

Life in the Bronze Age: A Historical Report

Learning objective: To describe the changes in daily life during the Bronze Age, focusing on materials, settlement, and societal development.

Use this writing scaffold to organise your report. Start each paragraph with the suggested sentence starter and use the word bank to help you describe how life changed from the Neolithic period to the Bronze Age. Ensure your arguments are justified with evidence about how metal tools changed human civilisation.

The Bronze Age was a transformative period in human history, marking the moment when early settlers discovered how to create stronger tools by mixing copper and tin.

Word bank: significantly · furthermore · consequently · in addition · advanced · metallurgy · sophisticated · settlement · civilisation · evidence · trade routes · bronze alloy

1. The Discovery of Bronze: Explain why the invention of bronze was a turning point for early farmers compared to using stone tools... (3 marks)

2. Settlement Patterns: Compare and contrast how Bronze Age homes and hillforts differed from the earlier Neolithic roundhouses... (3 marks)

3. Trade and Specialisation: Justify your answer as to why the need for tin and copper led to the creation of long-distance trade routes... (4 marks)

4. Social Structure: What might happen to the organisation of a tribe if one group became the expert metalworkers? Describe the impact on society... (4 marks)

5. Burial Customs: Describe the significance of burial mounds and grave goods found by archaeologists... (2 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise how these technological advancements changed the way people interacted with their environment... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an archaeologist who has just discovered a bronze sword in a buried hoard. Write a diary entry detailing the location, the condition of the object, and your hypothesis about who owned it and why it was buried there. Use higher-level vocabulary to explain the historical significance of your find.