



Earth and its Interior

Rocks

Plate Movements

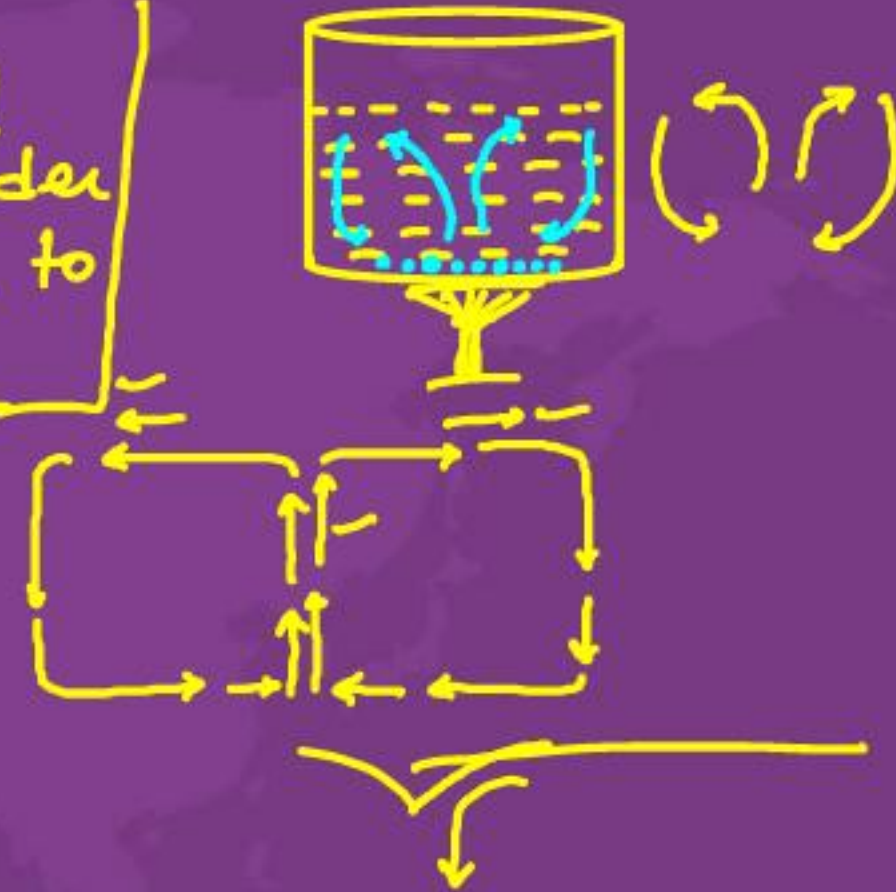
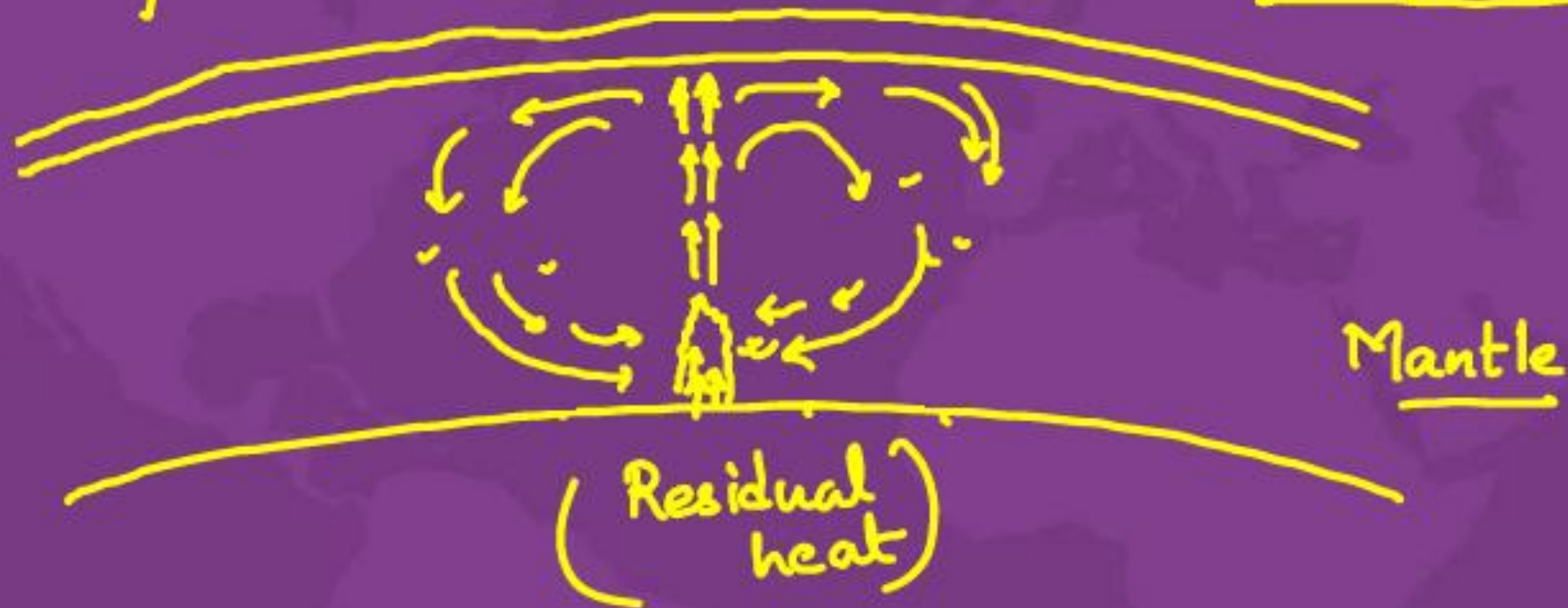
→ Convection → Method of heat transfer
by the movement of
particles.

→ Sir Arthur Holmes

Convection Current Theory

→ Presence of convection current in the interior of mantle due to presence of radioactive materials & heat provided from core.

Warmer material rises up & colder substances sink to replace it.



→ Melts the portion of mantle; which becomes lighter, it rises up, while colder solid mantle replaces the vacancy created by rising materials.

→ Why convection in mantle? (Despite mantle being solid)

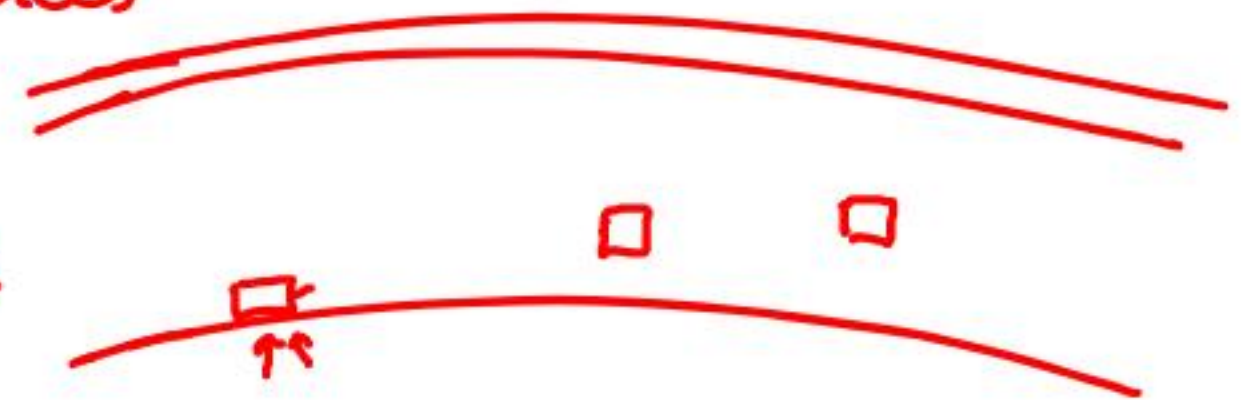
↓
portion of mantle which experiences heat, starts to melt.

→ Molten materials being lighter rises up & is replaced by the colder solid from the surroundings.

