

History Lesson

Year 3

3.2.21



Stonehenge

Wednesday 3rd February

Can I suggest how and why Stonehenge was built?

Watch this video about Stonehenge.

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/schools/education-film/>

Task 1: While you watch the video, take some notes in your book.

Pause the video when you need to. Try to answer the questions:

What do we know about Stonehenge?

When was it built?

How was it built?

Why do you think it was built?

What is Stonehenge?

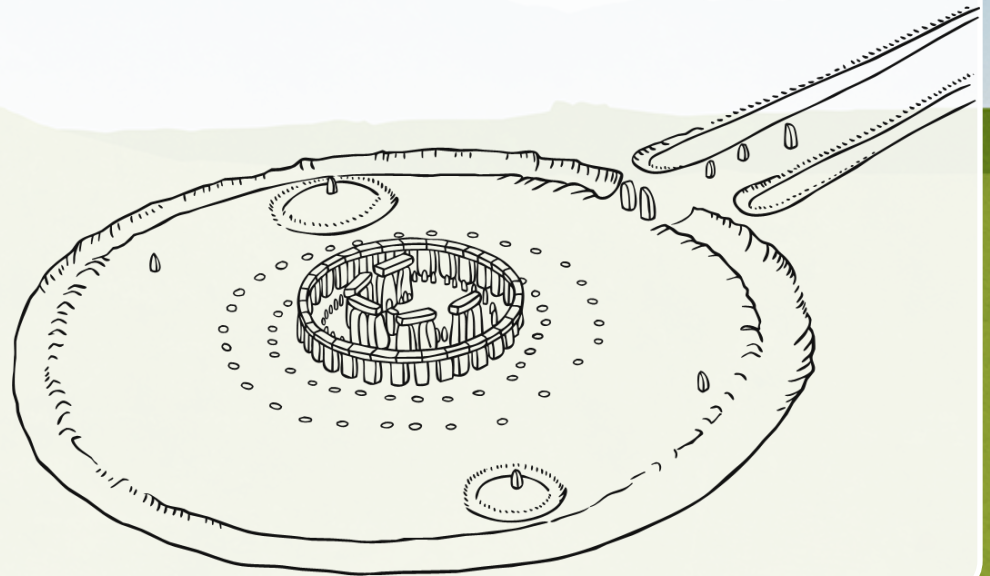
Stonehenge is a very famous prehistoric monument in the South of England, in Wiltshire. It was started 5000 years ago during the Stone Age, around 3100 – 3000BC. Up to 150 people were buried there when it was just an earthwork. The stones that we see today were added later.



The First Stage

An earthwork was created about 5000 years ago which was a circular ditch dug using antler picks with a bank both inside and out. Bones of oxen and deer were found in the bottom of the ditch, along with flint tools.

There were 56 pits dug around the circle which were 1 metre wide and 1 metre deep, with flat bottoms. The purpose of these holes is unclear. Different people think they could have held timber posts, or stones, or were part of a religious ceremony.



The Second Stage

Between 4000 and 5000 years ago stones were added all the way from the Preseli Hills in South Wales. They were called Bluestones.

(This is because they appear to be slightly blue when broken or wet)



82 of them, weighing up to 4 tonnes each, were transported an amazing 240 miles over land and water. This was way before roads and lorries!

The stones were around 2 metres tall. They were set up in a double circle pattern. During this second stage the largest stone, known as the Heel Stone added to the entrance.

The Third Stage

The third stage involved the addition of more stones about 500 years later. These were called Sarsen stones and came from the Marlborough Downs, about 25 miles from Stonehenge.

