

Summer Solstice

Adapted from <http://www.mirror.co.uk/science/> (June 19, 2017)

Name _____ Date _____

What is the Summer Solstice?



Crowds gather as dawn begins to break at Stonehenge on the longest day of the year (Photo: PA)

The summer solstice is generally understood to mark the first day of summer.

Technically, it's when the northern hemisphere of the Earth is most inclined towards the sun, and that's why we get the most daylight of the year.

The word solstice is derived from the Latin words sol (sun) and sistere (to stand still), because the seasonal movement of the Sun's path (as seen from Earth) momentarily comes to a stop before reversing direction.

In the northern hemisphere, the summer solstice takes place between June 20 and 22. In 2017 it's on Wednesday, June 21. In London, on the summer solstice, the sun will rise at 04:43 and set at 21:21. Near Stonehenge in Salisbury, sunrise will be at 04:52 and sunset will occur at 21:26.

Stonehenge is an ancient prehistoric site, which may have been a place of worship and celebration at the time of summer solstice for thousands of years.

The giant stones are believed to have stood in the same spot since 3,000 to 2,000 BC, and are positioned to line up with the sunrise on the solstices.

Every year, thousands flock to the English Heritage site to witness the spectacle. White cloaked and hooded druids among the standing stones to welcome the first rays of the sunlight.

The monument field at Stonehenge is open from 19:00 on Tuesday to 08:00 on Wednesday. Admission is free, but parking fees apply.

The Solstice Car Park opens at 19:00 on June 20, with last admissions at 06:00 (or when full, if earlier) on June 21. The car park will close at 12 noon on June 21

Visitors, including sunrise-worshipping Druids for whom it is a religious occasion, are encouraged to use public transport or arrange to car share.

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Read Text A (page 1) then answer the questions.

1. What date is the summer solstice in 2017? How many possible dates can the solstice fall on? (E3-L1)
2. How many hours will the sun be above the horizon at Stonehenge on the summer solstice? (L2 Maths)
3. Where is Stonehenge? (L1)
4. Approximately how long ago were the stones erected? (L1-2 Maths)
5. What religious group, in particular, come to Stonehenge at the summer solstice?
Name two items of clothing they traditionally wear. (L1-2)
6. Explain in your own words the parking arrangements in the Solstice Car Park.
Please refer to days of the week [not dates] and use the 12 hour [not 24 hour] clock
(L2 Eng, L1-2 maths)
7. What methods of transport are preferred? (E3-L1, 2 marks)
8. The text tells us that Stonehenge is a prehistoric site. "Pre" can be a prefix meaning "before".
Use a dictionary to find six other words which use "pre" to mean "before". (L1-2)

Summer Solstice

Adapted from <http://www.kentonline.co.uk/> (June 2015)

Name _____ Date _____

'Fridgehenge' pranksters mark summer solstice with homage to Stonehenge – made out of white goods.

The installation, consisting of more than 30 fridges, appeared overnight in a street in Maidstone, Kent, this weekend.

BY JON LIVESEY



Off its rocker? The 'Fridgehenge' installation appeared in Maidstone, Kent (Photo: SWNS).

Pranksters behind the mysterious 'Fridgehenge' have been revealed.

The owners of white goods firm Extra Mile, Kevin Wildeman, 53, and Paul Stone, 50, have claimed responsibility for the summer solstice-themed prank.

The pair got up at 3am on Friday to use more than 30 fridges they had lying around their yard in Maidstone, Kent, to erect the monument over three hours.

But Fridgehenge will not stand for as long as Stonehenge, its prehistoric cousin. Kevin and Paul will be dismantling it on Monday before recycling all their old stock.

"I was looking at the fridges around the back of our yard thought about what we were going to do with them," said Kevin.

"Someone in the shop mentioned the solstice and I thought it would be quite funny so we decided we've got to do this."

"We've had one neighbour who wasn't very happy but everyone else has really got into the spirit of it and had a bit of a laugh - most people think it's great."

Summer Solstice

Adapted from <http://www.kentonline.co.uk/> (June 2015)

Name _____ Date _____

Read Text B (page 3) and answer the questions.

1. Put a tick in the correct box.

(E3)

The fridges appeared in a street in:

A	Maidstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	Stonehenge	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	Fridgehenge	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Write your answer on the line below.

(E3)

How many fridges did Kevin and Paul use to make 'Fridgehenge'?

3. Write your answer on the line below.

(L1)

What is the name of Kevin and Paul's shop?

4. Write your answer on the lines below.

(E3)

Look up the word **prank** in your dictionary and write down what it means.

5. Put a tick in the correct box.

(L1)

The fridges used in the monument were from the back of the shop.

True	<input type="checkbox"/>	False	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Put a tick in the correct box.

(E3)

Kevin and Paul got up at 3am to make the monument.

True	<input type="checkbox"/>	False	<input type="checkbox"/>
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7. Write your answer on the lines below.

Who wasn't very happy about Fridgehenge?

(L1)

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Writing task L1/L2: Read the newspaper article (Text B).

"Fridgehenge" has now been taken down but the interest in it was been so great that Mr Wildeman decided to list the quirky installation on online auction site, eBay, with all proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Support and the Heart of Kent Hospice. Mr Wildeman's wife passed away after a battle with cancer, as did Mr Stone's father-in-law last year.

