Stone Age History Assessment: From Hunter-Gatherers to Farmers

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the Stone Age period, including the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic eras.

Read each question carefully. Write your answers clearly in the spaces provided. Ensure you use historical vocabulary where appropriate.

The Stone Age is divided into three distinct periods: the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic. During the early periods, humans survived by hunting wild animals and gathering nuts, berries, and roots. As time progressed, humans developed more sophisticated tools and eventually transitioned to farming during the Neolithic era. This shift allowed people to stop moving constantly and build permanent homes, such as those found at the famous site of Skara Brae.

Word bank: Palaeolithic · Mesolithic · Neolithic · Hunter-gatherer · Settlement · Agriculture · Flint · Skara Brae · Bronze Age

1. Name the three periods that the Stone Age is divided into. (3 marks)

2. Explain the difference between a 'hunter-gatherer' lifestyle and a 'settled' lifestyle. (3 marks)

3. Why was the discovery and use of flint so important for Stone Age people? Give two examples of how they used it. (4 marks)

4. What does the site of Skara Brae tell historians about how people lived during the Neolithic period? (5 marks)

5. Describe one major change in how humans obtained their food when they moved from the Mesolithic to the Neolithic period. (2 marks)

6. If a Stone Age trader was selling a sharpened flint tool for £2.50 and a woven basket for £1.75, what would be the total cost to buy one of each? (3 marks)

7. Why did the Stone Age period eventually come to an end? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a Stone Age shelter and label at least two materials you think the people would have used to build it.

Extension challenge: Total: /25