

READING 7th grade

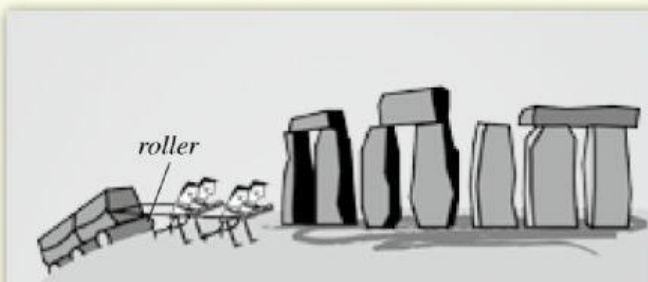
Name:

Class:

1 Look at the picture and title of the article.

2 What do the numbers refer to? Read the first paragraph again and check.

- a 4,200 years ago b 240
c hundreds d 3,500
e 82 f 4,000



STONEHENGE

Have you ever heard of Stonehenge? It's a very old circle of giant standing stones in England, and people come from all over the world to see it. The stones are between 3,500 and 5,000 years old. Experts believe it took about 30 million hours of work to build Stonehenge.

There are two questions everybody asks about it: how did they build it, and why?

We think we know the answer to the first question: around 4,200 years ago, teams of hundreds of people brought 82 bluestones from the Preseli Mountains in Wales. The stones weighed 4,000 kilograms (kgs) and the mountains were 240 kilometres (kms) away! It is thought that the people pulled the stones over land on very big rollers, and put them on rafts to be carried by water.

The second question is 'Why did they build it? This is more difficult to answer. Some people think Stonehenge was a type of church or 'temple' to the Sun. Others think it was a centre to help sick people, or a place where they buried people when they died.

At Stonehenge, there is an excellent visitor's centre with very useful information about the history of the stones. The best time to visit is on Midsummer's Day. Every year, lots of people celebrate around the magical stones when the Sun comes up, so you must arrive there very early in the morning!

3 Choose answer a or b. Then read the article again and check your answers.

1 It took a very b time to build Stonehenge.

- a short b long

2 There are more than bluestones at Stonehenge.

- a 80 b 90

3 We sure why they built Stonehenge.

- a are b aren't

4 Maybe went to Stonehenge for help.

- a sick people b hungry people

5 You should visit Stonehenge in the on Midsummer's Day.

- a morning b afternoon

4 Are the sentences true (T), false (F) or don't know (DK)? Read the article again and check your answers.

1 People started building Stonehenge three thousand years ago. F

2 Everybody knows how long it took to build Stonehenge.

3 It is thought that teams of people from Wales brought the stones to Stonehenge.

4 We don't know exactly why people built Stonehenge.

5 People with the plague went to Stonehenge for help.

6 A good time to visit is early in the morning on Midsummer's Day.