Mr Wildeman is now thinking about another project. He's wondering about *A Fridge Too Far*. Write a further article for the newspaper, telling readers about the above and encouraging them to support the new project by bidding for the installation on eBay.

You might want to include:

- brief details of the story so far for readers who did not see the original article
- details of why people were so interested in "Fridgehenge"
- some quotations (perhaps from Mr. Wildeman or from local residents).

Write about 250 words

Plan your article here.

Functional Skills English mapping

Coverage and range statements provide an indication of the type of content candidates are expected to apply in functional contexts. Relevant content can also be drawn from equivalent (school) National Curriculum levels and the Adult Literacy standards.

✓ indicates the main coverage and range skills that are (or can be) covered in this resource. However, these will vary with the student group and how the resource is used by the teacher. **Reference:** Ofqual (2009), *Functional Skills criteria for English: Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, level 1 and level 2*. <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/>

Entry 3 Reading Read and understand the purpose and content of straightforward texts that explain, inform and recount information.

Coverage and range statements

- a) Understand the main points of texts ✓
- b) Obtain specific information through detailed reading ✓
- c) Use organisational features to locate information
- d) Read and understand texts in different formats using strategies and techniques appropriate to task ✓

Entry 3 Writing Write texts with some adaptation to the intended audience

- a) Plan, draft and organise writing ✓
- b) Sequence writing logically and clearly ✓
- c) Use basic grammar including appropriate verb-tense and subject-verb agreement ✓
- d) Check work for accuracy, including spelling ✓

Level 1 Reading Read and understand a range of straightforward texts

skill standard:

Coverage and range statements

- a) Identify the main points and ideas and how they are presented in a variety of texts
- b) Read and understand texts in detail ✓
- c) Utilise information contained in texts ✓
- d) Identify suitable responses to texts ✓

Level 1 Writing Write a range of texts to communicate information, ideas and opinions, using formats and styles suitable for their purpose and audience

- a) Write clearly and coherently, including an appropriate level of detail ✓
- b) Present information in a logical sequence ✓
- c) Use language, format and structure suitable for purpose and audience ✓
- d) Use correct grammar, including correct and consistent use of tense ✓
- e) Ensure written work includes generally accurate punctuation / spelling & that meaning is clear ✓

Level 2 Reading Select, read, understand and compare texts and use them to gather information, ideas, arguments and opinions

skill standard:

Coverage and range statements

- a) Select and use different types of texts to obtain and utilise relevant information ✓
- b) Read and summarise, succinctly, information/ideas from different sources ✓
- c) Identify the purposes of texts and comment on how meaning is conveyed
- d) Detect point of view, implicit meaning and/or bias
- e) Analyse texts in relation to audience needs and consider suitable responses

Level 2 Writing Write a range of texts, including extended written documents, communicating information, ideas and opinions, effectively and persuasively

- a) Present information on complex subjects clearly and concisely ✓
- b) Present information/ideas concisely, logically, and persuasively ✓
- c) Use a range of writing styles for different purposes ✓
- d) Use a range of sentence structures, including complex sentences, and paragraphs to organise written communication effectively
- e) Punctuate written text using commas, apostrophes and inverted commas accurately
- f) Ensure written work is fit for purpose & audience, with accurate spelling & grammar that supports clear meaning

** This resource also covers many adult literacy curriculum <http://www.excellencegateway.org.uk/content/etf1286> elements.

ANSWERS

READING

Text A

1. What date is the summer solstice in 2017? **21/6/17**
How many possible dates can it fall on? **Three**
2. How many hours will the sun be above the horizon at Stonehenge on the summer solstice?
04:52 to 21:26 is 16hrs 34 mins
3. Where is Stonehenge? **Near Salisbury**
4. Approximately how long ago were the stones erected?
Between 4 and 5 thousand years ago.
5. What religious group, in particular, come to Stonehenge at the summer solstice? **Druids**
Name two items of clothing they traditionally wear. **White cloaks/hoods**
6. Explain in your own words the parking arrangements in the Solstice Car Park. Please refer to days of the week [**not** dates] and use the 12 hour [**not** 24 hour] clock.
(The article tells you that the solstice is on Wednesday June 21).
E.g. You can park in the Solstice Car Park from 7.00pm on Tuesday until 12 noon on Wednesday. The last admissions will be at six in the morning on Wednesday, unless the car park is full before that.
7. What methods of transport are preferred? **Car share / public transport**
8. The text tells us that Stonehenge is a **prehistoric** site. "Pre" can be a prefix meaning "before". Find six other words which use "pre" to mean "before". Use a dictionary.
There are many examples such as predict, preschool, prepare, prenatal, premature, prepay, preview, etc. Do not accept words such as pretty, press, preach or prey.

Text B

1. The fridges appeared in a street in: **Maidstone**
2. How many fridges did Kevin and Paul use to make 'Fridgehenge'? **More than 30**
3. What is the name of Kevin and Paul's shop? **Extra Mile**
4. Look up the word **prank** in your dictionary and write down what it means.
Any acceptable definition but it must be copied from a dictionary rather than using the learner's own knowledge.
5. The fridges used in the monument were from the back of the shop.
False (they were from the back of the yard)
6. Kevin and Paul got up at 3am to make the monument. **True.**
7. Who wasn't very happy about Fridgehenge? **A neighbour / one neighbour.**

WRITING

Check with your tutor that you have achieved all the writing standards for your level. (See page 8).