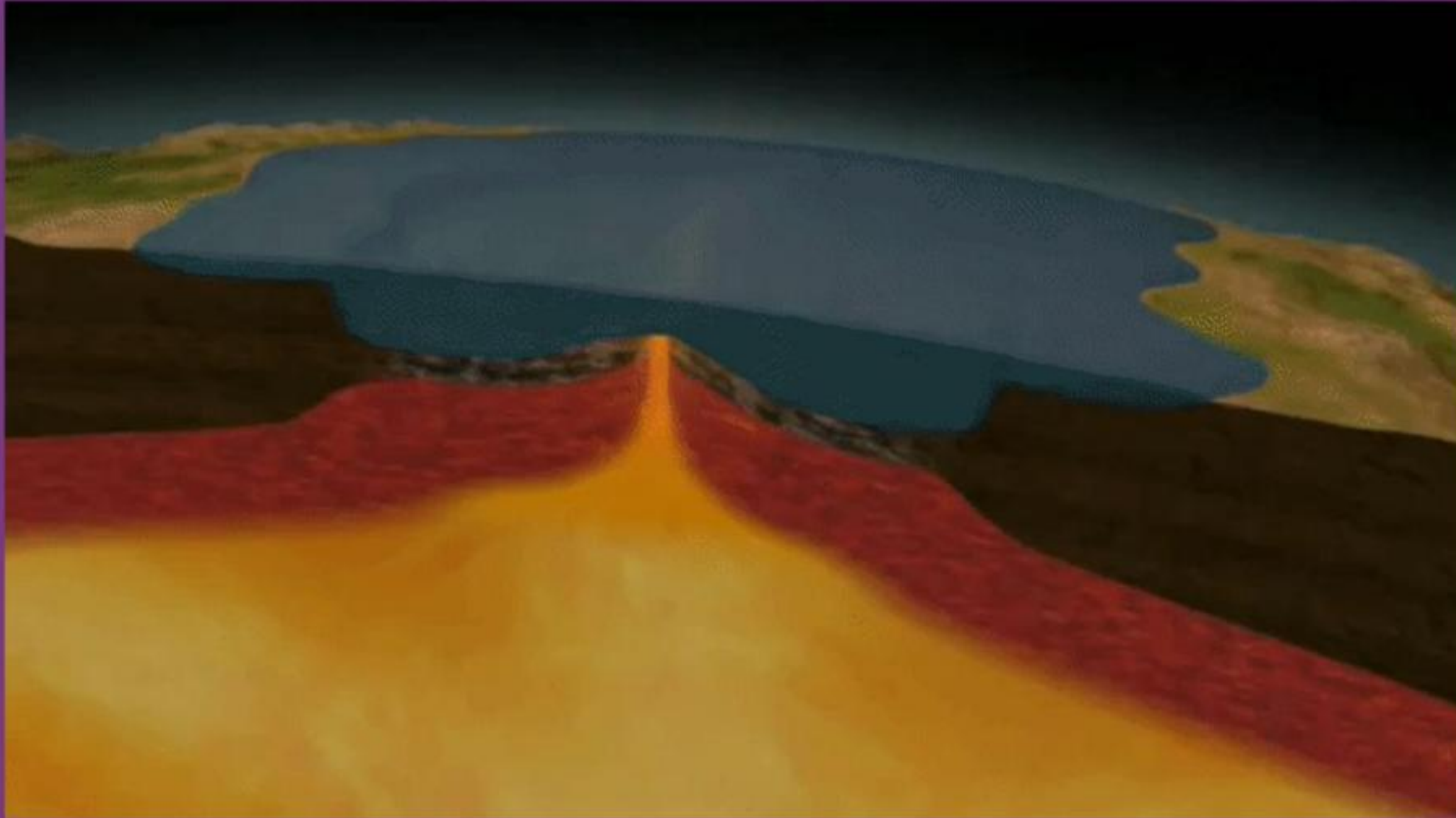
→ The colder solids also get heated up, melt & rise up.

→ The gap is filled by nearby solid materials

→ The process is repeated to generate a convection current.

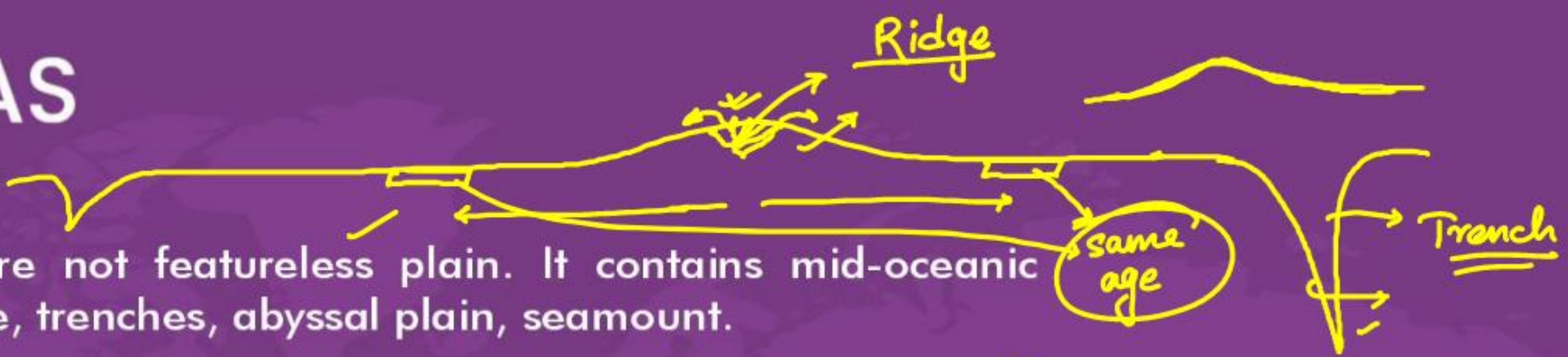


Sea Floor Spreading

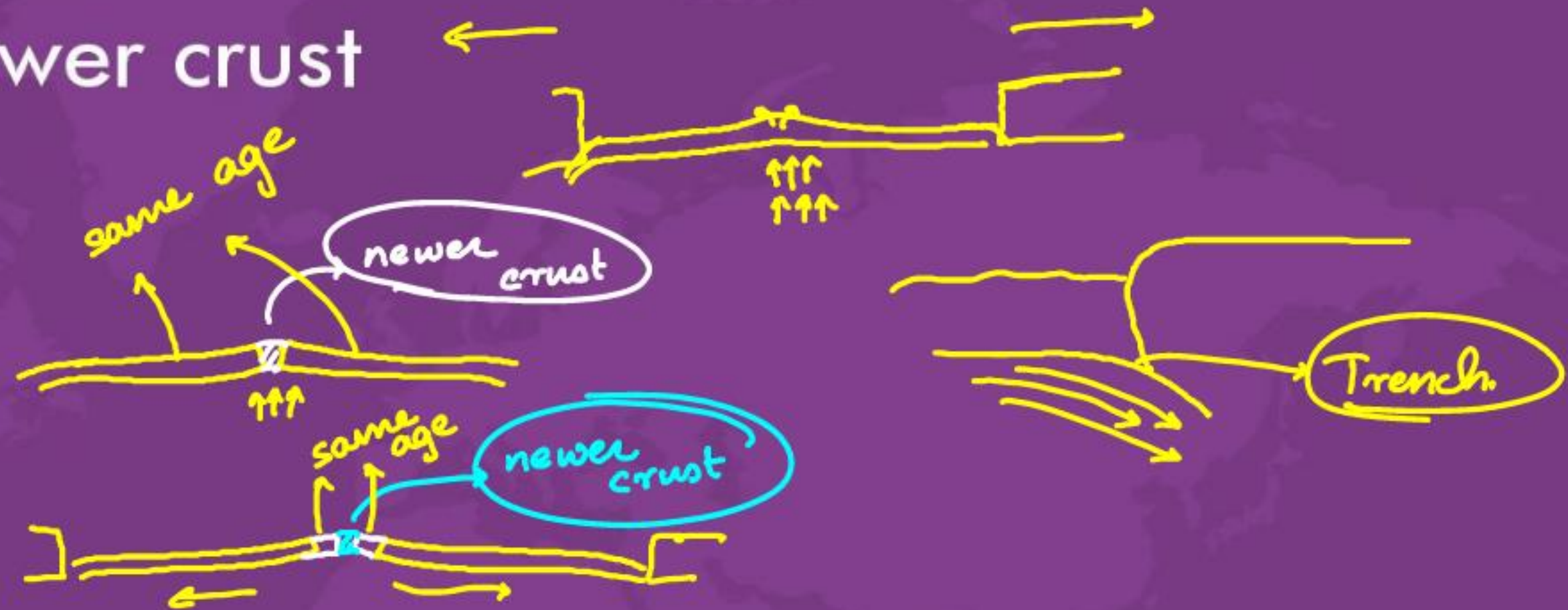


Observations:

1. Oceans are not featureless plain. It contains mid-oceanic ridges, rise, trenches, abyssal plain, seamount.
2. Oceanic rocks sample in terms of age were nowhere more than 200 million years old. Continental rocks are way older than oceanic rocks, and some continental rocks formation are as old as 3,200 million years.
3. Near mid-oceanic ridges, rocks sample were younger, and near the trenches, rocks are the oldest but less than 200 million years.
4. On the crest of the mid-oceanic ridges, cracks with the continuous active volcanic eruption were found.
5. Age of rocks and types may similar for any two places equidistant from either side of the crest of the mid-oceanic ridge (MOR).

