

Early Humankind DBQ

Homework Due _____

Learning Target: I can extract evidence from primary and secondary source documents to create a list of main ideas that could answer the question: What was life like for Early Humans?

Historical Context:

The earliest people in prehistory were hunter-gatherers. They lived in small groups that moved from place to place, collecting berries, nuts and plants, and hunted animals. Hunter-gatherers did not move on every day or even every week. They generally followed the migration patterns of the animals they hunted; if their animals moved, they moved, too. They had several temporary camping places where they spent weeks or months, but they had no permanent, settled homes. Because they moved around, they had to be adaptable, which means they needed to be able to adjust or change according to the conditions surrounding them.

Document A



Source: Cave painting found in Lascaux, France. These paintings are believed to have been made 16,000 years ago.

1. What is the relationship between the humans and the animals in the painting?

2. What tools are the people using in the picture? What are they being used for?

Document B



In addition to stone, early man used other materials for making tools. These materials included bones, antlers, teeth, and ivory. With these new materials, they were able to create sharper blades, needles for sewing, and fishhooks for fishing. Early man also invented new kinds of long distance weapons, such as bow and arrows and spear throwers.

3. What types of materials did early man use for making tools? Why do you think early man made tools from these materials?

4. What does the creation and use of tools help us understand about humans at this point in history?

Document C

Source: Jacob Bronowski, *The Ascent of Man*, Little, Brown and Company

“...The Ice Ages required a change in the way man could live. They forced him to depend less on plants and more on animals. The dangers of hunting on the edge of the ice also changed the ways early man hunted. It no longer made sense to stalk single animals, even if they were quite large. The better alternative was to follow herds — to learn and adopt their habits, including their wandering migrations. This meant places they settled were set by the food animal.”

5. According to Document C, what are two ways early man **adapted** to the Ice Age? Why do you think these changes were necessary?

Document D

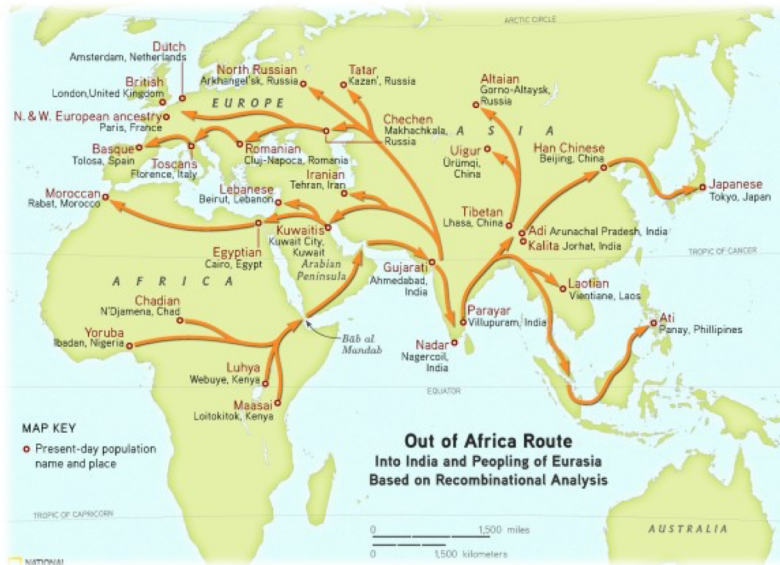
Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/5128892.stm>

...Dr Wenban-Smith believes the elephant, which was twice the size of those living today, was probably brought down by a pack of hunters armed with wooden spears. "They either hunted it or possibly found it in an injured state and then killed it," he explained. "Then they got some flint tools from nearby and they would have swarmed all over it and cut off the meat." They would have been carrying off armfuls of meat to their local base camp." The elephant would have been eaten raw, as there is no evidence that fire was used for cooking at the time. The hunter-gatherers probably also feasted on other large mammals, as the bones of buffalo, rhino, deer, and horse were also found nearby. It was probably felled by spears, which early humans were using at the time. Stone tools would have been gathered nearby; chips suggest they were used to butcher the carcass. "There does seem to be increasing evidence that they were focusing on hunting only the larger animals with more meat and suggestions that they were living in larger groups than we've generally thought," said Dr. Wenban-Smith.

6. According to the author, what are 2 ways that early humans worked together?

7. What are some of the animals they hunted? Why would they hunt in large groups?

Document E



This map shows the migration patterns of early people through Africa, Europe, and Asia.

8. What does Document E show us about the life of early humans?

MAIN IDEAS: What was life like for Early Humans?

Document	Provides evidence that the life of early humans included:
A	
B	
C	
D	
E	

Grade breakdown: Your score has been circled and multiplied by 5

0	1	2	3	4
Incomplete. Please finish and submit as soon as possible	Student has not successfully extracted evidence from documents or identified the main idea of those documents. Errors in logic and conclusions are present. Student can redo and resubmit for additional practice and points.	Student shows the ability to extract evidence from documents by answering the questions, but has not successfully determined the main idea for each document. Can redo and resubmit for additional practice and points.	You mostly have it! Answers to questions show that student has the ability to extract evidence from documents and determine main ideas. Can redo and resubmit if you want to improve your score.	