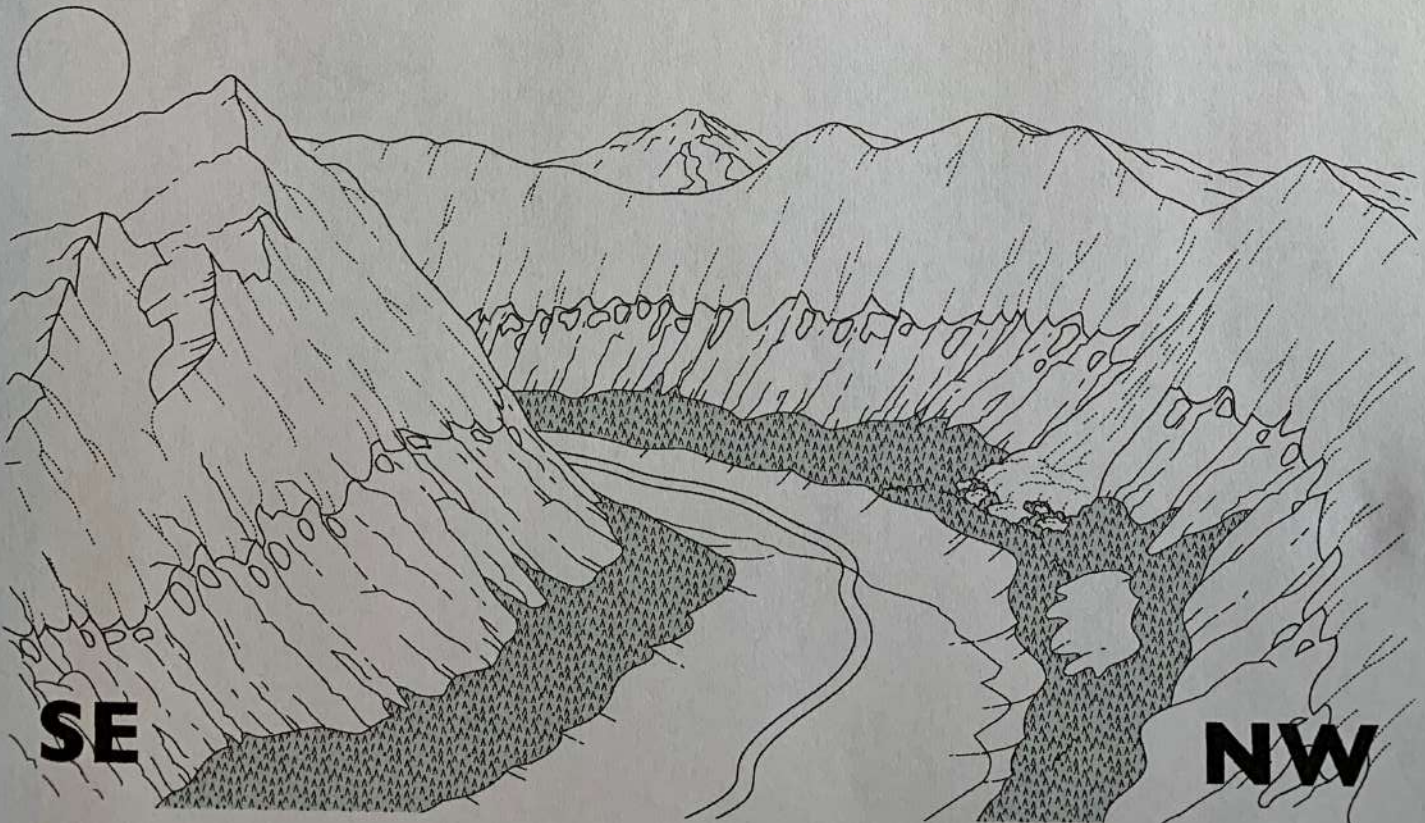
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Q4. Name one snow-related hazard that could have a disastrous effect on a town.

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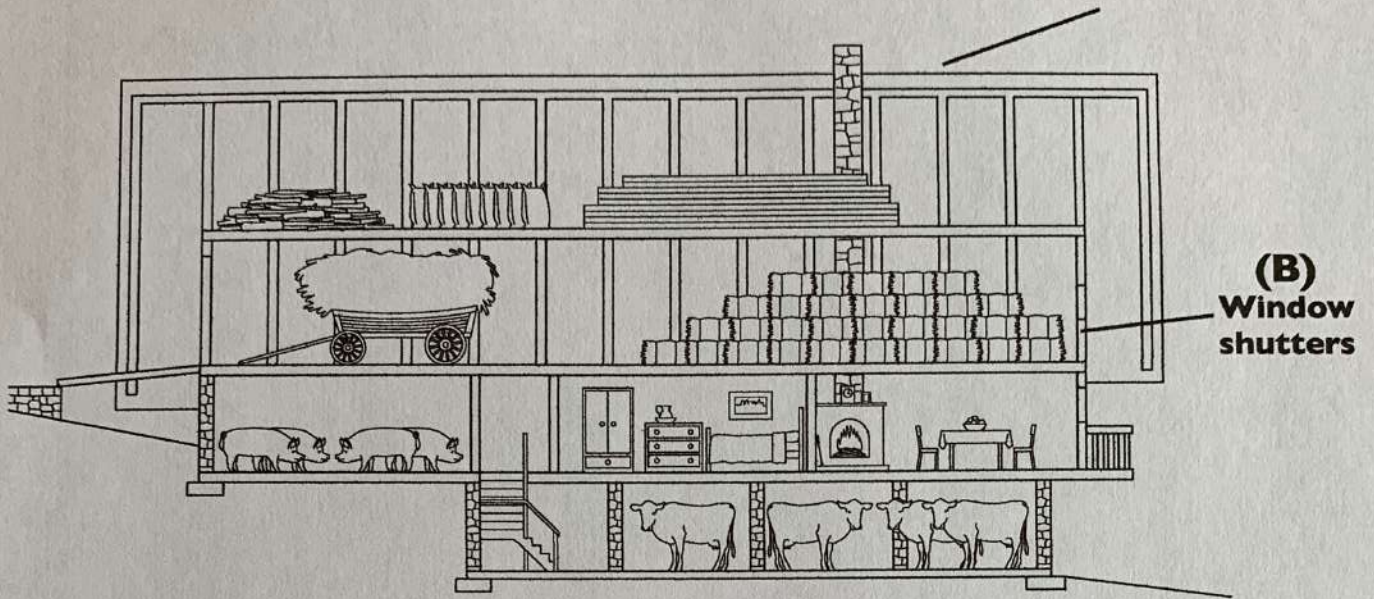
Q5. Imagine you are a new settler to a mountain area. Using all of your answers above, mark on the diagram below the place you would choose to build a new village. Explain the reasons for your choice.

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Homes for a mountain winter

Heavy snow and intense cold mean that people in high mountains have to live in special homes.



Q1. Why are fuel bills likely to be higher for people living in mountainous areas than for those who live in the lowlands?

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Q2. In the past, people built mountain homes that housed animals and fuelwood as well as people. Why did they do this?

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Q3. Look at the diagram above. Explain how the two features of a traditional house, shown in the diagram (A and B), were designed to keep out the cold.

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