

The Bronze Age—Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary

The Bronze Age	A period of time, with no written records, where early humans made tools from bronze
migration	Movement from one place to another with the intention of settling in a new location
tribe	A group of people including many families, clans, or generations
Warrior Chief	A chief who leads a group in wartime, a warlord, a war leader
bronze	A type of metal made from copper and tin to make it harder and more durable
copper	A soft metal that, when added to tin, is made stronger
smelt	To melt in order to separate different materials
urn	A container, similar to a vase. It is often where the ashes from someone who has died are stored
Ancient Celts	Various tribal groups living in parts of western and central Europe in the Late Bronze Age and through the Iron Age



Stonehenge, completed during the Bronze Age.

Empire

The earliest humans were hunter-gatherers. They probably arrived in Britain around 900,000BC. Homo sapiens (our ancient ancestors) arrived around 30,000BC (Palaeolithic).

Britain became an island at the start of the Late **Stone Age** (Neolithic).

The **Bronze Age** started at different times in different countries and lasted around 1500 years.

The Bronze Age ended when tribal kingdoms developed with the arrival of Celtic culture, leading into the **Iron Age**.

The prehistoric period ended in Britain in AD43 when the Romans arrived.

Stone Age to Iron Age Timeline

3000BC — The village of Skara Brae is built in Orkney. Construction starts on Stonehenge.

2500BC — The 'Bell Beaker' culture arrives in Britain.

2100BC — Bronze begins to be used in Britain to make weapons and tools.

1800BC — The first copper mines are dug.

1200BC — Celtic culture begins to arrive in Britain and tribal kingdoms develop.

800BC — Iron begins to be used instead of Bronze.

The first hillforts are constructed.

AD43 — The Romans invade Britain.

Achievements

Stonehenge is a famous prehistoric monument in southern England, built at the end of the Stone Age and into the Bronze Age.

It took an estimated 1,500 years to erect.

There is strong archaeological evidence that Stonehenge was used as a burial site; it is also believed it was used as a ceremonial site or a religious pilgrimage destination.

During the **Bronze Age**, Daggers, blades, spearheads, chisels, axes and armour could all now be made out of bronze which was harder and more durable than stone.

Bronze Age Community

Some of the people who migrated to Britain (from Spain or Portugal) during the Bronze Age were known as 'The Bell Beaker People'. It is thought that these people were the first to bring Bronze into Britain.

They were named this after the distinctive bell-shaped pottery that was decorated with impressions made from a comb or cord.

The Bell Beaker People also introduced different types of weapons and jewellery into Britain.

The Beaker way of life involved making pottery and metal, holding feasts and building stone circles.

Bronze Age people lived in small communities led by a warrior chief.

Ancient Britons gathered together for religious ceremonies and built circular tombs (known as round barrows) for important men and women.

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