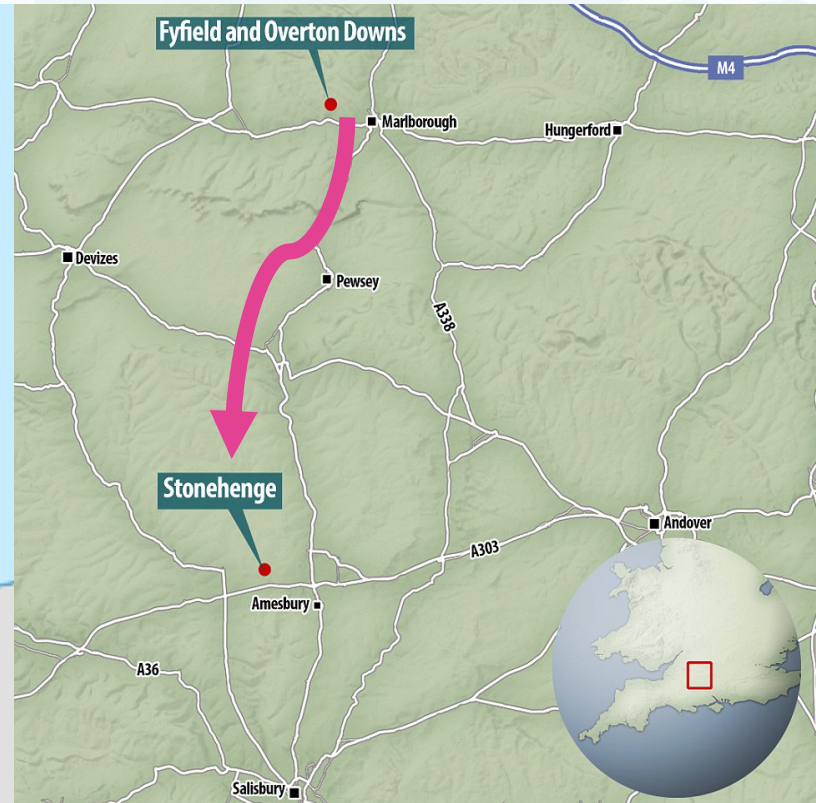
The Sarsen stones were enormous; the upright stones being over 4 metres high, 2 metres wide and weighing up to 30 tonnes. An outer circle was created with stones laid horizontally across the top.



Where did the stones come from?



The Preseli hills are
140 miles away
from Stonehenge.



The Marlborough downs
are 25 miles away from
Stonehenge.

The Final Stages

During the final changes, the original bluestones were arranged in the horseshoe and circle shape that can be seen today.



How Was Stonehenge Made?

Archaeologists think that it would have taken 500 men using leather ropes to pull one Sarsen stone, with an extra 100 men needed to lay the huge rollers in front of the sledge.

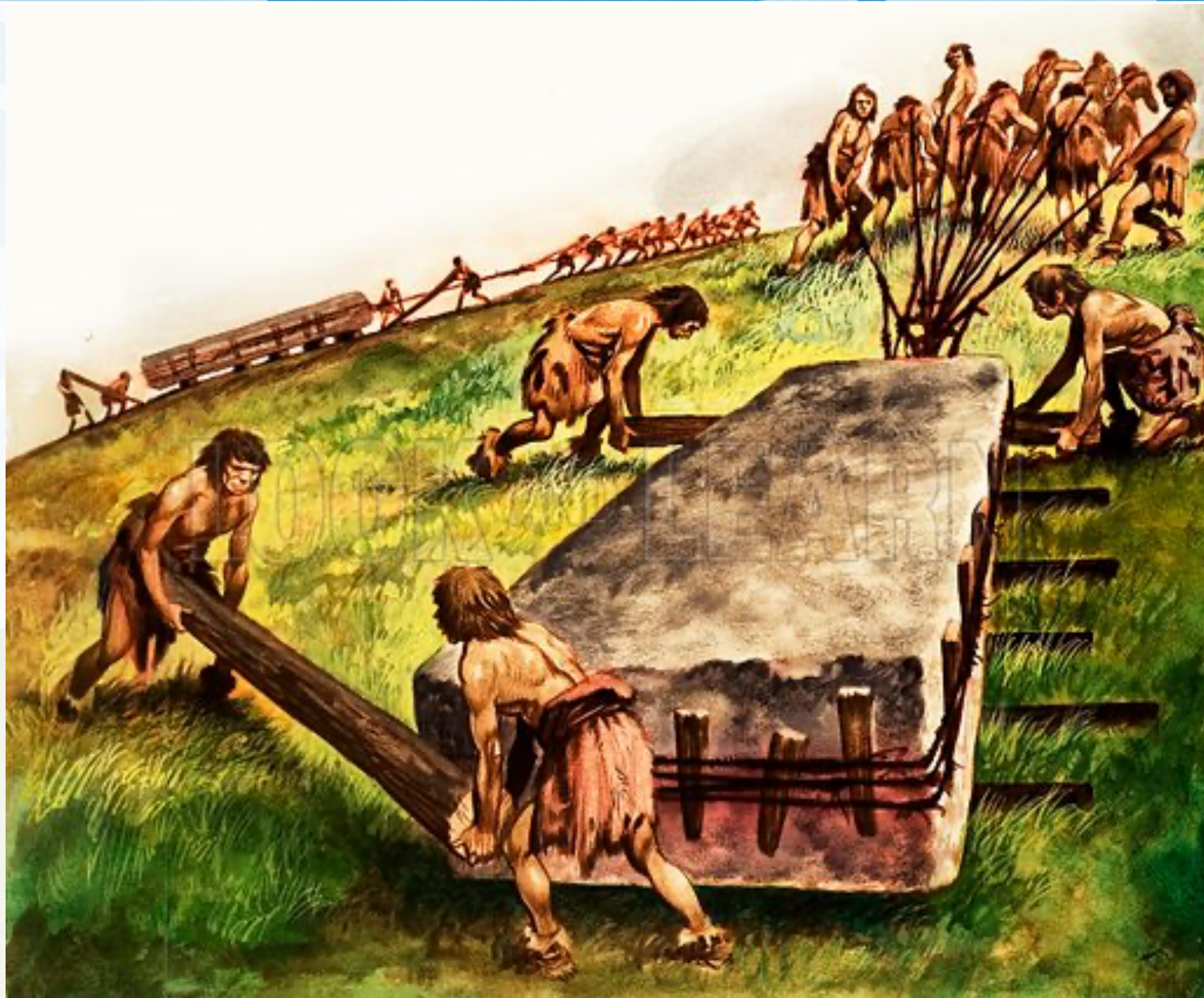
The stones would have been moved and raised using a combinations of rollers, ropes, wooden levers, pulleys and a massive amount of man power. It was thought that the horizontal stones would be raised to the height of the vertical stones by building wooden platforms.

