

## The Best Preparation for Building Academic Reading Skills and Vocabulary

The Reading Key series is designed to help students to understand American school textbooks and to develop background knowledge in a wide variety of academic topics. This series also provides learners with the opportunity to enhance their reading comprehension skills and vocabulary, which will assist them when they take various English exams.

**Reading Key <Volume 1–3>** is a three-book series designed for beginner to intermediate learners.

**Reading Key <Volume 4–6>** is a three-book series designed for intermediate to high-intermediate learners.

**Reading Key <Volume 7–9>** is a three-book series designed for high-intermediate learners.

### Features

- A wide variety of topics that cover American school subjects helps learners expand their knowledge of academic topics through interdisciplinary studies
- Intensive practice for reading skill development helps learners prepare for various English exams
- Building vocabulary by school subjects and themed texts helps learners expand their vocabulary and reading skills in each subject
- Graphic organizers for each passage show the structure of the passage and help to build summary skills
- Captivating pictures and illustrations related to the topics help learners gain a broader understanding of the topics and key concepts



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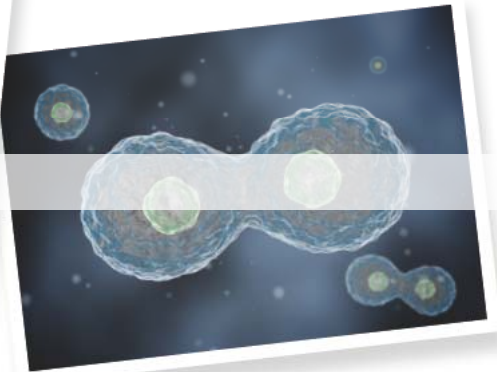
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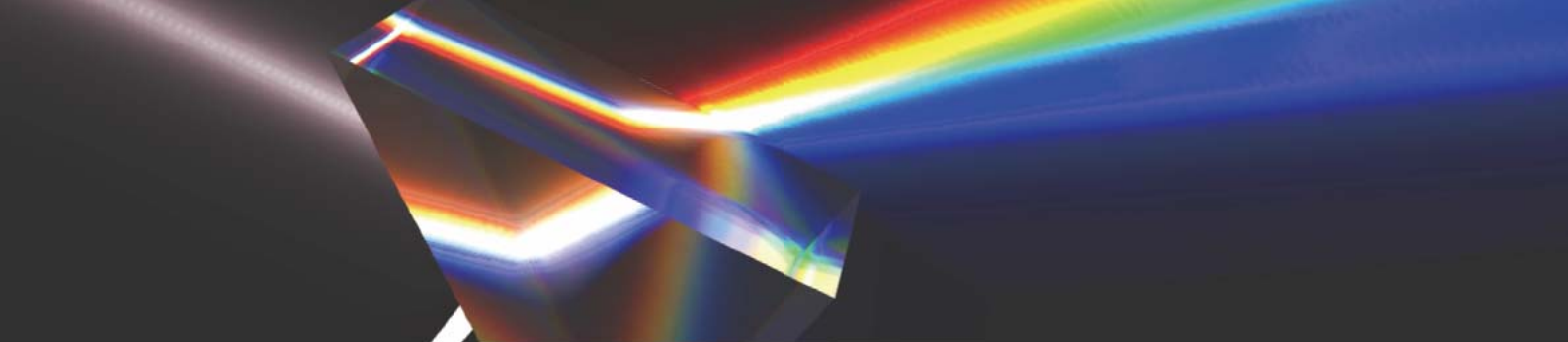
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## ● Syllabus Vol. 9 ●

