

# Life in the Stone Age: A Historical Report

*Learning objective: To write a non-chronological report about the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic periods, using historical vocabulary and evidence-based reasoning.*

Use this scaffold to structure your report. Ensure you include specific details about how humans lived, what they ate, and how their tools changed over time. Remember to use formal, historical language.

The Stone Age was a vast period of human history, spanning from the earliest stone tools to the invention of metal farming equipment.

*Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in contrast · palaeolithic · neolithic · nomadic · settlement · archaeological evidence · significantly · on the other hand*

**1. Introduction: What were the three main stages of the Stone Age and how would you define them? Start with: The Stone Age is categorized into three distinct periods: the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic... (2 marks)**

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**2. Survival and Food: Compare how the diet and lifestyle of humans changed from the Palaeolithic period to the Neolithic period. Start with: During the early Stone Age, humans were nomadic hunter-gatherers, but later... (3 marks)**

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**3. Technological Advances: Explain why the invention of polished stone tools was a turning point for Neolithic communities. Start with: The development of new tools, such as polished axes, was significant because... (3 marks)**

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**4. Settlements: Justify why humans chose to transition from nomadic life to living in permanent settlements. Start with: As farming techniques improved, humans began to settle, which was beneficial because... (3 marks)**

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**5. Evidence: How do archaeologists know about the lives of people from thousands of years ago? Start with: Archaeologists gain an insight into the past by studying... (2 marks)**

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**6. Conclusion: What might happen if humans had never discovered how to farm crops and domesticate animals? Start with: If the Neolithic Revolution had not occurred, it is likely that... (3 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Imagine you are an archaeologist who has just discovered a Neolithic hut. Write a diary entry describing one specific item you found inside (e.g., a hand-axe or a pottery shard) and explain what it reveals about the person who owned it. Why is it important to handle such artefacts with care?*