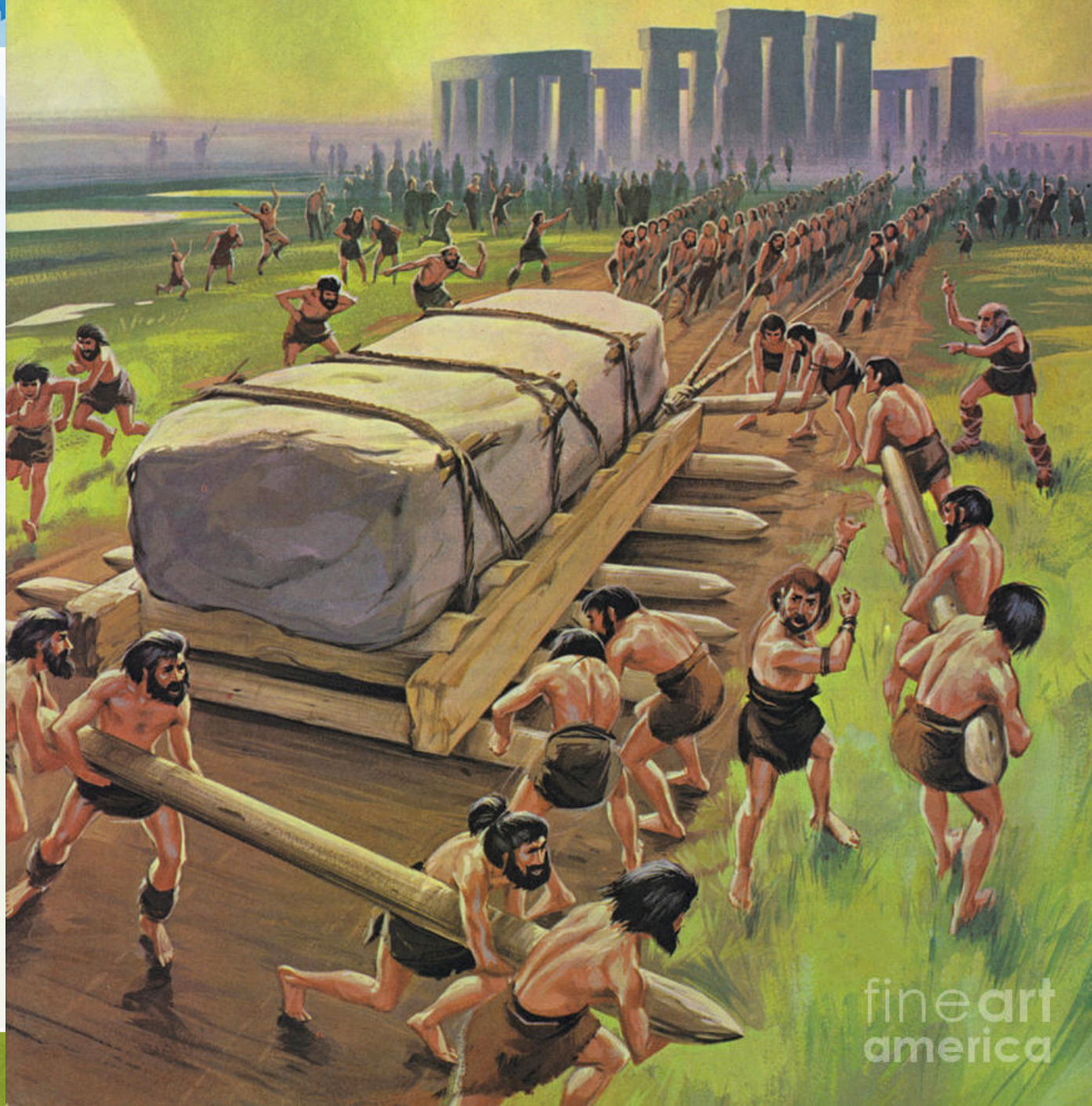
To make the stones fit together well, they carved out bumps and holes to make them fit together, a bit like building bricks.



