

Midterm - Review and Study Questions

The midterm exam consists of a "closed book" examination given in class on April 4th. The examination will cover all the readings listed on the syllabus through April 2nd.

During the examination you will be asked to: 1) identify, define and associate a number of terms, concepts and items, 2) place some of these items in chronological order and 3) write a short essay.

- 1. Identifications:** consists of Jeopardy-style questions and a series of short (one paragraph) identifications of various places, sites, objects, ideas, theories and concepts. At a minimum you should identify or define the term and include information as to its age and geographic location, where appropriate. Also indicate its significance in (or to) the study of human evolution.

The identifications will be drawn from the "Key terms" sheets for the lectures. (Key terms sheets for lectures 1-3, 4, 6, 7-9, 10, 11 and 12-14.) [Vocab sheets #1 - 7 on the website.]

- 2) Temporal framework** - be prepared to place the following sites, taxa and technologies in their proper chronological relationships on a table similar to the attached sheet.

Pleistocene	Cenozoic Era	Miocene
<i>Aegyptopithecus</i>	<i>Sivapithecus</i>	<i>Proconsul</i>
<i>Sahelanthropus</i> (<i>Australopithecus</i>)	<i>Ardipithecus</i>	<i>Dryopithecus</i>
<i>A. africanus</i>	<i>A. anamensis</i>	<i>A. afarensis</i>
<i>Paranthropus aethiopicus</i> (KNM WT 17000)	<i>Kenyanthropus platyops</i>	<i>P. boisei</i>
<i>Homo</i>	<i>Homo rudolfensis</i>	<i>Homo habilis</i>
Lower Palaeolithic/Early Stone Age		
hard hammer technology	unretouched flake	chopper
Olduvai Gorge	Oldowan Industry	DK I site
FtJi 1 and 2 sites	KBS site	FxJj 50

- 3) Essay** - be prepared to write a one essay (no choice - the essay will be selected from among the following possibilities.)

-) Why is it so difficult for palaeoanthropologists to determine how many hominin species and genera they have discovered, and how they relate to one another phylogenetically? Consider the nature of the fossil record and the challenges of recognizing species in the fossil record. Provide specific examples using problematic specimens or taxa when appropriate
-) Bipedalism is the principal defining characteristic of the earliest hominins. What are the selection pressures commonly cited as potential major contributors to the development of bipedalism. Which of these pressures do you feel warrant the most serious consideration and why?

-) Isaac in his food-sharing behavior paper (1978) proposes that the core of modern human home base and food sharing behaviors were present at archaeological sites in eastern Africa at ca. 2 million years ago. What other explanations might account for the associations of stone and bone at these early sites.

-) Describe what we think we know of the lifestyles of two of the best known australopithecine genera (*Australopithecus* and *Paranthropus*). Be sure to include information about habitat, locomotion (i.e., the variety, if any, of locomotor patterns), diet, and material culture.

Part 2 - Culture-stratigraphic table:

Name: _____

Time (yrs BP)	"AGE" "Era"	Biological taxa	Industry or "culture"	Site	artifact type
Present					
12,000 - 50,000					
100,000					
200,000					
500,000					
1,000,000					
1,500,000					
2,000,000					
3,000,000					
4,000,000					
6,000,000					
10,000,000					
20,000,000					
30,000,000					
65,000,000					