Neolithic: Keyword List (for People in History Essay)

- Neolithic (New Stone Age)
- Start farming 1st farmers in Ireland
- Cut down a lot of trees/forests
- Built dry stone walls (no cement)
- To keep animals in
- To protect the crops from wind, animals
- To divide the territory between families
- Won't have to be nomadic (move from place to place)
- Have time to build megalithic tombs
- Still hunting, fishing and gathering
- but getting more food from farming
- Crops: wheat, barley
- Animals bred: cattle, sheep, goats (meat, milk, butter)
- Houses: wattles (woven sticks/straw) and daub (mud or dung) for walls, roof: used straw thatch, shapes: rectangular and circular (post-holes)
- Megalith: big stone objects (e.g. tombs)
- Microlith: small stone objects (e.g. tools, weapons: axe heads, arrow heads)
- Tombs:
  - Dolmens (Portal Tomb) [capstone]
  - Passage Tombs: Newgrange (winter solstice, window box, room lights up, 19m passage, carving on stones) also Knowth and Dowth
  - Court Cairns: courtyard and 2 covered chambers
- Burial customs: bodies often cremated (burnt) before burial
- Clothing: wove wool, animal skins
- Key site: Ceide Fields, Co. Mayo, Lough Gur, Co. Limerick.