

## ***Stratigraphy of a rubbish tip***

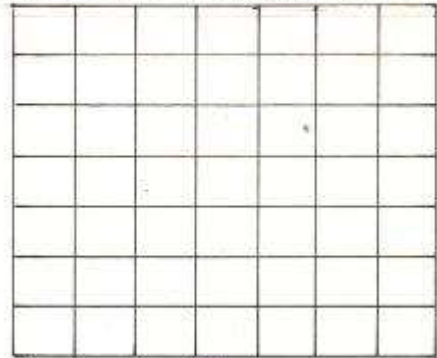
***This activity is a metaphor for a sedimentary basin filling up with sediment. Instead of sediment there is rubbish and instead of fossils there are various items which have changed over the last hundred years.***

***It is based on an article in by C. B. Hunt in Geotimes June 1959***

STRATIGRAPHY OF A RUBBISH TIP

Soldered tin cans were made upto 1920 when they were succeeded by crimped cans. Upto 1900 beer bottles were hand finished with necks for corks. They were then replaced by hand finished bottles with metal caps. These in turn were succeeded by machine finished bottles in 1915. Square headed nails were made until 1905 when round headed nails came into use. Plot the existence of these artifacts against a time scale (=time range chart)

- 1 soldered tin cans
- 2 crimped cans
- 3 hand finished beer bottles with corks
- 4 hand finished beer bottles with metal caps
- 5 machine finished bottles
- 6 square headed nails
- 7 round headed nails



time 1895 1900 1905 1910 1915 1920 1925 1930

List by number the artifacts in use during each five-year period

- 1895-1900 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1900-1905 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1905-1910 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1910-1915 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1915-1920 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1920-1925 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1925-1930 \_\_\_\_\_

Below is a section through an old quarry which has been used as a rubbish tip. Plot time lines on the section and then answer the following questions.

- 1 Which part of the quarry received the first rubbish?
- 2 By what date had the bottom of the quarry been completely covered?
- 3 Which wall was completely covered first and when did this happen?
- 4 When was the quarry completely full?

The numbers refer to the articles listed above.