Subject	Topic & Area	Title
<b>Social Studies</b> ★ <b>History and Geography</b>	World History and Culture World History and Culture World History and Culture World History and Culture World History and Culture World History and Culture World History and Culture World History and Culture	Early People The Fertile Crescent and the Kingdoms of Egypt The Indus Civilization Ancient Greece The Roman Empire The Rise of Islam From the Middle Ages to the Reformation The Enlightenment and the French Revolution
<b>Science</b>	A World of Living Things The Earth's Oceans Our Earth Force and Motion Matter and Energy The Universe The Human Body	Cells, Reproduction, and Heredity Oceans and Ocean Life What We Can Learn From Fossils Newton's Laws Light Energy Eclipses Diseases and the Immune System
<b>Mathematics</b>	Numbers and Computation Geometry	Factors, Prime Numbers, and Exponents Dimensions
<b>Language and Literature</b>	Literature Language Arts	Pygmalion Sentences
<b>Visual Arts</b>	Visual Arts	From Baroque Art to Pop Art
<b>Music</b>	A World of Music	Gregorian Chants and Polyphonic Music

# 1

- Social Studies
- History and Geography





Unit  
**01**

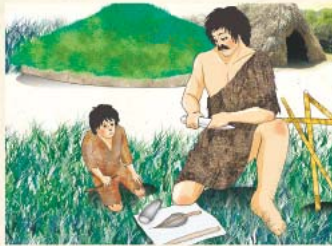
# Early People and Civilizations

Visual Preview

What are some of the prehistoric ages in human history?



During the Stone Age, humans were hunter-gatherers who made simple tools from stone.



During the Bronze Age, humans learned to make tools from bronze.



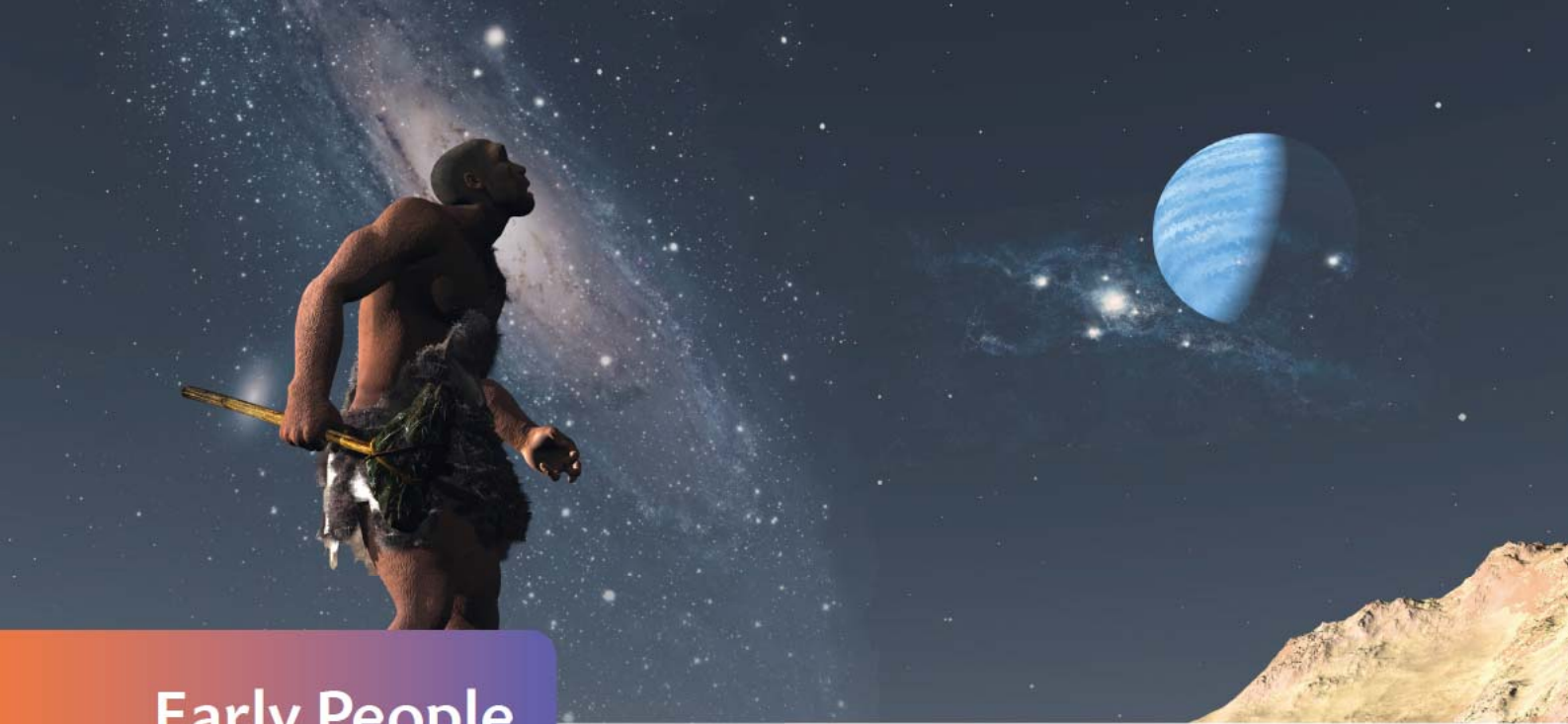
During the Iron Age, humans learned to make tools from iron and began to develop real civilizations.