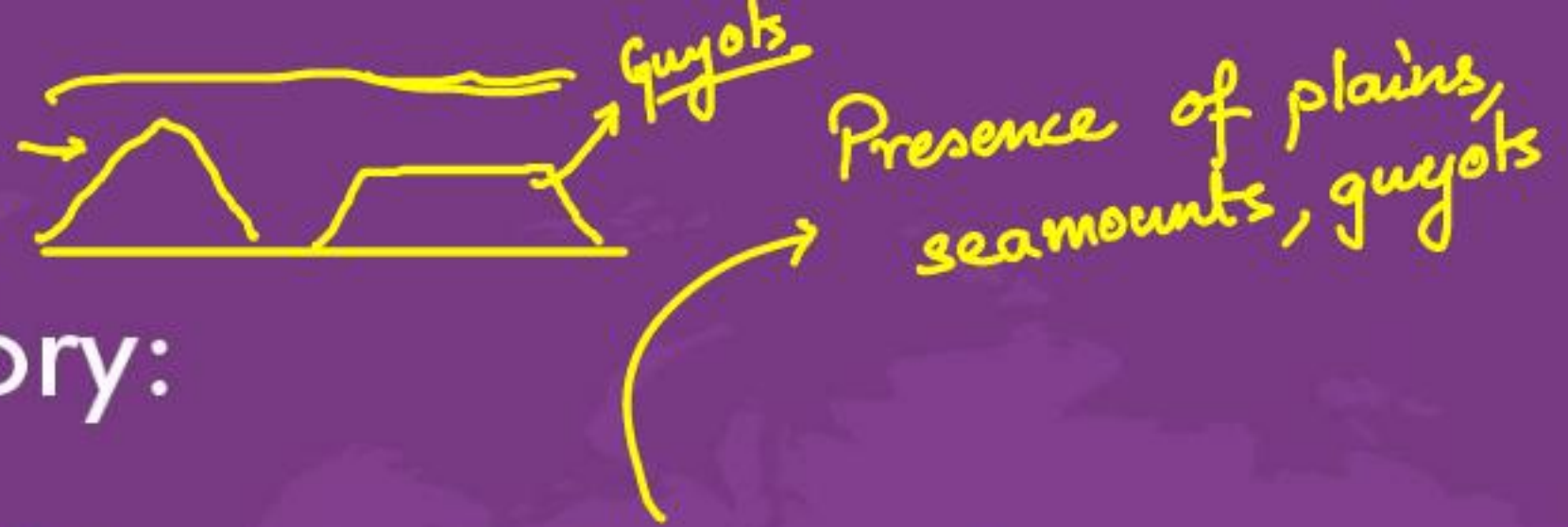


Creation of newer crust



Theory → Active volcanism leads to creation of a newer crust at mid-oceanic ridges, as the older crust is pushed aside.

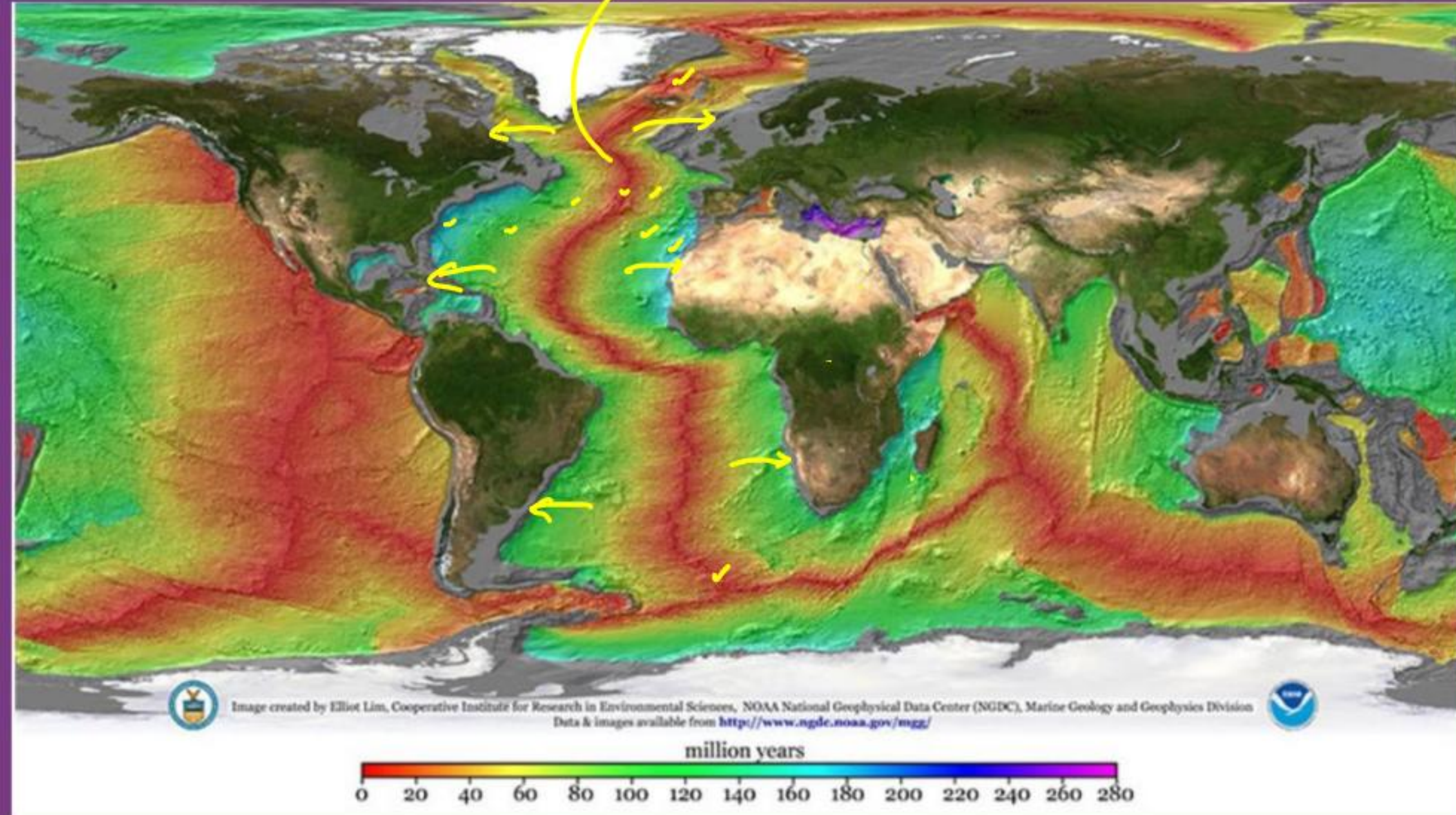
The older crust of the ocean is consumed at the oceanic trenches which leads to circulation of oceanic crust.



Limitations of the Theory:

1. It does not explain the small features of the ocean floors.
2. It does not talk about the movement of the continents.
3. It does not speak in terms of lithospheric regions(plates).

→ mid oceanic ridge.