Look at the pictures on the following slides. They show how archaeologists think the stones were moved into place.







fineart
america







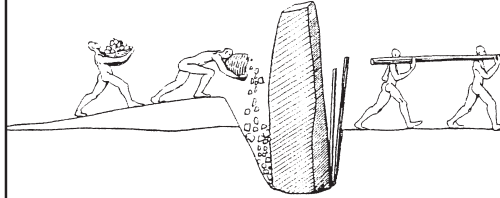
Task 2:

1. Cut out these pictures and put them in the right order to show how the stones might have been put into place. (When the pictures are in the right place, they make a word.)
2. Now write a sentence under each picture to explain what is happening.

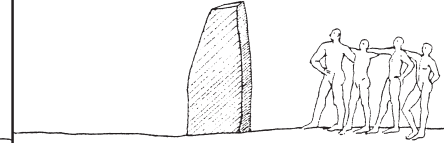
Word Bank:

Stone	Pulled
Hole	Pushed
Lever	Lowered
Pole	Ramp
Rope	Rolled

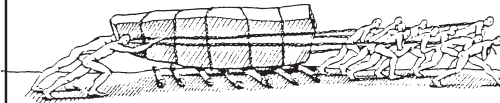
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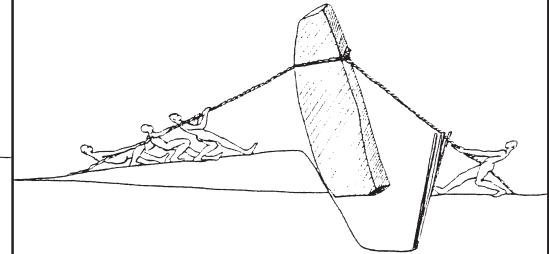
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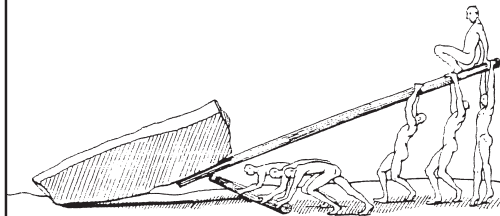
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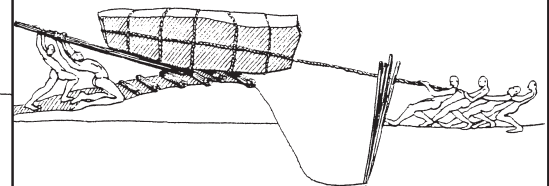
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s



o



The position of the stones.

The stones are positioned very carefully to align with sunrise at midsummer and sunset at midwinter at opposite ends of the circle.



