Stonehenge is one of England’s great mysteries. It is a circle of huge stones on an empty plain. The place is quite remarkable. You can see the stones from miles away. They rise high into the sky.

These giant stones are very heavy. They weigh up to 50 tons each. No one knows how the stones were moved to the site. A study shows it would have taken 600 people to move one stone.

Scientists have studied the stones closely. They found that the construction was done in three stages. The first stage went from around 2,950 to 2,900 B.C. Builders dug large ditches in a circle. A huge stone called the heel stone was placed at the entrance.

The second stage went from 2,900 to 2,400 B.C. Builders dug an inner ditch. The third stage went from 2,550 to 1,600 B.C. Builders placed two circles of stones inside the ditch circles. In the center, they placed another stone. This is called the altar stone.

Why was Stonehenge built? Some people think it was used to study the sun, moon, and stars. The sun shines through some of the stones in an unusual way at different times of the year, especially in spring and fall when the seasons change. Others feel that the site had religious uses. It may have been used in burial rites.

Stonehenge may have been used for both astronomy and religion. Ancient people worshipped the sun and moon. They had festivals when the seasons changed. Stonehenge could have been a place to worship the skies and the changing of the seasons.
1. Which sentence from the passage states a fact about Stonehenge?
   A) They weigh up to 50 tons each.
   B) The place is quite remarkable.
   C) They rise high into the sky.
   D) Stonehenge is one of England’s great mysteries.

2. What evidence supports the fact that Stonehenge was built in three stages?
   A) It would have taken 600 people to move one stone.
   B) It has two circles of stones.
   C) The sun shines through the stones when the seasons change.
   D) Scientists have studied Stonehenge closely.

3. Which of these is an opinion about Stonehenge?
   A) It is a circle of stones on an empty plain.
   B) Stonehenge is quite a remarkable place.
   C) It would have taken 600 people to move one stone.
   D) The first stage of building went from 2,950 to 2,900 B.C.

4. Write a sentence from the passage that states a fact. Tell how you know it is a fact.
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

5. What information supports the opinion that Stonehenge might have been used both for religious and astronomical purposes?
   ______________________________________________________
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