Sea Floor Spreading and Plate Tectonics

Observed by Harry Hess, an American Geologist

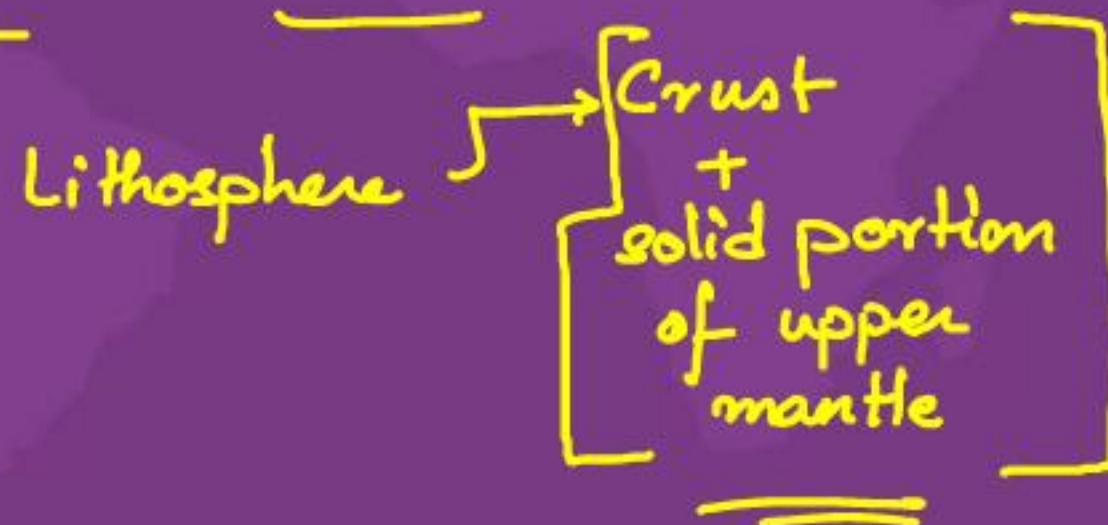


Corroborated the fact that Continents do Drift



Formed the Basis of Plate Tectonic Theory

It was the first comprehensive theory to talk about movement and formation of sea floors. Simultaneously other scholars such as McKenzie and Parker, Morgan in 1960s developed a more comprehensive understanding of the movement of the different part of the earth crust (both oceanic and continental) and the related formation. It is explained under the theory of Plate Tectonics.



Major plates ✓

Minor plates ✓

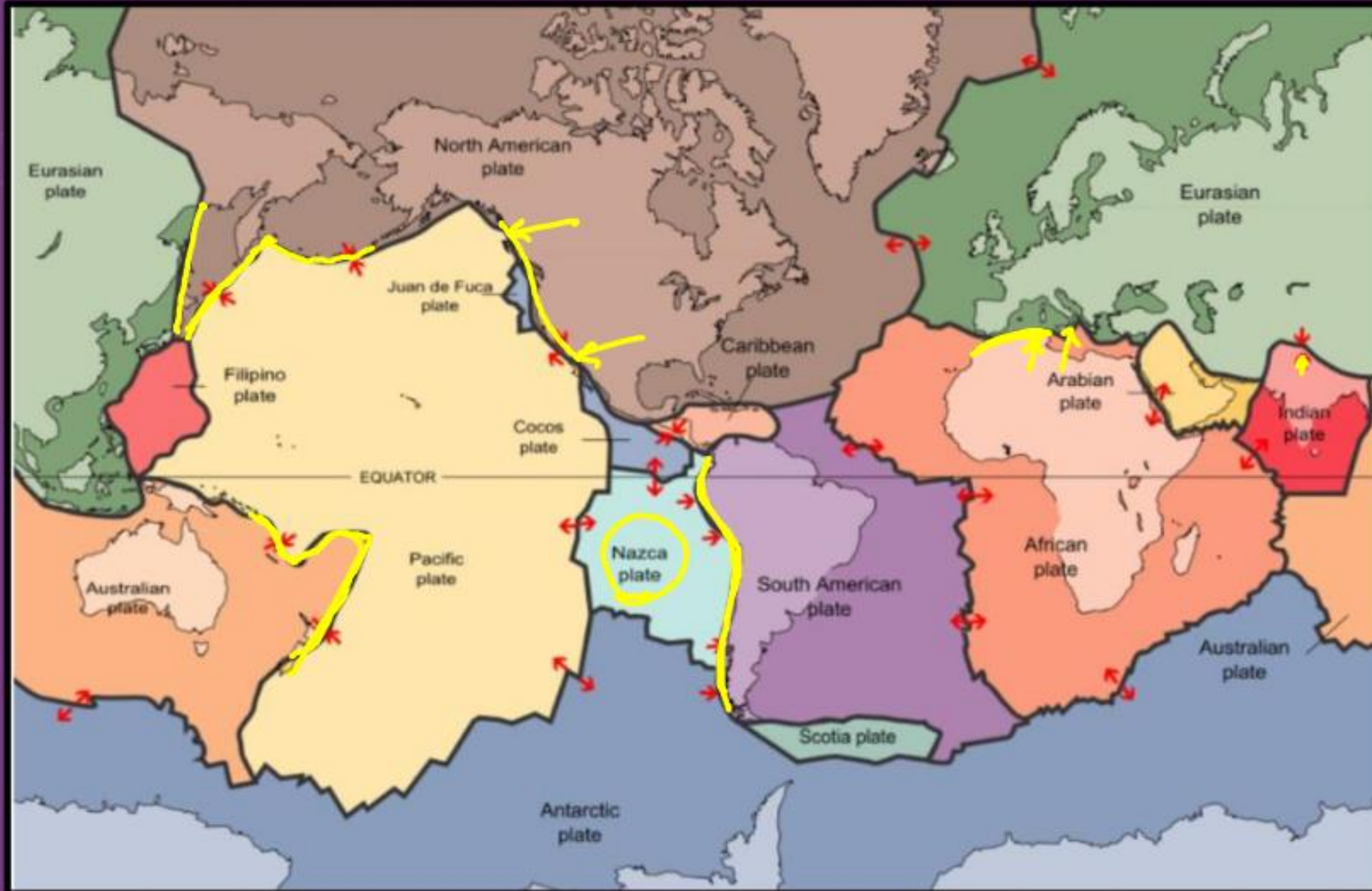
Plate tectonic Theory

Lithosphere is broken into
Plates ✓

Moves over the
Asthenosphere ✓

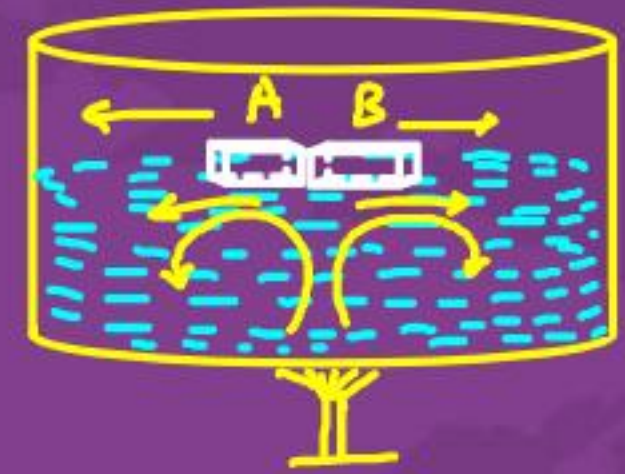
Movement is driven by the
internal heat of Earth ✓

