

How do avalanches occur?

2b - Retrieval

Marks

1. Give the **three** key categories of triggers for an avalanche.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2 marks

2. Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
Avalanches are just swift movements of snow.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snowpacks have multiple layers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avalanches compact like concrete in the runout zone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slab avalanches are not as bad as other types.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 marks

3. Why do victims of avalanches sink very quickly?

Give **one** reason.

1 mark

4. According to the text, who might deliberately release small avalanches in a controlled way?

1 mark

5. Circle the **correct** option to complete each sentence below.

a) Natural movements, including earthquakes and animals' burrowing, can...

place the public at risk.

also disrupt fragile layers of snow.

create a visible break in the vegetation.

strengthen layers of the snowpack.

b) Extreme increases in temperature bring...

more layers of snow which impact on the snowpack.

loose, powdery snow which causes a sluff avalanche.

rain which consequently dissolves bonds between the snow grains.

rain which consequently freezes and forms a new layer.

c) The starting zone is the most unstable part of the slope, which is...

a channel that snow follows as it goes downhill.

positioned lower on the mountain where all avalanches start from.

a fracture within a weak layer of the snowpack.

positioned higher on the mountain, where all avalanches launch from.

1 mark

6. Draw lines to **match** each statement to the correct number in the text.

The number of miles per hour that an avalanche can travel at.

35 - 50

The number of degrees incline on which an avalanche can begin.

24

The number of hours after a snowstorm when an avalanche is most likely to happen.

100

1 mark

7. According to the text, why may a person trigger a fatal avalanche?

1 mark

Marks

8. Give the **three** features which a location needs to have before an avalanche can occur.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

2 marks