

# The Prehistoric Era Key Terms

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**Directions:** Write definitions for each key term using the questions as a guide.

1. **Prehistory**  
Why is prehistory technically beyond the scope of historians?
2. **Stone Age**  
What were the majority of tools found from the Stone Age made from?
3. **Paleolithic**  
What were some of the key developments of the Paleolithic?
4. **Neolithic**  
What marks the shift from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic?
5. **homo sapiens**  
What does the term 'homo sapiens' translate to?
6. **Bering Land Bridge**  
What led the Bering Land Bridge to be exposed?
7. **hunter-gatherers**  
Why were hunter-gatherers forced to be nomadic?
8. **nomads**  
Where do nomads make their home?
9. **Neolithic Revolution**  
What is another name for the Neolithic Revolution?
10. **agriculture**  
What did agriculture allow humans to do for the first time?
11. **sedentary society**  
Why were sedentary societies forced to stay in one place?
12. **pastoral nomads**  
What were pastoral nomads always in search of?

13. **trade**  
Is trade beneficial for all involved groups?
  
14. **raid**  
Is raiding beneficial for all involved groups?
  
15. **famine**  
Why is famine considered a negative aspect of agriculture?
  
16. **yield**  
Why would Neolithic people try to increase the yield of their crops?
  
17. **specialization**  
What allows specialization to occur?
  
18. **artisans**  
What do artisans produce?
  
19. **Jericho**  
What year is Jericho believed to have been first established?