Plate tectonic Theory

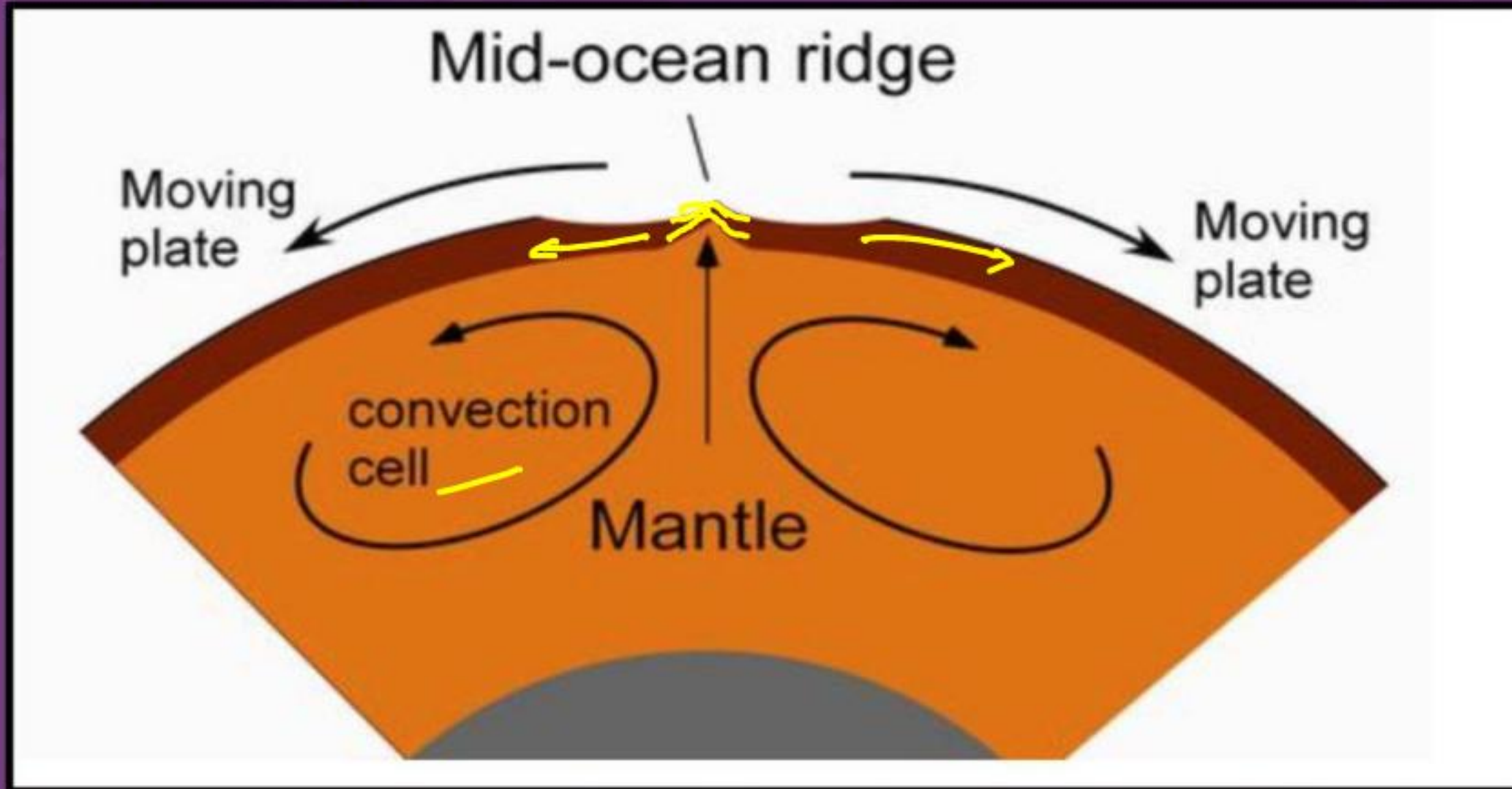


Convection current in the mantle makes the plates move with respect to each other.

Why do plates move - Interior

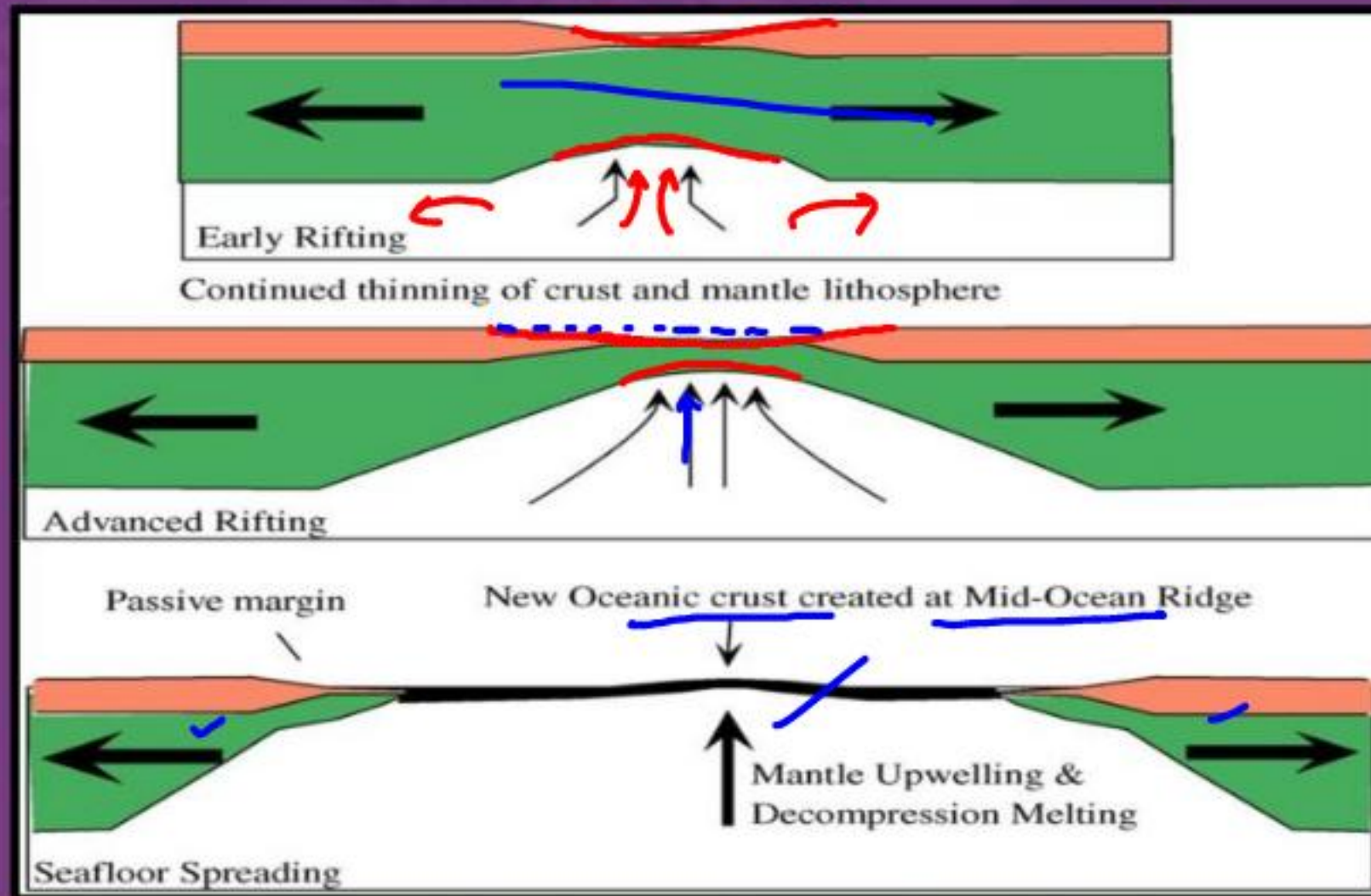


Why do plates move - Interior



Convection currents from the Mantle rising to the surface

Why do plates move - Interior



(W3H)

Plate Tectonics.

→ What are plates?

↳ Lithosphere is broken into sub-parts.

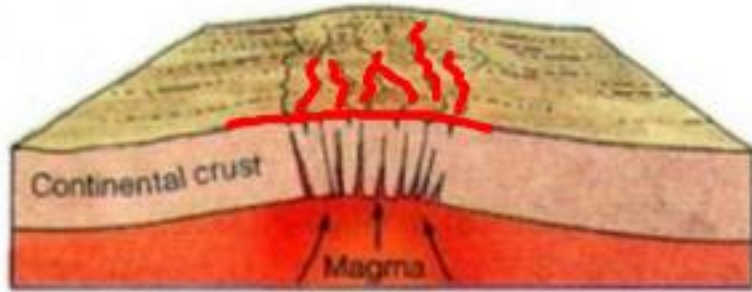
→ Why do they move?

↳ Heat from interior

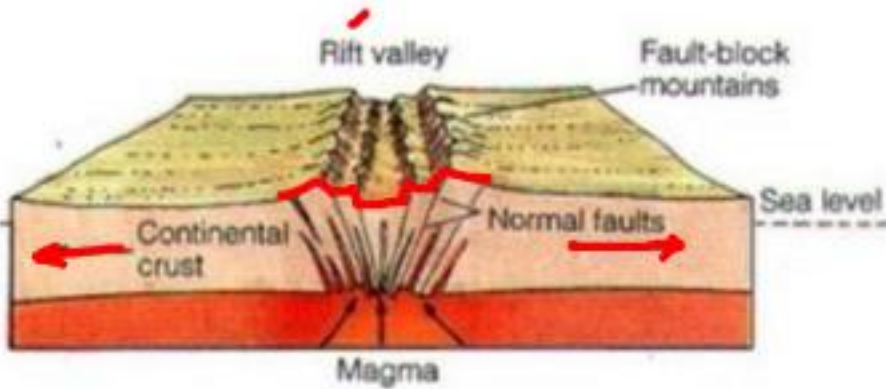
→ How do they move?

↳ Towards each other, away/parallel to each other.