Vocabulary Preview

Write the correct word and the meaning in Chinese next to its meaning.

Ice Age      Bronze Age      domesticate      primitive      hunter-gatherer

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ : the period when much of the earth was cold and covered with glaciers
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ : to train an animal to live with or work for humans
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ : the period when humans learned to work with copper and tin
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ : relating to a very early stage in the development of humans, animals, or plants
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ : a person who hunts animals and gathers wild plants for food



# Early People



▲ primitive human



▲ vessel from the  
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A couple of million years ago, **primitive** humans were nothing like the modern humans of today. They were simplistic creatures that shared characteristics with both humans and apes. For much of this time, the earth was extremely cold. It **endured** a very long **Ice Age**. During the Ice Age, much of the earth's surface was covered by huge sheets of ice called glaciers. However, around 12,500 years ago, the Ice Age ended. The ice and glaciers receded. And humans began to evolve, to spread out, and to become more civilized.

Archaeologists have created a three-age system to describe **prehistoric** cultures. They are the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, and the Iron Age.

The **Stone Age** is often divided into the Old Stone Age and the New Stone Age. The Old Stone Age was the first part of the Stone Age and began around 2,000,000 B.C. The New Stone Age was the last part of the Stone Age and began around 10,000 B.C.

During the Old Stone Age, humans lived as **hunter-gatherers**. They hunted animals and gathered wild plants for

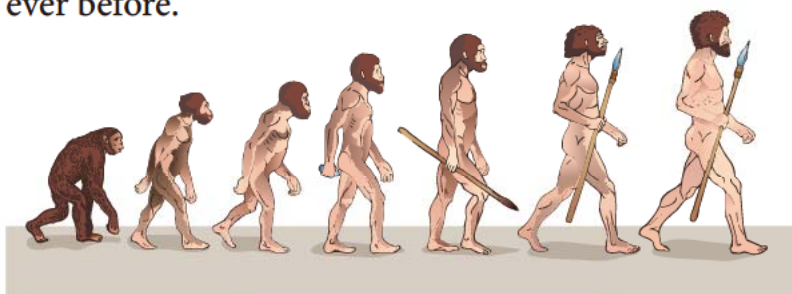


food. People could only make simple tools out of stone. Yet people learned how to make fire during this age. Having fire changed human life a lot. Fire provided light and helped people stay warm. Most of all, people could cook their food.

In the New Stone Age, there began to be some more improvements. People learned to farm the land. People also learned to **domesticate** wild animals such as dogs, sheep, and goats. Some people began to settle in villages where there was **fertile soil** for farming. Since they could grow their own crops and raise their own animals, they no longer had to live as **nomads**. However, they still used stone tools, so this time is called the New Stone Age.

Around 3000 B.C., the **Bronze Age** began in some parts of the world. During it, humans started working with soft metals such as copper and tin. They learned how to create tools and weapons out of bronze. And pottery became more common during this time.

Around 1500 B.C., the **Iron Age** began in Europe. Of course, it started earlier in some places and later in other places. During the Iron Age, humans began working with iron. Also, the first real cities began to appear, and trade between cities became more commonplace. It was during this age that human civilization started to develop much more quickly than ever before.



