People used to believe that in ancient times Great Britain was populated by a race of giants. In legendary tales, giants are sometimes linked with particular places. Some stories about giants were originally told to explain how certain features of the landscape came to exist.

In Northern Ireland, an amazing formation of thousands of columns of basalt, an igneous rock, is known as The Giant’s Causeway.

Some people think that the Gog Magog Hills in Cambridgeshire, England, take their name from two legendary giants, Gog and Magog, who were said to be buried in the area.

Another story tells how The Wrekin, a hill in another part of England, was first formed when an angry giant cast down a huge spadeful of rocks and soil.

What do some stories about giants try to explain?

Where is The Giant’s Causeway?

From what are the columns of The Giant’s Causeway formed?

How might the Gog Magog Hills have got their name?

What is The Wrekin?
Reading and understanding

Read the text below, then answer the questions in complete sentences.

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What do some stories about giants try to explain?

Some stories about giants try to explain how certain features of the landscape came to exist.

Where is The Giant’s Causeway?

The Giant’s Causeway is in Northern Ireland.

From what are the columns of The Giant’s Causeway formed?

The Giant’s Causeway is formed from thousands of columns of basalt, which is an igneous rock.

How might the Gog Magog Hills have got their name?

The Gog Magog Hills might have got their name from the two legendary giants, Gog and Magog, who are said to be buried nearby.

What is The Wrekin?

The Wrekin is a hill in England.