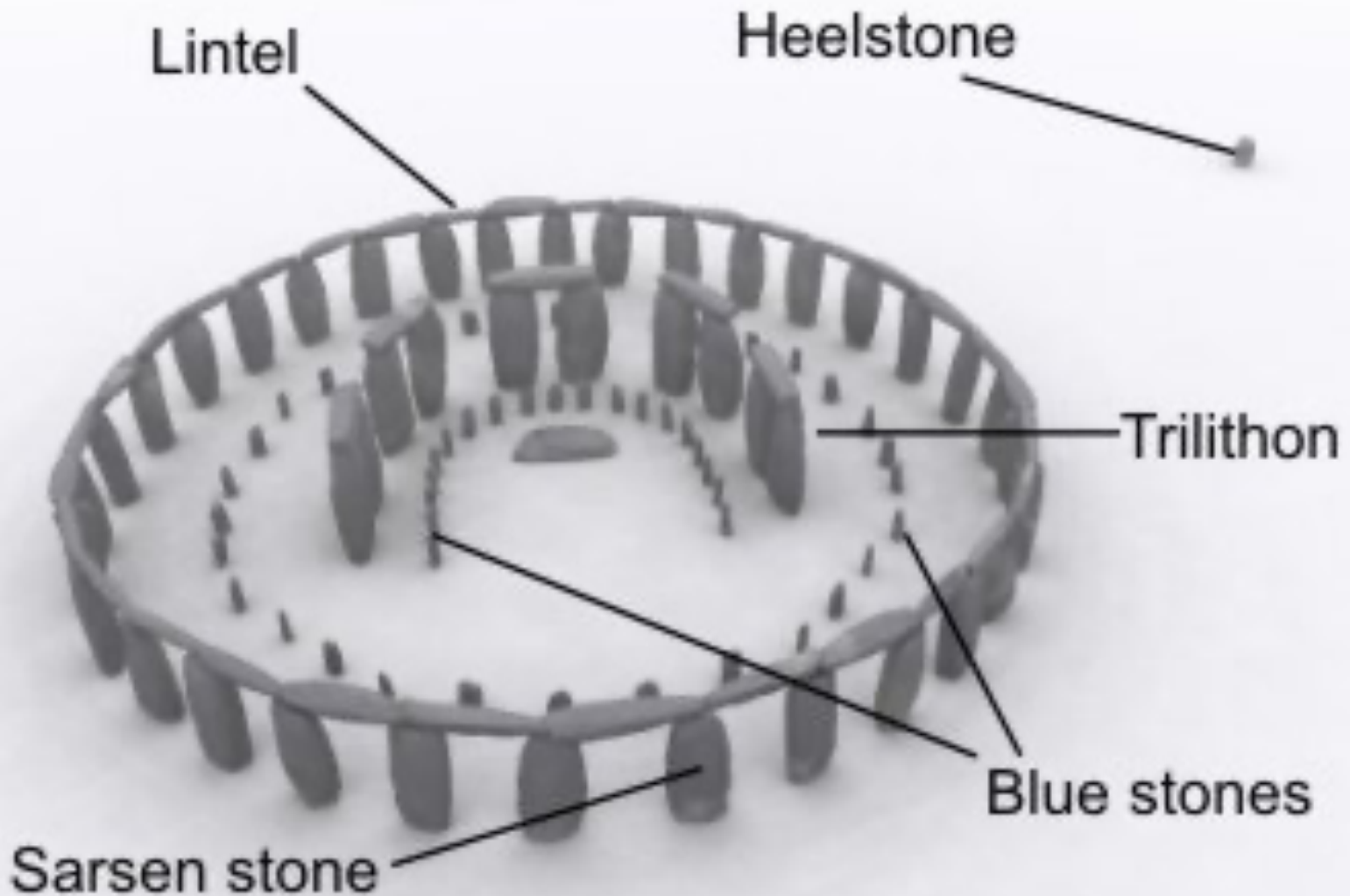
Task 3:

