## The structure of a volcano

Volcanoes form when molten rock called magma has erupted one or more times through the ages. The magma begins its journey over 50 km inside the earth. Fissures in the earth's crust allow magma to form magmatic chambers. From there magma climbs up the vent and after reaching the crater at the summit flows out as lava at a temperature of 1,000 °C or more. Magma may also appear as volcanic bombs, lumps of molten rock that harden as they fall. All magma contain gases which are under high pressure. It is released when these gases escape through fissures. Sometimes this happens with explosive violence. Then the magma is shattered into ash. As the pressure drops magma rises and turns into lava flowing down the slopes. Mount Etna is a result of both violent eruptions (ash) and more gentle ones (lava). The shape and structure of a volcano like Mount Etna is called a stratovolcano or composite cone volcano.



- 1.) Study the text and diagram and add the correct terms into the sketch.
- 2.) Explain the geographical term ,stratovolcano'.