



*Although in Norman times in Britain there were strict forest laws to protect hunting rights, the forests themselves weren't looked after at all. However, a small village could obtain all the wood for its needs from the surrounding forest.*

**Can you match the pictures of harvesting and using wood in those times with the correct title and description?**

**HURDLE MAKER**



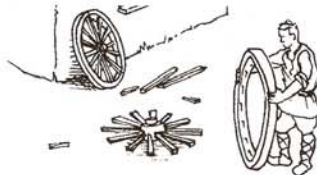
One of the earliest ways of dividing up a tree was in a sawpit. The man at the top was called the top dog and the man beneath was called the underdog.

**BESOM MAKER**



Wood from different trees was used for each part of a wheel. The hub was made from wood that didn't split easily, the wheel rim had to be flexible under strain and the spokes had to be rigid.

**CARTER**



Timber framed buildings were built in sections in the carpenter's yard. Holes were bored to take the pegs which joined the sections together. Each timber had a special mark to make it easy to fix together in the right way.

**COOPER**



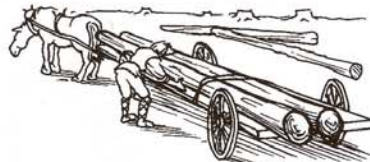
Hurdles were used for fencing sheep. Wood for these came from hazel trees grown in a coppice. A coppice is where a young tree is cut back so that it grows new shoots which can be harvested every year.

**FELLER**



People have always known the great value of trees so from the very beginning no part of the tree was wasted. Bundles of twigs were tied round a handle to make besoms, or brooms.

**CARPENTER**



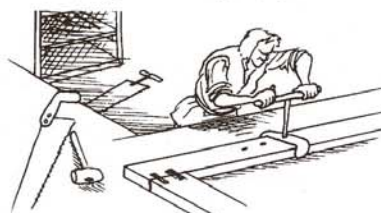
In order to fell a tree you first axe off the butts (the thick base) then, with the axe, make a V shape on the side where you want it to fall. Then you saw through the back towards the V shape. Sawing takes 2 people. Timber!

**WHEELWRIGHT**



Making wooden tubs or barrels required great skill. The strips of wood were cut and curved to shape and held in place with metal bands. They had to be air and watertight.

**SAWYER**



Timber was carried to the sawpits slung under the axle of a cart and held steady by a boom. The horse pulling the cart had to be very strong and the cart wheels were broad to take the weight.

**Do you know anyone with a wood-craft name for their family name?**



*In the past, trees would be felled as and when timber was needed by people in the locality.*

*Nowadays plantation trees are felled when they are mature. The timber is processed and stored in warehouses all round Britain until customers buy it.*



Computerised harvesters fell, trim and cut logs into lengths in one operation.



Forwarders collect logs and take them to the forest roadside.



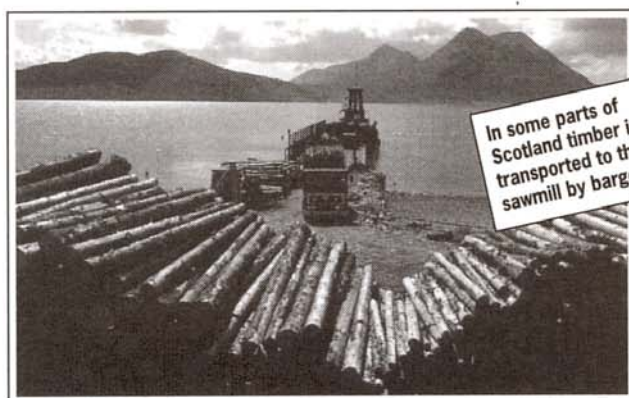
On very steep ground a cable crane system called a skyline carries timber to the roadside.



In certain kinds of forests, horses are used to take timber loads to the forest roadside.



Specially-built forest roads allow lorries to carry timber from the forest to the sawmill.



In some parts of Scotland timber is transported to the sawmill by barge.



At the sawmill the wood is cut with as fine a blade as possible so as not to make too much sawdust. It is cut a bit bigger than the size needed to allow for when the timber

## WHAT TO DO:

Work with a partner and study carefully the pictures above. Make notes on how trees are

CUT DOWN

TRANSPORTED

PROCESSED

Look again at these stages in 'Harvesting and Processing in the Past' and make notes. Prepare a report describing harvesting and processing timber, then and now.