**Draw a diagram of Stonehenge
in your book and label it.**

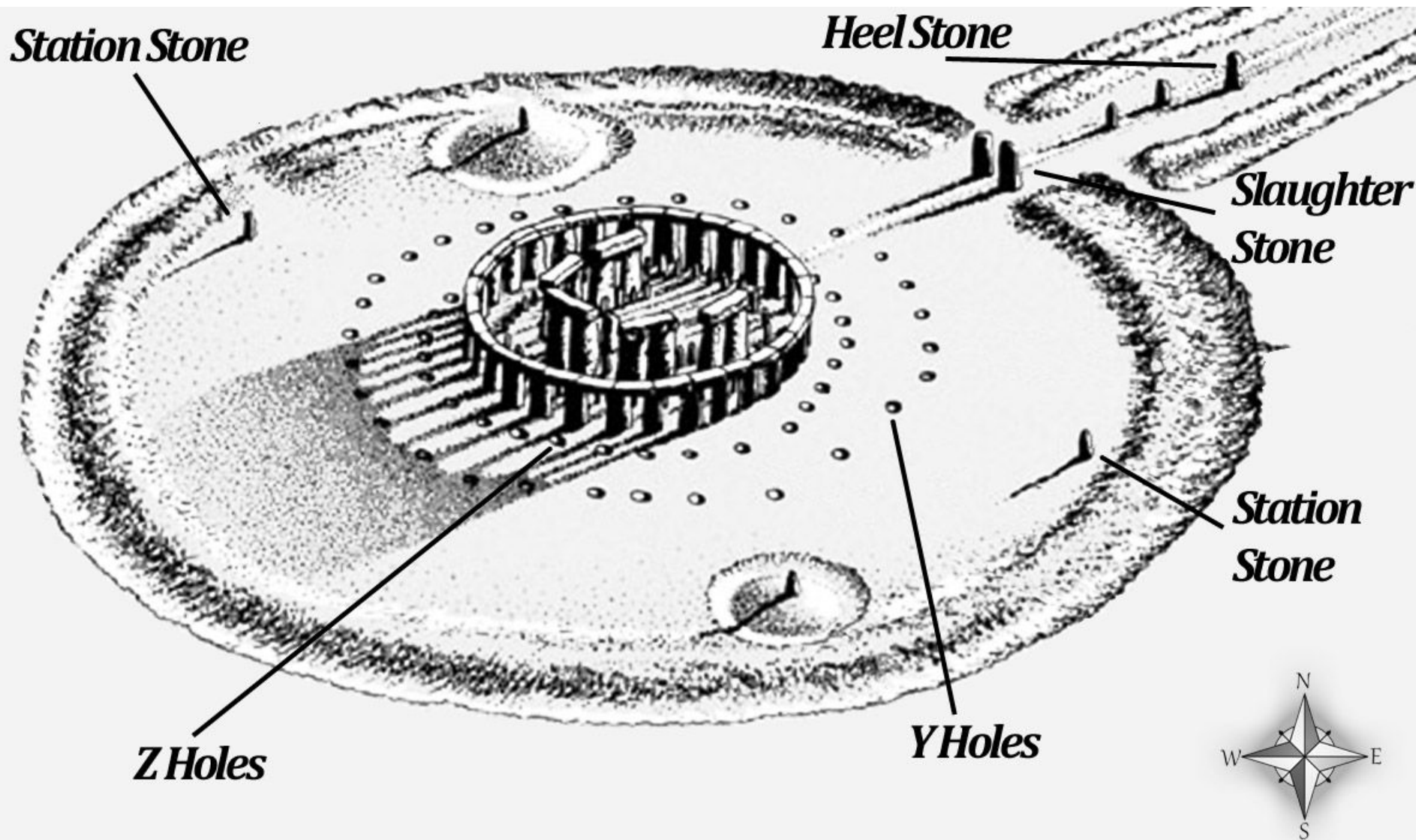
**Look at the next 3 slides to help
you.**

What did Stonehenge look like 4000 years ago?

The middle section:

