

Stone Age Perspectives: A Journey Through Time

Learning objective: To write a descriptive and analytical account of life during the Stone Age, comparing the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic periods.

Use the prompts below to structure your historical report. Ensure you use technical vocabulary, maintain a formal tone, and provide evidence-based explanations for your ideas.

As the dawn of the Stone Age broke, early humans relied entirely on their surroundings, crafting simple tools from flint to survive in an unpredictable environment.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · in contrast · archaeological evidence · nomadic lifestyle · agrarian revolution · subsistence · innovative · permanence · significantly · nevertheless · subsequently

1. The Nomadic Life: Describe the daily challenges faced by Palaeolithic people. Start your paragraph with: 'Life for nomadic tribes was defined by the constant search for...' (3 marks)

2. Technological Advancements: Explain how the development of new tools changed survival. Start with: 'The evolution of flint-knapping techniques allowed early humans to...' (3 marks)

3. The Neolithic Shift: Compare and contrast hunter-gatherer life with the new farming lifestyle. Start with: 'The transition to an agrarian society was a pivotal moment because...' (4 marks)

4. The Importance of Shelter: Justify why the move from temporary structures to permanent settlements was significant. Start with: 'Settling in one location provided safety, but it also required...' (3 marks)

5. Archaeological Clues: Explain why archaeologists rely on artefacts like pottery or tools to understand the past. Start with: 'By studying physical remains, historians are able to piece together...' (3 marks)

6. Reflection: What might happen if early humans had never discovered how to farm? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an archaeologist who has just discovered a new Stone Age site. Write a formal diary entry describing one specific item you found and why it is a 'game-changer' for our understanding of how these people lived. Use at least three terms from the word bank.