* 1. **The foundations of chemistry**
* People have applying chemical technology since the discovery of fire.
* 1000 BCE iron was being produced in the Mediterranean.
* Agriculture and warfare were revolutionised during the Iron Age.
* Plants were used for their medicinal properties, for good and bad.
* Manure was applied to crops as fertiliser.
* Bakers and winemakers utilised chemistry to produce their goods.
* Alchemists of the 16th and 17th centuries worked very much by trial and error as they tried to change one substance to another.

Initially the understanding of processes that produce iron, medicine, wine and bread was limited. They were known to work but not why.

It took almost 2000 years after iron was first produced to develop mass produced fine-quality steel.

Our knowledge of chemistry is responsible for nearly every product that we produce and use today.