**Cave Men Notes**

**Block C**

**Human Evolutionary Theory:**

- Primates = 65 million years ago, Aegyptopithecus = 33 million years ago in Northern Africa (direct ancestor of great apes and humans)

- 3 key changes that set creatures on road to evolving to humans: 1) development of bipedalism, 2) lineage split (three separate species of hominids), 3) the tools that were used on a regular basis 2.5 million years ago

- Homo Habilis replaced Australopithecus (most scholars believe that homo habilis evolved from one of the Australopithecus

- Attributes of Homo Habilis are different enough from previous species to warrant placing homo habilis in same genus as modern humans

- 1.7 million years ago, increased brain and body size changes homo habilis into homo erectus

- 1.2 million years ago, homo erectus was only species left

- 400,000 years ago, homo erectus reclassified to homo sapiens due to significant changes

- 100,00 years ago, 3 distinct populations formed: 1) Europe and near east = Neanderthals, 2) Africa = homo sapien sapiens, 3) Asia = undefined group

- Invasion of African homo sapiens in Europe led to the extinction of Neanderthals

- Some theories say our ancestors diverged from apes between 6 and 10 million years ago.

- Over the next few million years three key changes occurred that set these creatures on the road to evolving into modern humans the first and arguably the most profound change was the development of bipedalism the second change was the lineage split so that there was at least three separate species of hominids third change was that tools were used on a regular basis by 2.5 million years ago

THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD

* 35,000 years ago “the development of modern anatomy” and “the beginning of innovative behaviour” was labelled as the great leap forward by Jared Diamond
* After millions of years of slow evolutionary changes, 35,000 years ago changes occurred that set humans and animals apart
* This was caused by progressive technological and artistic development
* Development of tools and weapons allowed Neanderthals to hunt larger animals
* Trade of not only raw materials but also ornaments began to become more widespread, meaning people were starting to appreciate art for the first time in history.
* Tools were progressing from rock spears to tools with a specific purpose like needles for clothing, axes, or mortars for preparing food to sophisticated weapons, like harpoons, darts, spear throwers, and bow and arrows.

**Neanderthals**

* Lived between 100,000 and 40,000 years ago
* When Europe and Asia were in the last ice age
* Named after Germany’s Neander Valley
* First Skeleton was found in 1856
* Powerfully built people with limited intelligence
* Average Height of 160cm
* Weighed about 73kg.
* Nose jaw and teeth protrude and eyebrows on bony ridge
* Chin and eyes deep in sockets
* Likely demised by anatomically modern humans
* Homo sapiens had superior weapons, tools, intelligence, and ingenuity and conquered Neanderthals in 2,000 years with murder, disease, and displacement. No hybrid suggesting extinction
* Replaced by homo sapiens sapiens as they were smarter than the Neanderthals
* No interbreeding occurred between Neanderthals and homo sapiens sapiens

**Daily life in the upper Palaeolithic age**

* During the upper Palaeolithic Age (50,000-10,000 years ago) people lived in small groups of 5-10 families bonded by blood or marriage.
* People were nomadic or semi-nomadic, very in tune with nature surroundings
* Bands held tribal gatherings or ritual ceremonies with various bonds.
* To keep bloodlines strong people needed to marry outside of the band (arranged marriages).
* Big game hunters stocked their prey, driving animals into natural enclosures, over cliffs, or intro marshes and tar pits.
* 20,000 BC: The bow and arrow was invented.
* Men did hunting, women and children gathered food (80% of diet), women were more successful consistently.
* Bulk of diet was various roots, potatoes, fruits, sweet berries, honey, and shellfish.
* Technique of hunting developed (bow and arrow)
* Very aware of surrounding