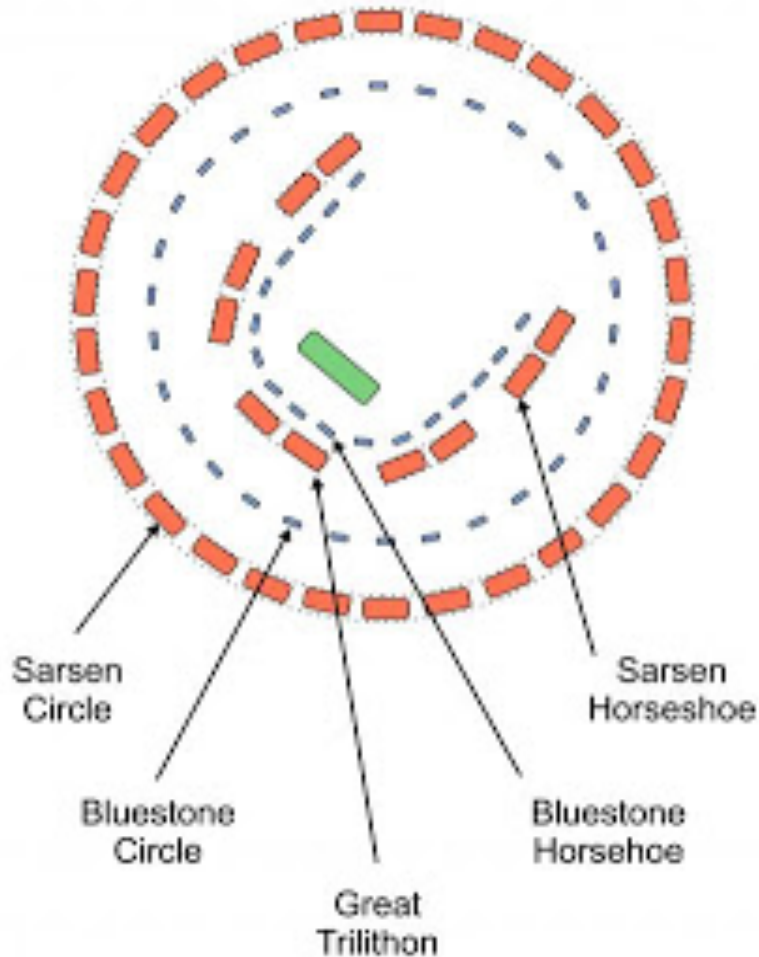


This diagram shows the ditches and entrance:

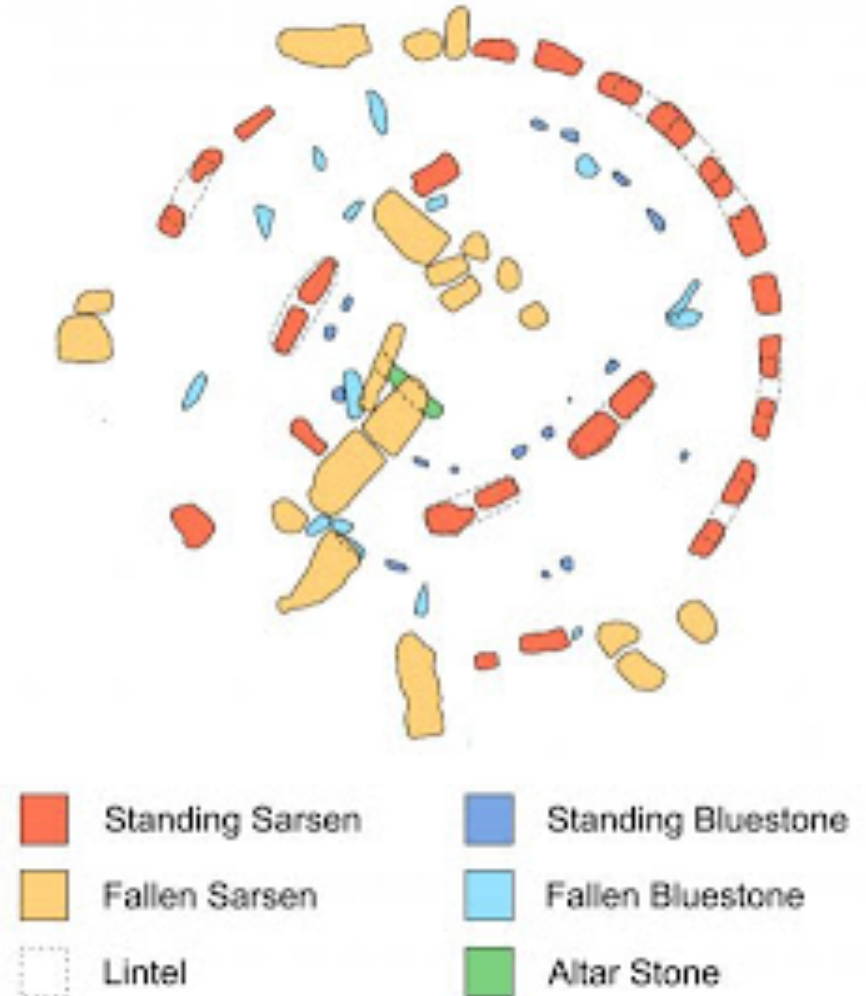


A birds-eye view – labelled diagrams

As it was 4000 years ago



As it is today



I can't wait to see your finished work. Make sure you put it on Class Dojo!

