

Ellie's Iron Age Investigation

Learning objective: To recall and evaluate key features of Iron Age life in Britain, including settlements, social structure, and technological advancements.

Join Ellie the elephant as she explores the wonders of the Iron Age. Read the questions carefully and use your historical knowledge to uncover the past. Good luck, young historians!

Answer Key: 1.C (Iron), 2.True, 3.Hillfort, 4.B (Roundhouses), 5.True, 6.False (They were mostly farmers), 7.A (Bronze), 8.Trade, 9.Iron was stronger and more accessible than bronze for tools and weapons. 10.A hillfort provided a high vantage point to spot enemies and easier defensive walls to build.

Word bank: Hillfort · Roundhouse · Iron · Celts · Trade · Agriculture · Defense · Smithing · Hilltop · Currency

1. 1. Which metal replaced bronze and gave the Iron Age its name? A) Gold, B) Copper, C) Iron*, D) Silver (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: People in the Iron Age lived in settlements often surrounded by defensive walls. (1 mark)

3. 3. What is the name of the fortified settlement built on high ground to keep people safe? (1 mark)

4. 4. What shape were the typical homes built during the Iron Age? A) Square, B) Round*, C) Triangular, D) Rectangular (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Iron Age people used coins to trade for goods. (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Iron Age people were primarily nomadic hunters who never stayed in one place. (1 mark)

7. 7. What metal was used before the Iron Age? A) Bronze*, B) Steel, C) Aluminium, D) Tin (1 mark)

8. 8. What do we call the system of swapping goods like grain or wool for other items? (1 mark)

9. 9. Explain why the discovery of iron-working was so revolutionary for farming tools. (1 mark)

10. 10. Justify why a tribe might choose to build their settlement on top of a steep hill. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of an Iron Age roundhouse. Include details like a central fire pit, thatched roof, and wattle-and-daub walls.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast an Iron Age hillfort with a modern-day town. Create a table listing three similarities and three differences. What might happen if an Iron Age tribe suddenly lost their iron supply? Write a short paragraph explaining the impact on their daily survival.