PLATE TECTONIC BOUNDARY REFERENCE

Geology Department | Classification Summary

DIVERGENT

[Diagram: Plates moving apart]

Motion: Spreading
Effect: Oceanic lithosphere created
Topography: Ridge/Rift
Volcanic: Yes

CONVERGENT (SUBDUCTION)

[Diagram: One plate sliding under]

Motion: Subduction
Effect: Lithosphere destroyed
Topography: Trench/Volcanic Arc
Volcanic: Yes

CONVERGENT (COLLISION)

[Diagram: Plates folding upward]

Motion: Compression
Effect: Lithosphere shortened
Topography: Fold Mountains
Volcanic: No

TRANSFORM

[Diagram: Plates sliding past]

Motion: Lateral sliding
Effect: Lithosphere conserved
Topography: Major Fault Lines
Volcanic: No

INTRAPLATE (HOTSPOT)

[Diagram: Mantle plume]

Motion: Plate moving over plume
Effect: Volcanic chain creation
Topography: Island Chains
Volcanic: Yes

FIELD NOTES

Record local seismic activity or specific regional examples here...

Student Name: _____

Date: _____