

Decide

True or False?

A

When people began using metal in Ireland they collected copper ore that was lying on the ground. This copper was flexible and did not need smelting. This kind of copper ore is rare today and was probably also rare during the Bronze Age.

False

B

Ireland was possibly one of the most important places in Europe for producing metal in the Bronze Age. This was because it had significant copper and gold resources.

False

C

During the Bronze Age in Ireland people began to make tools from copper ore. Later they discovered that if they added tin to copper they could make a metal alloy called bronze which is stronger than copper on its own.

False

D

It was easier to work with a mixture of copper and tin than with copper on its own because when you add tin to copper the melting point is lowered.

False

E

Making tools out of bronze was a very important occupation and metal smiths were paid a lot of money for their work.

False

F

Experts believe that people may have used sheepskins to collect gold from rivers. The gold became entangled in the fleece.

True

G

There were no tin mines in Ireland: instead, tin had to be imported, probably from Cornwall in the south-west of England.

True

H

People continued to use tools made from flint and from other stones such as chert because not everyone had access to metal and stone was easier to find.

True

I

Because they could pan for gold in the rivers, everyone in the Bronze Age owned gold objects and jewellery.

True

J

Bronze Age metal smiths worked out that a mixture with about 10% tin created a bronze that was neither too soft nor too brittle. It was just right.

True

K

Tin was very expensive and it cost a lot of money to import tin from Cornwall. People had to hire boats and trailers to bring it over to Ireland.

True

L

People in the Bronze Age thought that metal objects were much stronger than plastic because they did not break easily.

True

M

Tiny nuggets of gold and leafs of gold can break off from a rock and be carried by a river and deposited on the river's flood plain. People gathered some of the deposit in a container and used the water in the river to wash away the sand and gravel. Because gold is heavier, it sank to the bottom of the container. This is called panning for gold. People still pan for gold today.

True