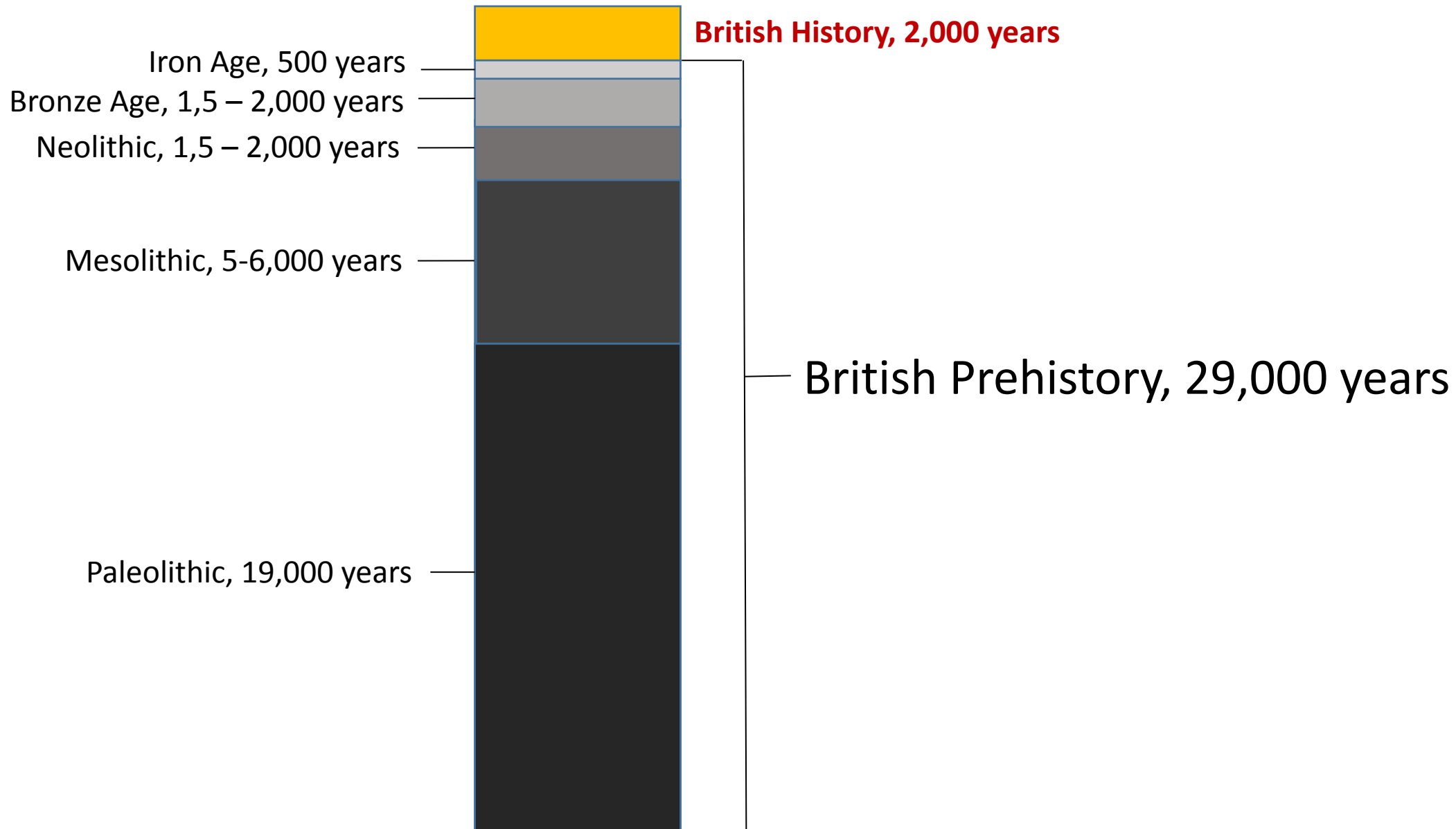
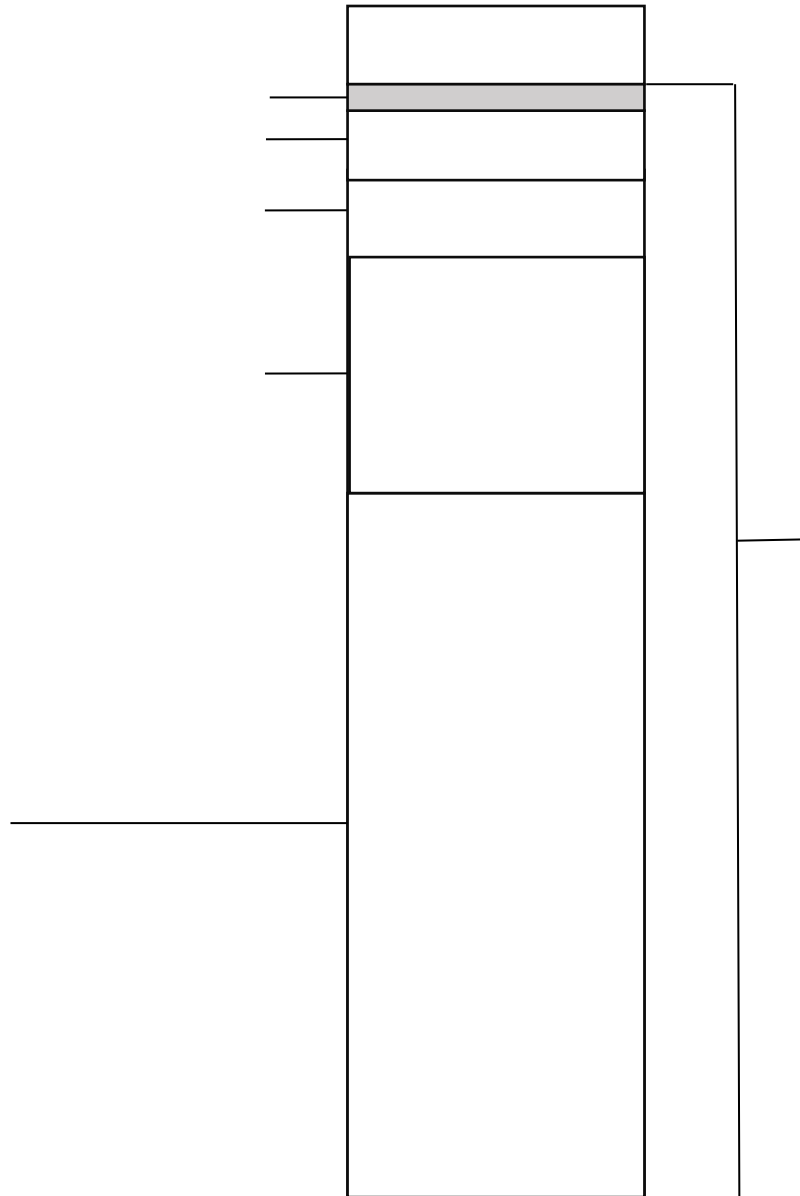


