

ART 5H RESPONSE #1:
NEOLITHIC MONUMENTS: AVEBURY, BRITAIN

Assignment: The response assignment is based on reading about the Neolithic sites of Avebury in England and Preseli, Wales. You will be also be comparing the site of Avebury to the site of Stonehenge, so you will also need to read the section in your textbook on that site. The information on Avebury & Preseli is in the format of a website, whose link you will find on Blackboard under Assignments/Reading Responses.

Your answers to the questions below must be written in **full sentences with correct grammar and spelling**. Do **not** copy directly from the website—this is **plagiarism** and you will receive 0 points. Instead, read the information, interpret it and put it into your own words. Your answers must be typed, printed and stapled. To earn the full points, address each question completely (a few sentences per answer). *Total points for assignment: 20.*

1. Describe the general layout of the site of Avebury (see *Introduction* and *The Henge* sections). What typical Neolithic features do we find at Avebury? What is the general location of the site? What are some of the visual elements we would encounter at Avebury? Be specific. (5 points)
2. Researchers have carried out acoustic investigations at Avebury and other Neolithic sites such as Preseli. What techniques have they used? What have they discovered? What do the authors conclude about the acoustic function of the sites? [See *Archeoacoustics*] (5 points)
3. The authors present some theories about what we can term *geomantic symbolism*, that is, symbolic meaning connected to nature and the landscape. Discuss the authors' theories about the symbolic function of both sites and what they suggest about Neolithic people and practices. Use specific examples from each site. [See *Visual Observations* in the Avebury section and *A Stone Age Holy Land* in the Preseli section] (5 points)
4. Discuss at least two similarities and two differences between Avebury and Stonehenge in terms of the architecture, arrangement, location, and/or possible function. What does this difference suggest to you? (5 points)