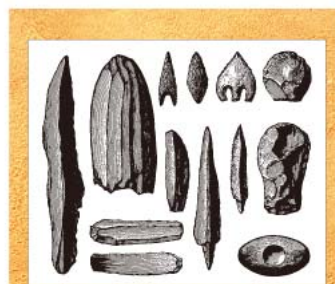
◀ the evolution of human beings



▲ People learned how to make fire during the Old Stone Age.



▲ primitive art



from the Stone Age



from the Bronze Age



from the Iron Age

▲ primitive tools

**Quick Check** Check T (True) or F (False).

1 The Stone Age happened before the Iron Age.

T  F

2 During the New Stone Age, people learned to tame some animals.

T  F

3 The Iron Age began in Europe around 3000 B.C.

T  F

## Main Idea and Details

- 1 What is the passage mainly about?**

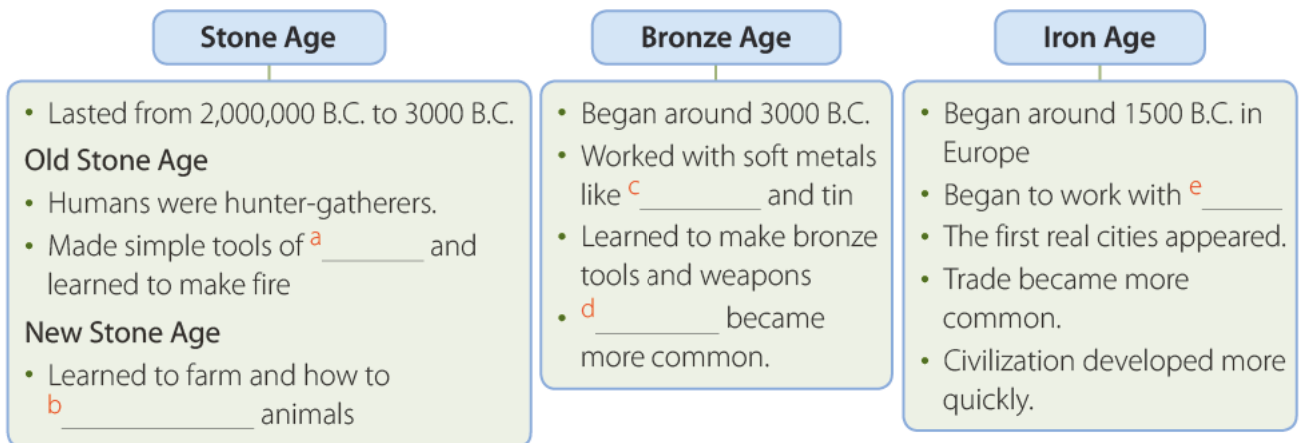
  - The different ages that prehistoric humans lived in.
  - The achievements of Bronze and Iron Age humans.
  - How the Ice Age affected the progress of humans.
- 2 People learned to farm and started to live in villages in the \_\_\_\_\_.**

  - Old Stone Age
  - New Stone Age
  - Bronze Age
- 3 How did fire help change humans' lives?**

  - They used it to farm the land.
  - They were able to cook their food with it.
  - They stopped living lives as nomads.
- 4 What does **endured** mean?**

  - Approached.
  - Practiced.
  - Experienced.
- 5 Complete the sentences.**

  - When the Ice Age ended, the ice and \_\_\_\_\_ began to recede.
  - During the \_\_\_\_\_, humans learned to make tools out of copper and tin.
  - The first real cities started to appear during the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Complete the outline.**



## Vocabulary Review

Complete each sentence. Change the form if necessary.

primitive      prehistoric      domesticate      fertile soil      nomad

- Because some areas had \_\_\_\_\_, humans could easily farm the land.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ wandered on the grasslands while following herds of animals.
- During \_\_\_\_\_ times, there were no written records of human accomplishments.

© COSMOS CULTURE LTD \_\_\_\_\_ means to tame or raise animals.

- \_\_\_\_\_ humans were simple hunter-gatherers who had few skills.