# **From Stone Age to Iron Age**

# British Prehistory and History, Proportions



# British Prehistory and History, Proportions



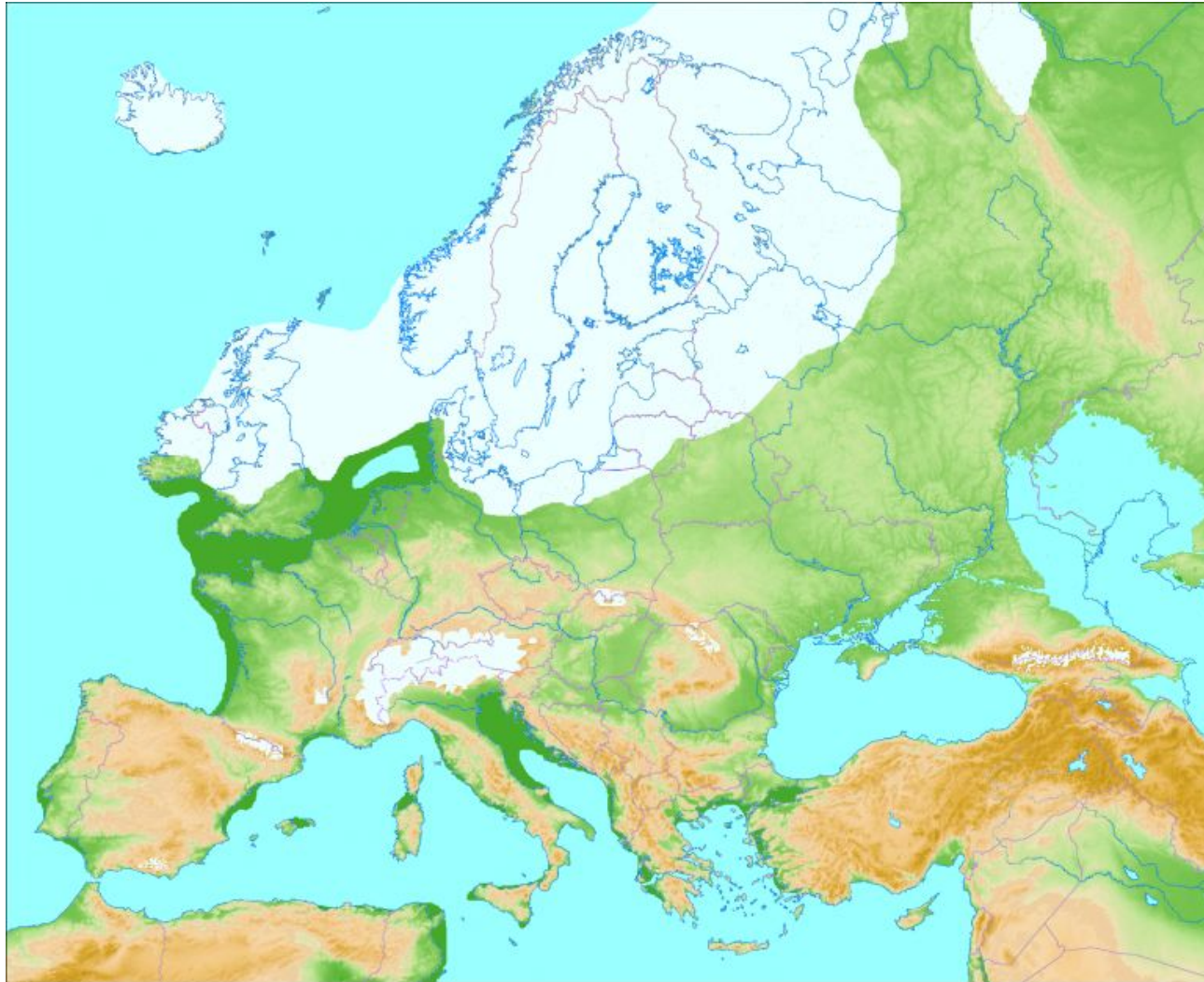
**When did the first humans appear in  
Britain?**