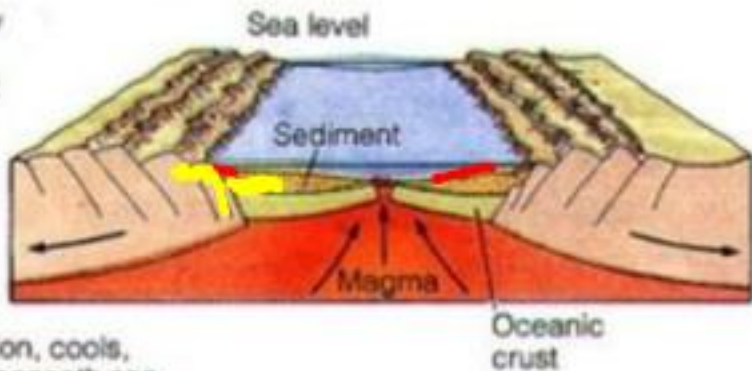
Uplift of a broad area
Dikes introduced
Crust heated and expanded
Example:
Colorado Plateau



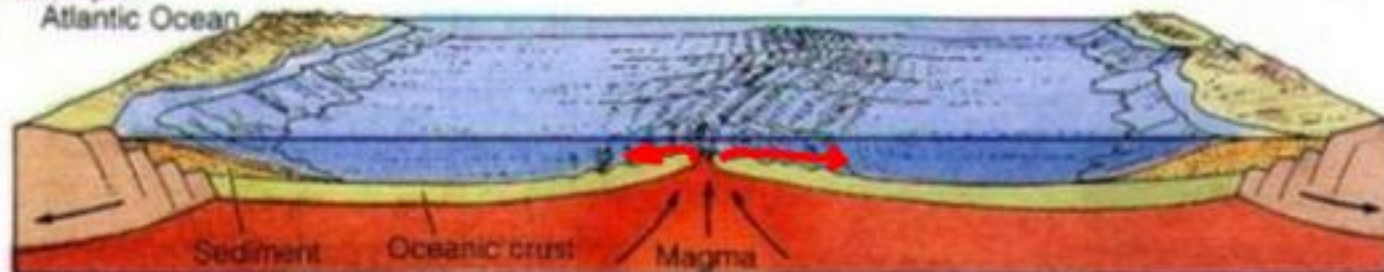
Normal faults
Rift valleys formed
Example:
African Rift Valley
Rio Grande Rift

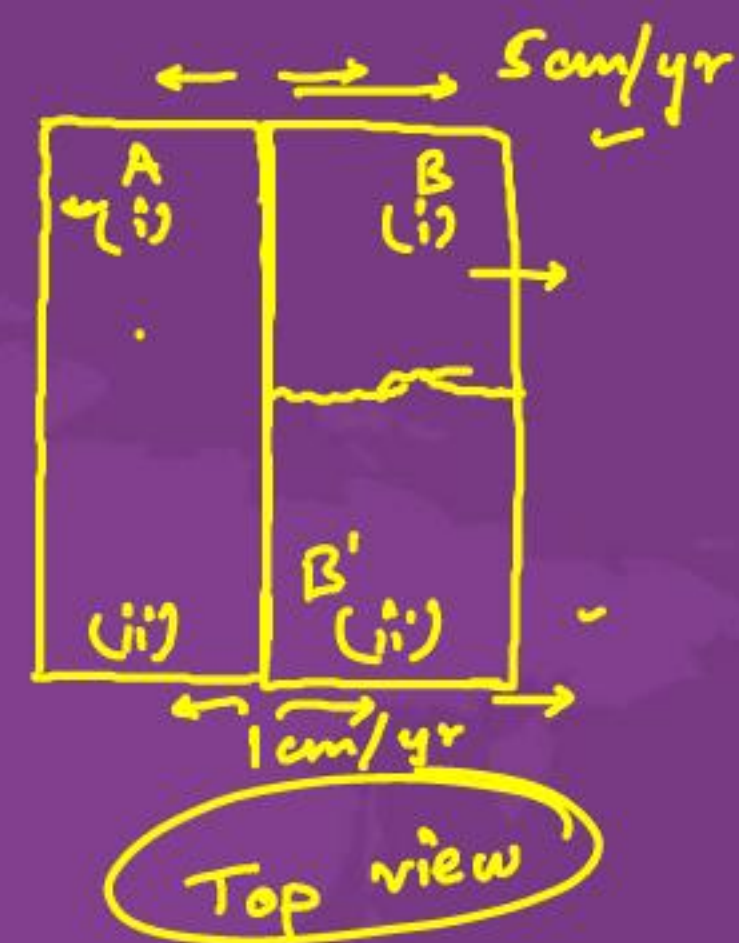


Oceanic crust and new ocean forms
Erosion reduces height of flanking continent
Example:
Red Sea

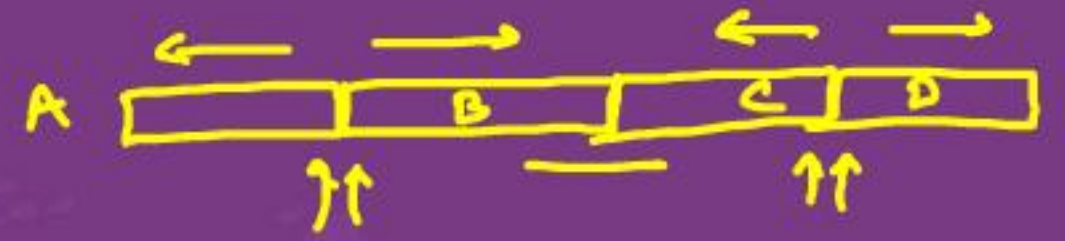


Crust, thinned by erosion, cools, contracts and sinks beneath sea
Example:
Atlantic Ocean





Types of Plate Movements



Towards Each
Other

Convergent
Plates



Away From Each
Other

Divergent
Plates

Parallel to Each
Other

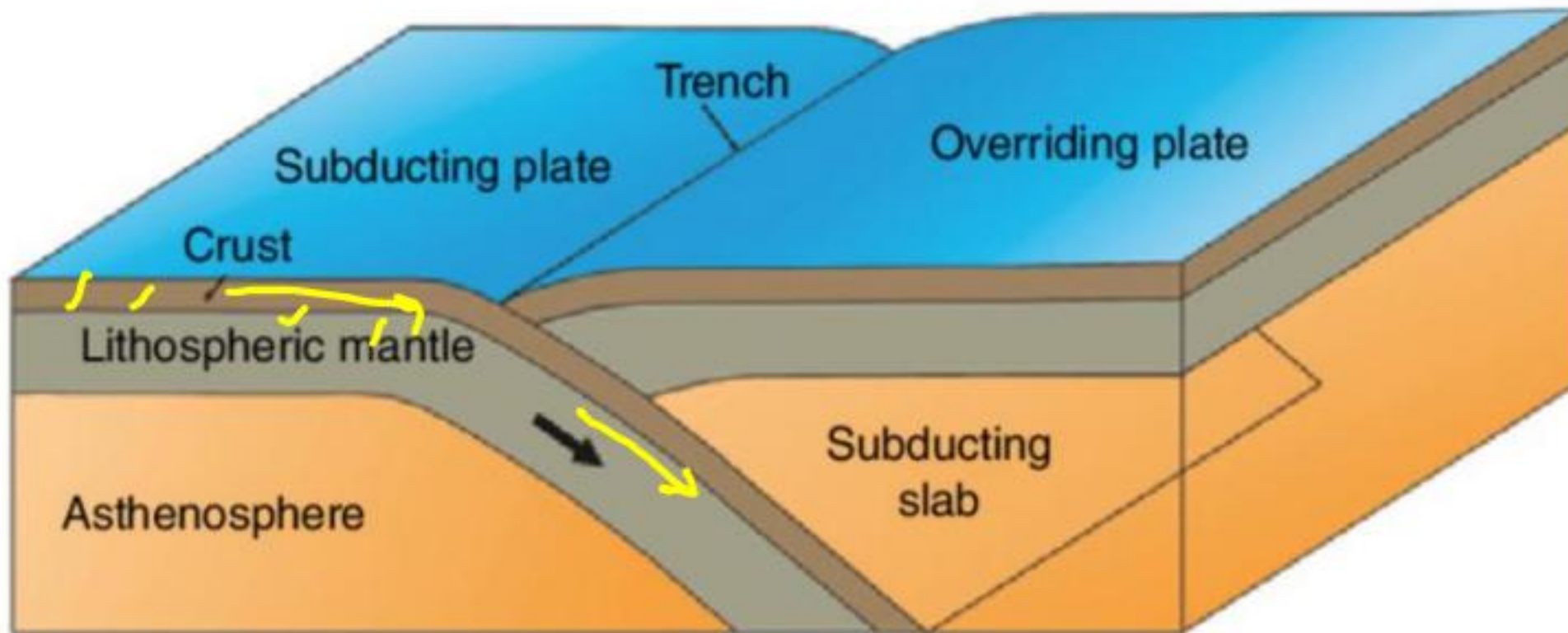
Transform
Plates

Convergent Plate Boundaries

- Heavier plate undergoes subduction.
- Always oceanic plate is heavier.

