

## Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 *Reader's own answer. Model answer:*  
The winter solstice has the shortest day and longest night of the year. The summer solstice has the longest day and the shortest night.

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 The children are on a bus in Wiltshire in England. They are going to visit Stonehenge.
- 2 Isabel is unhappy because the countryside is boring and she misses Birmingham. Her grades are bad. Her friends are chatting on their phones, but no one asks about her journey to Stonehenge. She thinks that maybe they are forgetting her.

### CHAPTER TWO

- 1 The strange hills are barrows. The Neolithic people built the barrows and buried their dead people in them.
- 2 Stonehenge is about 5,000 years old. The tallest stones are more than seven metres high.
- 3 On the morning of the summer solstice, the sun comes up over the Heel Stone.

### CHAPTER THREE

- 1 Archaeologists study ancient places (archaeology).
- 2 In the second stage of building Stonehenge, the builders lived at Durrington Walls.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 There are beds, chairs and a fire inside the hut.
- 2 Isabel learns about the archaeologists John Aubrey and John Stukeley.

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Other ancient places in and near Wiltshire include the Avebury stone circle, Silbury Hill, and the white horses on the hills.
- 2 Isabel's parents are sorry because Isabel had to leave her friends and life in Birmingham.
- 3 Isabel's birthday present is a visit to Stonehenge on Saturday 21st June. The date is important because it is the summer solstice.

### CHAPTER SIX

- 1 Jasmine, Simon, and Isabel's mum and dad are in the car with Isabel.
- 2 Isabel says "Some things don't change" because people celebrated the solstice at Stonehenge 5,000 years ago, and they celebrate it now. Isabel is happy about it.

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 Isabel gets a grade A for history.
- 2 Isabel wants to study archaeology at university.

## After-reading questions

- 1 The first stage which of building Stonehenge was digging the ditch in a circle about 5,000 years ago. Then, the Neolithic people brought the bluestones 150 miles from Wales. The builders made the Aubrey Holes inside the ditch. The second stage was the sarsen stones. The Neolithic people brought them from West Woods, about 4,400 years ago. The Neolithic people made a second "horseshoe" – a half circle – of sarsen stones inside the first sarsen circle. Then, they lay other sarsens on the standing ones. In the third stage the Neolithic people moved the bluestones inside the sarsens.

Then, the Neolithic people started to build the Avenue. A thousand years later, Bronze Age people finished it.

- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 Isabel is unhappy at the start of the story. She misses her friends in Birmingham, and her grades are bad. She doesn't like the countryside. After the school visit and the solstice, she has friends and a plan to study archaeology at university. Her grades are better. She is much happier.

## Exercises

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 1 She came to Wiltshire from Birmingham with her parents in February, and she **misses** the city.
- 2 "I don't want to be in a field of stupid **stones**."
- 3 "This is Wiltshire. The countryside here is beautiful and **ancient**."
- 4 "Mum and Dad were **worried** about me, and they came to Wiltshire."
- 5 "She finished **university** last year. She's a very new teacher."
- 6 "Jasmine is a **nerd**," Isabel thinks.

### CHAPTER TWO

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 2 1 began | 2 buried |
| 3 built   | 4 saw    |
| 5 lay     | 6 stood  |

### CHAPTER THREE

- 3 1 false. The Stonehenge Cursus is about **two** miles long.
- 2 false. An archaeologist studies **archaeology**.
- 3 true.
- 4 false. There were **three** stages of building.
- 5 true.
- 6 false. The bluestones came from **Wales**.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 4 1 c 2 a 3 d 4 b

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 5 1 The bus **brings** the students home, and Isabel's dad is **waiting** outside St Anne's School in his car.
- 2 Isabel **chats** about the stones through the journey home.
- 3 "It's nice to see you happy, Isabel," Mr Ryan says. "We were **worried** about you after Birmingham."
- 4 "And no one at St Anne's **likes** me – or they **didn't** before today."
- 5 That afternoon, Isabel is **sitting** next to Jasmine in Miss Novak's history class.
- 6 "Does one of you want to **come** to the summer solstice with us?"

### CHAPTER SIX

- 6 1 How many cars are there?
- 2 How do Isabel and Simon feel?
- 3 When does the solstice sunrise happen?
- 4 What can Isabel hear?
- 5 Where does the sun move?
- 6 What does Isabel think about?

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- 7 1 Miss Novak, Isabel, Jasmine, Shaheed, Simon.
- 2 At school, in history class.
- 3 They are happy because Isabel got an A.

## Project work

*Reader's own answers.*