

Chapter 1 Section 1: Understanding Our Past

Focus Question: What have scholars learned about the ancestors of humans, and how have they done so?

Lesson Objectives

1. Define _____.
2. Describe some ways that _____ study the past.
3. Explain _____ and _____.
4. Describe the methods used to _____ of remains or **artifacts**.
5. Explain the _____ of early modern humans.

1. Define Prehistory.

- About 5,000 years ago some civilizations began keeping _____ records.
- This is the beginning of _____ history.
- People had been living on earth for tens of thousands of years _____ developed.
- This period of time is known as _____.

2. Describe some ways that historians study the past.

Studying the Historical Past

- **Historians** -----> study the historical _____.
- **Artifacts** -----> objects made by _____.
 - **Clothing**
 - _____
 - _____
- **Written records**
 - Letters, tax records, narrative accounts, etc.

3. Explain anthropology and archaeology.

- **Anthropology**
 - Study of human _____.
 - **Culture**- refers to the _____ of a society.
 - Clothing, _____, _____, music, etc...
 - Culture is handed down from one generation to the next through _____ and experience.

○ **Archaeology**

- A specialized branch of _____.
- Study of past cultures through their _____.
- Archaeologists use two methods to _____ of materials found.

4. Describe the methods used to determine the age of remains or artifacts.

Dating Material Remains

- _____ **Method**
 - Used to determine whether material remains are _____ than one another.
(_____)
- _____ **Method**
 - Used to determine the _____ age of material remains.
 - All living things contain _____, a radioactive element that decays at a set rate. The less carbon-14 present the older the material. (bone, ash, wood, etc.)

5. Explain the migrations of early modern humans.

Place an **X** where early modern humans were first found. Then draw arrows to show where they migrated to over the next 250,000 years.