Destructive plate margins

Convergent plate boundary: subduction zone



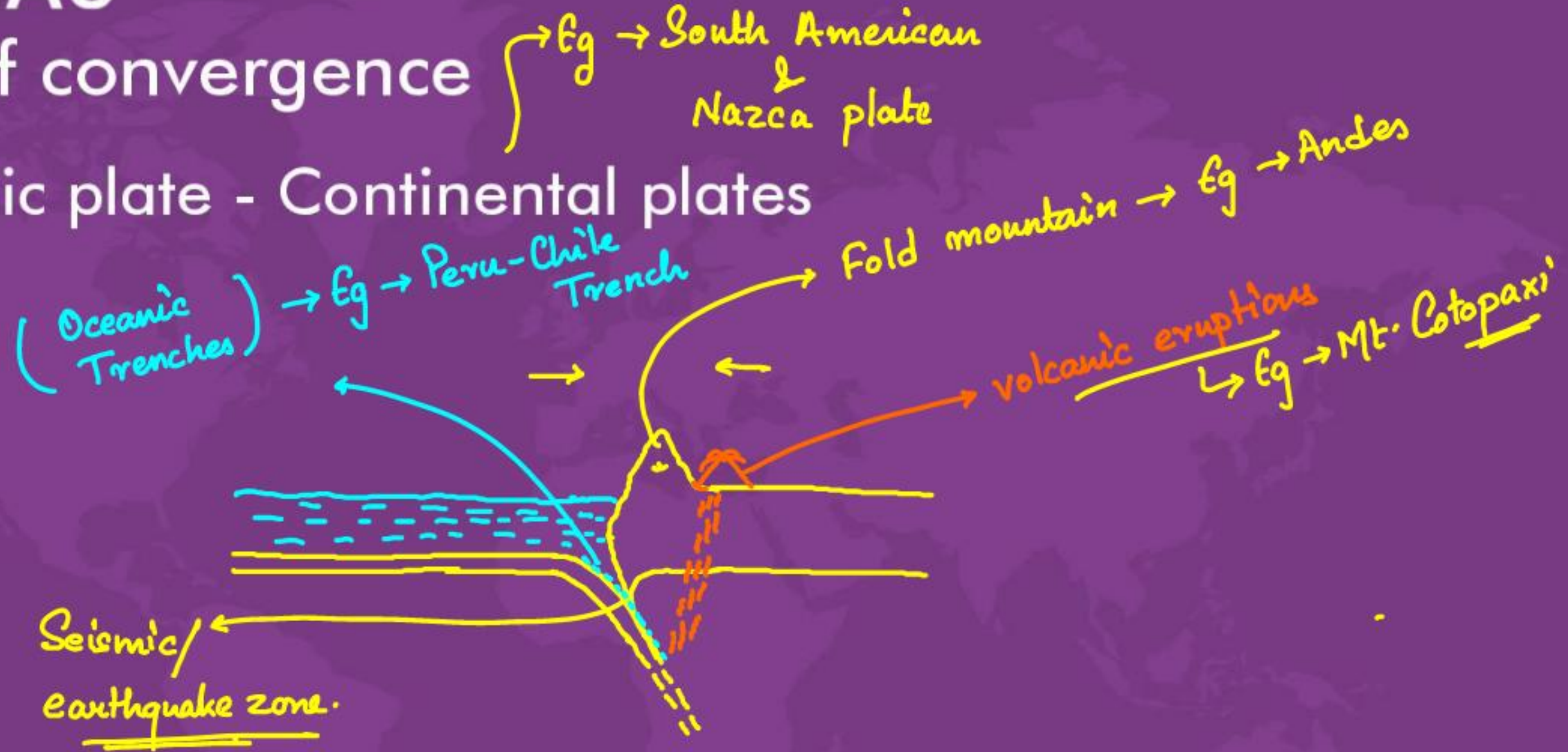
- Continental - Continental
- Continental - Oceanic
- Oceanic - Oceanic.

slab pull



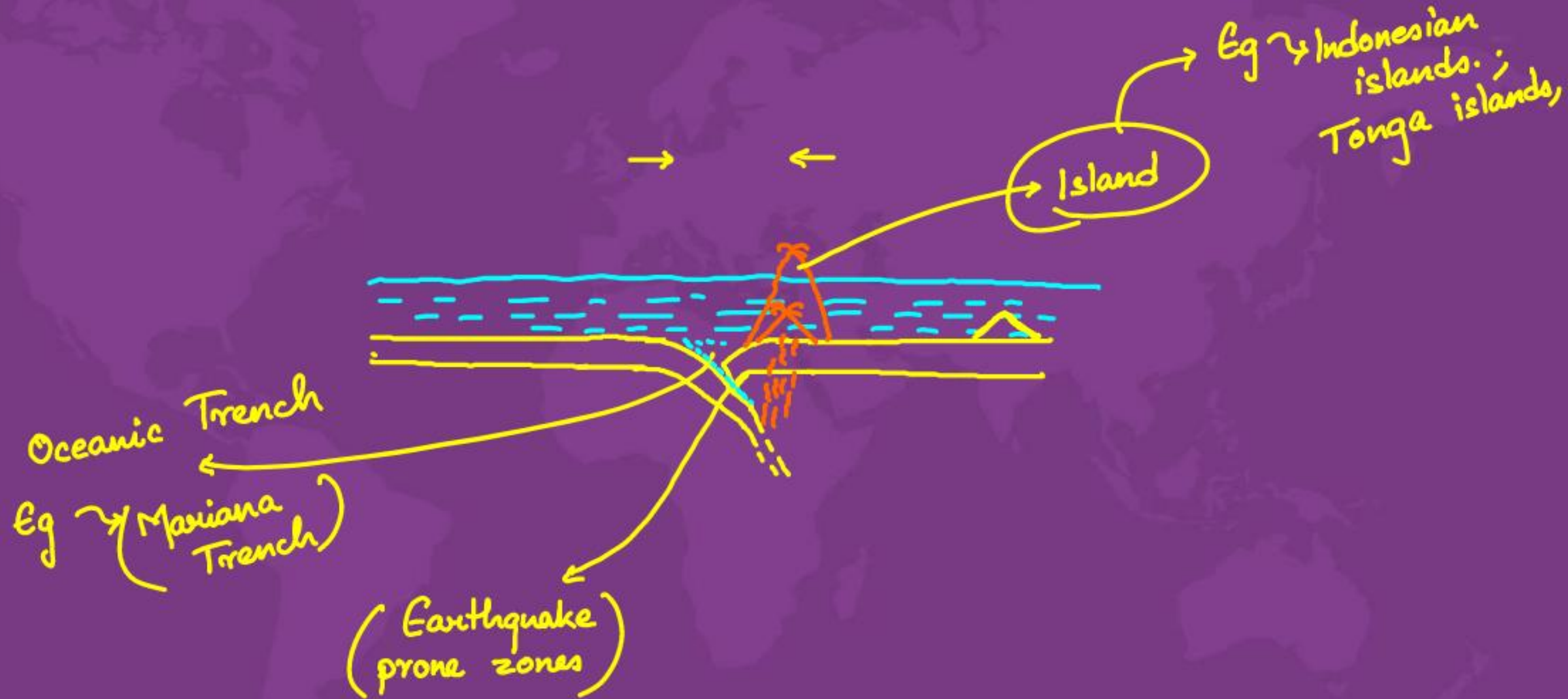
Types of convergence

- Oceanic plate - Continental plates



→ Older oceanic plates are heavier & will undergo subduction.

- Oceanic plate - Oceanic plate



As both are light & have less density → compression & deformation predominate subduction.

