

Becoming a Timelord

The traditional way of referring to time in history comes from the Christian **perspective** or **world view**:

BC = Before Christ

AD = Anno Domini = The Year of our Lord

Later on, people began to think that a **non-religious, neutral** way of referring to time might be a good idea:

BCE = Before the Common Era

CE = Common Era

When you refer to very long time periods such as more than 10,000 years ago, it's not really necessary to use either BC/AD or BCE/CE. Instead, you can just say "before the present" or **BP**.



Practice with Dating and Timelines

(see the timeline below)

1 Circle: Which events tend to be labelled **BP**?

a prehistoric **b** ancient **c** medieval **d** modern

2 Circle: Before the **Common Era** (BCE), the numbers increase / decrease as time passes.

3 Circle: In the **Common Era** (CE), the numbers increase / decrease as time passes.

4 Label the timeline below with the following words or phrases. Work with a friend.

first writing • constructive fire • destructive fire • Magna Carta • Black Death • moon landing • Great Pyramid • terracotta warriors • invention of the wheel • Theory of Relativity • human extinction • domestication • animal extinction • Aboriginal people's sea journey • Parthenon • Vesuvius erupts



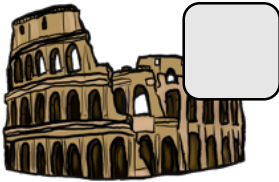
Becoming a Timelord, continued

5 Find an example in the timeline of:

- a A major technological advance →
- b A natural disaster →
- c An architectural achievement →
- d A long journey →
- e A change in communication →

6 Can you place the following 4 sets of 4 events into chronological order? Write 1-4 in each box. For each set, the number 1 should represent the **earliest** event and the number 4 the most **recent** event.

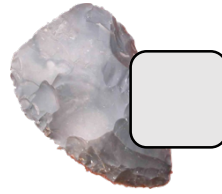
a



Colosseum is completed, 80 CE



Australia becomes a nation, 1901

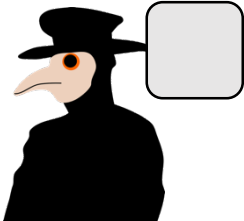


First stone axes, c. 2 million years BP

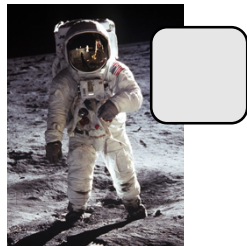


First Aboriginal people journey to Australia, c. 65,000 years BP

b



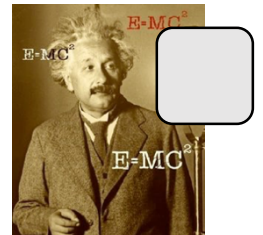
Black Death, 1348 CE



Moon landing, 1969

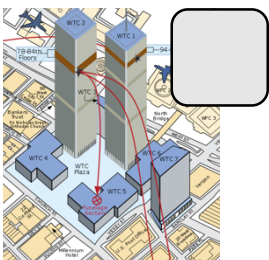


First writing, 3300 BCE



Theory of Relativity published in 1925

c



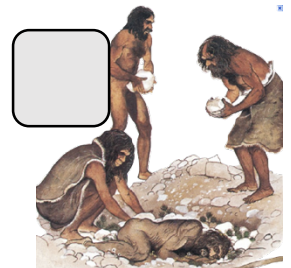
Attack on the World Trade Centre, 2001



Myall Creek Massacre of Aboriginal people, 1838

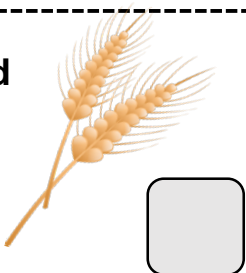


Trench warfare, 1917



The Neanderthals bury their dead, c. 120,000 years BP

d



First farming, about 13,000 years BP



Great Pyramid, 2560 BCE



Invention of the wheel, c. 3500 BCE



First cave paintings, at least 30,000 years BP