

National University of Ireland, Galway  
*Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh*

SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATIONS 2000  
ARCHAEOLOGY

AR323

PATTERNS IN IRISH PREHISTORY

EXAMINERS: Professor T. C. Champion  
Professor John Waddell  
Dr William O'Brien

Time allowed: *three* hours

ANSWER **THREE** QUESTIONS

1. Was there an Irish Palaeolithic?
2. Treat of **either** Mount Sandel and the economy of the early Mesolithic or of the importance of coastal resources in late Mesolithic Ireland.
3. Discuss the introduction of farming and the forager-farmer interface.
- 4A. Give a general account of early Neolithic agriculture in Ireland with comment on the Elm decline.
- OR
- 4B. Treat of farming, field systems and food supply in the early Irish Neolithic.
5. Summarise Cooney's work on burial practice and social exclusion in Irish megalithic tombs.
- 6A. Give a general account of Irish megalithic landscapes.
- OR
- 6B. Describe the landscape setting of passage tombs in Sligo.
7. Treat of any **one** of the following: Newgrange and the henge tradition; the Ballynahatty, Co. Down, complex; Grooved Ware in Ireland.
- 8A. Compare and contrast the Beaker 'settlement' at Newgrange and the Beaker presence at Knockadoon?
- OR
- 8B. What is the significance of the Beaker deposits in wedge tombs?

OVER

9. Outline the Beaker contribution to Irish metallurgy, with particular reference to the work of Humphrey Case and Peter Harbison.

10. Review Coghlan and Case's (1957) analysis of early Irish metallurgy in light of the Ross Island discoveries.

11A. Outline the evidence for contacts between Ireland and Scotland in the Neolithic and in the Early Bronze Age.

OR

11B. Treat of amber and faience beads and their significance in terms of external contact in the earlier Bronze Age.

12. Treat of Early Bronze Age cemeteries and comment on their significance.

13A. Bronze metalwork provides abundant evidence for trade and exchange between Ireland, Britain and Europe in the later Bronze Age. Discuss.

OR

13B. Outline **either** the evidence for contacts between Ireland and Spain in the later Bronze Age **or** the external influences in late Bronze Age goldworking in Ireland.

14. Describe any one of the following landscapes in the Late Bronze Age: the Navan landscape; Mooghaun and the Shannon estuary; Rathgall.