Eg → Indian plate & Eurasian plate

• Continental plate - Continental plate

→ No volcanic eruption

→ Not enough molten materials and gases are created.

→ Presence of very hard & thick crust due to deformation.

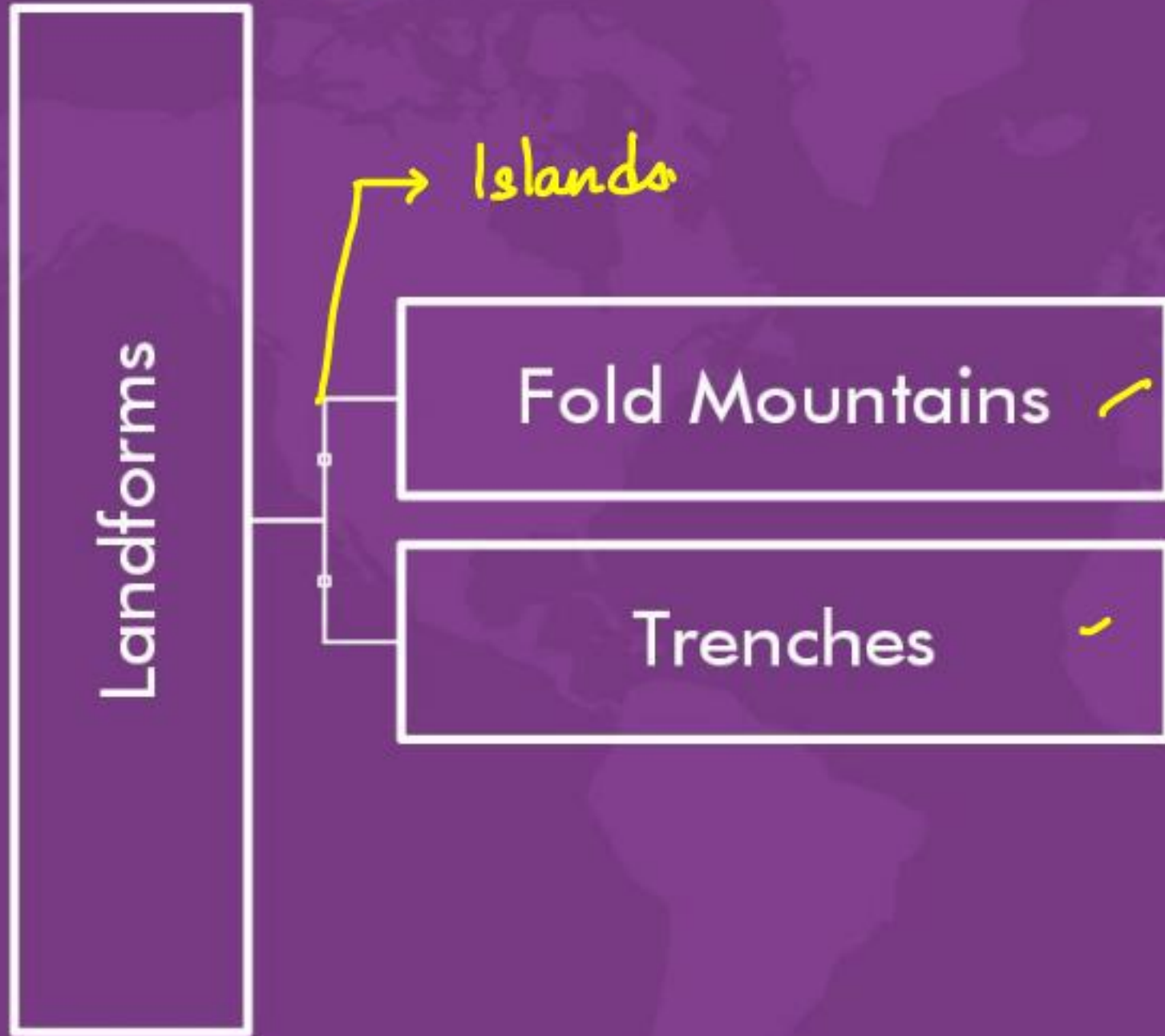
Is heavier & undergoes slight subduction



Fold mountain. Eg → Himalayas, Alps etc.

Crustal compression & thickening

Convergent Plate Boundaries



Geographical Phenomenon

Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Convergences
around Pacific

South American - Nazca
North American - Pacific
Eurasian - Pacific
Philippine - Pacific
Pacific - Indo Australian



Earthquakes & volcanoes
are frequent

Pacific Ring of Fire

Indian Plate and its Movement



1) Movement of Indian plate

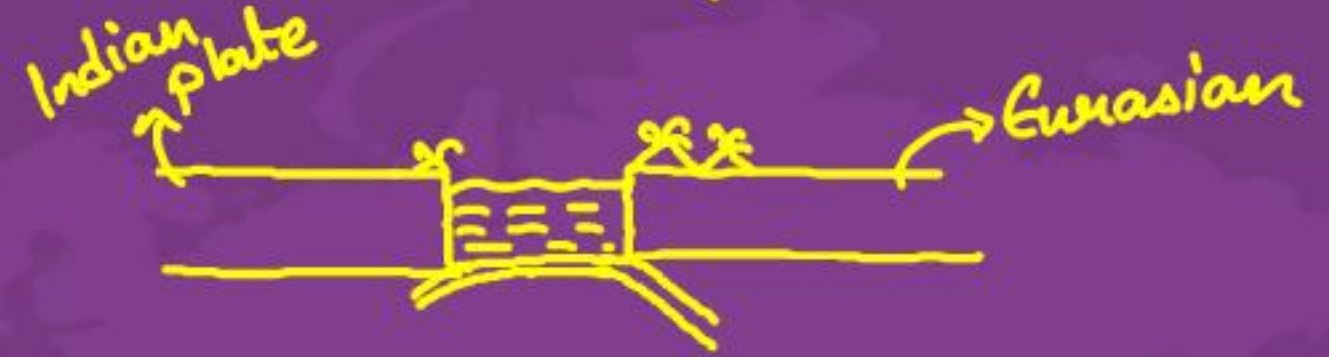


3) Upliftment of Tethyan Sea-floor



Process of formation of Himalayas.

2) Subduction of Tethys. (narrowing of Tethys)

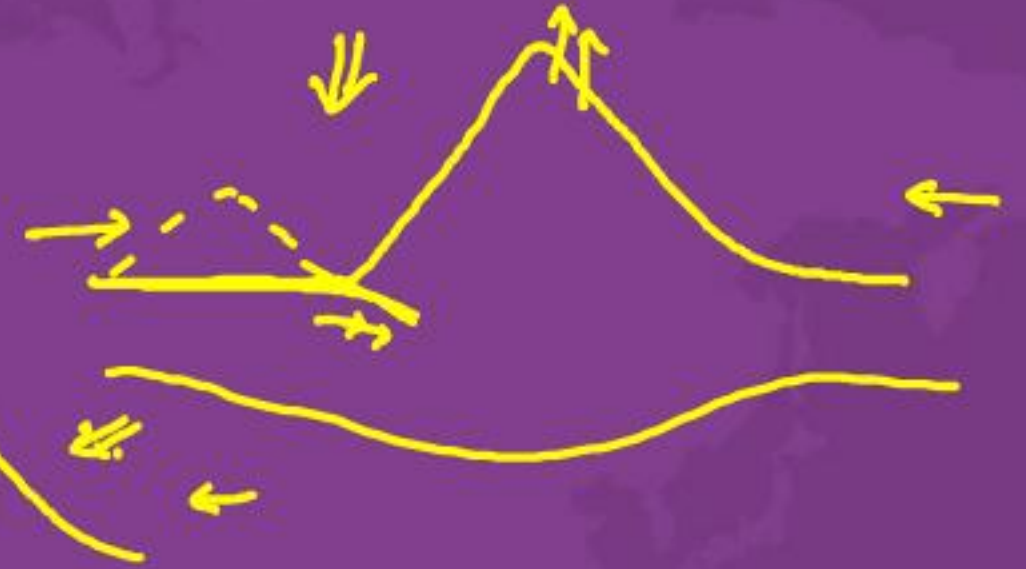


→ Speed of movement of Indian plate was so high, that entire subduction could not happen & the sea-floor was thrown upwards.

4) Continental - Continental Convergence →



5) [Formation of second range of himalayas] ✓



6) Formation of shivaliks