**Over 31,000 years ago  
the first *Homo sapiens* appeared in Britain**



**Paviland cave in Wales. The earliest human burial**

# Paleolithic ended at approximately 12,000 – 11,000 years ago



After 12,000 began the last period of **glaciation** and all humans and big mammals left Britain

# Mesolithic began when the climate began to grow warmer again



- After 10,000 years ago;
- Hunting smaller animals;
- Living in steppes and forests;
- Gathering plants and shells;
- Short-distance migrations and a tendency to **sedentism**;
- Seasonal coastal settlements;
- Food storage pits;

# Mesolithic Meal





# Separation of Britain from the continent became complete at 6100 BC



**How do we distinguish between Neolithic  
and Mesolithic?**

# Neolithic began to take roots in Britain after 4000 BC



- It came with new people from the continent;
- Domesticated animals (sheep) were brought;
- Cultivation of barley and wheat;
- Pottery emerged;
- Permanent settlements
- More developed society;
- Land conflicts

# Neolithic culture



Langdale stone axe



Communal tomb constructed around 3,500 BC (Pentre Ifan, Wales)

# A reconstruction of a Neolithic village



**Name the most famous monuments of  
Neolithic**



**Stonehenge, Wiltshire, England**

**Newgrange passage grave, the river Boyne Valley, Ireland**





**The Ring of Brodgar,  
Mainland, the Orkney  
Islands**

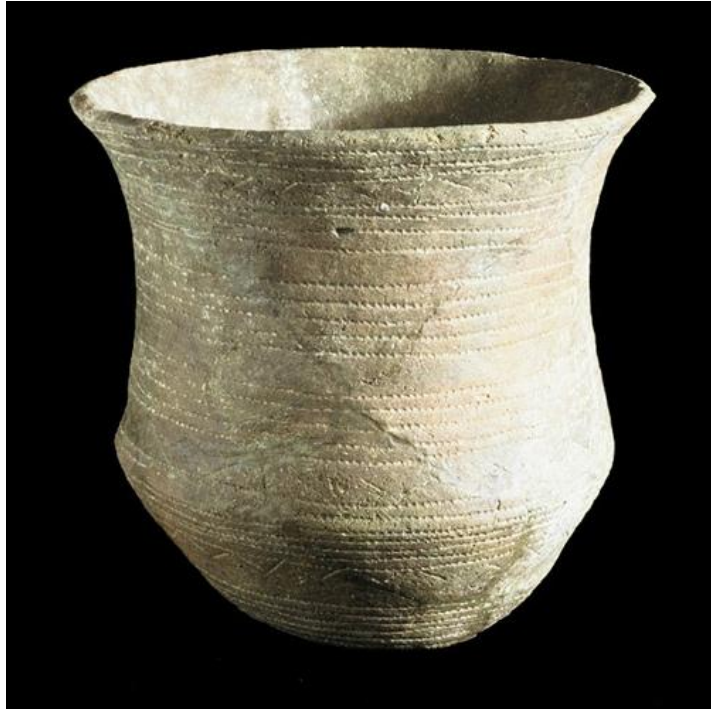
**Castlerigg  
stone circle,  
Cumbria, 3000  
BC**





What periods and when came to change  
Neolithic?

# Bronze Age Culture, after 2500 BC



Reconstructed beaker



A bronze axe



A round house

A Dartmoor settlement, later Bronze Age



**What people began to arrive in the 5<sup>th</sup>  
century BC?**

# Iron, brought by people from the continent, becomes the main material for tools and weapons



# Hillforts in the South and Brochs in the North become a chief landmark of the Iron Age



**Maiden Castle, Dorset**



**Scotland, the Shetland Islands, Mousa**

# Iron Age Celtic Society



- **Agriculture** becomes the foundation of the economy;
- **Land** becomes very precious;
- **Food** becomes the main indicator of wealth;
- **Territorial conflicts** become common;
- **Society** becomes hierarchical: slaves at the bottom, farmers, warriors, kings and druids at the top;
- **Art** appears;
- **Contacts** with Europe become regular

# First towns and market settlements (oppida) begin to emerge in the Late Iron Age



Silchester, 1 century BC, Southern England