Second year

Module : Culture/ Civilisation

Lessons 2 : British origins

* 1. Early Settlements, Celts, and Romans (Prehistory to ca. 450BC)
* The first evidence of human life is a few stone tools dating back to the Ice Age.
* 20.000 years before Christ, the prehistoric people of Britain (pre-celtic) were the dark Iberians who lived during the Bronze Age.
* In fact, many inhabitants lived in Britain about 750,000 years ago.
* Britain was inhabited by small groups of hunters, fishers and gatherers (they gathered food like berries, nuts and fruits).
* Afterwards about 3000BC Neolithic (New Stone Age) people, who crossed the sea from Europe, settled down who used to keep animals. Grow corn corps (farming is thought to have arrived in Britain by Europeans) and made pottery.

* The most significant physical dregs of Britons are the Great stone or megalithic circles which laid out across south and east Britain.

* There are more than 900 stone Age circles in the British Isles, but there are two most famous ones:

* + - * 1. **Stonehenge** (2.8 km long and 128 m wide)
* One of the most famous prehistoric monuments in the world.
* It is located in Wiltshire England.
* It was built over 4500 years ago (date back to about 3000BC).
* It is estimated that it took over 30 million hour of labour to build.
* It was built in separate stages over a period of more than a thousand year.
* Some of the stones used in its construction were brought from as far away as 150 Miles, indicating that the people built it had an impressive knowledge of engineering and transportation.
  + - * 1. **Avebury** (larger than Stonehenge)
* It was built around the same time of building Stonehenge or a little earlier.
* It is located about 32Km to the North Wiltshire.
* Originally it contained 98 large stone but only 27 are still standing forming a UNISCO world heritage site.

Exercise: Please, write an essay talking about the purpose of building Stonehenge and Avebury.