**Introduction**

Why Study History

To satisfy curiosity

To Understand

To Pass Judgement

To Prepare for the Future

What informs history?

Primary Evidence – from the original source

Secondary Evidence – about the original source

Artifact – a surviving article from the past made by humans

Fossil - are the preserved remains or [traces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trace_fossil) of animals, plants, and other organisms (within rock)

Facts – anything known to be true; based on evidence

Opinion – a belief held with confidence but not supported by positive knowledge or proof

Bias – a set opinion that makes it impossible to judge fairly

Who writes History?

Historians - is a person who studies and writes about the past and is regarded as an authority on it

They look at

Political developments

Economic Developments

Social developments

Geographic or environmental developments

History has a point of view – (Like our maps to our neighborhoods/houses)

Typically written by the victors/women/rich

Scientists

Archaeologist – a scientist who studies the people, customs, and lifestyles of ancient t times

Anthropologist – a scientist who studies the social organization of people

Paleontologist – a scientist who studies life forms from earlier geological periods from fossil remains

Paleoanthropologist – a scientist who studies ancient societies based on fossil evidence

Time

Prehistory – before writing. Billions of years – little evidence or information (SRHS – Dunster’s)

* “Paleolithic” --> “Old Stone” Age
  + 2,500,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE

History – after writing - thousands of years (thickness of a dime)

Chronology

BCE – Before the Common Era

BC – Before Christ

AD – Anno Domini, “In the Year of Our Lord”

2 Dates BC = subtract 2 dates after = subtract 1 Before 1 After = Add

Centuries – add 1 – 1995 is in the 20th century

**Unit 1 - Early Man (The Journey Begins)**

Pre-History is literally billions of years, the evolution of man is millions – little evidence = different opinions

3 theories

* Creationism
  + God Created the world 10,000 years ago
  + Faith Based approach
* Evolution
  + The World and Humans developed from very primitive stages over 13 billion years – 13,000,000,000
  + Academic/Scientific approach
* Intelligent Design
  + Humans developed over millions of years, guided by some higher power (the world is to complex to have just happened by chance)
  + Faith Based approach that does not deny scientific evidence

Evolution is the academic approach –

Stages of Early Man

Australopithecus (Lucy) – ape man – missing link - is an extinct genus (first version) of hominids (Humanlike). From the evidence gathered by palaeontologists and archaeologists, it appears that the Australopithecus evolved in eastern Africa around 4 million

3 big changes –

Walking upright

Change field of view

Longer stride – cover more ground

Hands were free to use

Spoken language

Communication

Co-operation

More efficient

Opposable thumbs

Better grip

Use and build tools

Homo Erectus ‘Walking Man’

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Made Fire  Tools  Different field of view  Hands can be used for activity  Cleaner – hands are not on the ground | More land –  Fire – warm, cook food, light, make tools,  Expand into colder places | Java man – 1891  Africa  1984 – almost a full skeleton of a 12 year old boy |

Homo Sapiens ‘Mouthy’

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Spoken language  Better tools  Co-operation | Buried their dead  First sign of religion  Better tools to make work easier  Co-operation to hunt larger prey | Hungary – 1965  Occipital bone  Other fossil evidence in England, Germany, France |

Neanderthals ‘Finalites’

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Made tools  Could speak  Hunted and gathered  Fire  Organized language | Driven to extinction by modern humans | Ashes from fires  1856 – Neander Valley, Germany |

Homo Sapiens Sapiens (ModernHumans) ‘Man’ – ‘the artists’

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cold weather adaptation –  Clothing, shelter, fire  Better at everything | Started to make Art – cave paintings  Grew their own food  Trading, evolved thinking and reasoning | Cave drawings, fossil finds |

All of these changes led to a giant leap forward

“The Neolithic Revolution” (The Agricultural Revolution)

Shift from Nomads to settled farmers

Nomad – a roamer – moving from place to place hunting and gathering

During the time period we call “The Neolithic Revolution”, people changed from being hunters and gatherers to being food producers. People began to:

1. plant crops
2. domesticate animals (dogs, cattle, pigs, sheep, goats)

The effects of this change were:

1. an increased food supply.
2. permanent villages developed.
3. time not spent looking for food was used to develop skills like pottery, basket making, cloth weaving, and jewellery making.
4. craftspeople began to trade with other villages.
5. trade led to development of transportation.
6. government and religion develop as leaders emerge in villages.