Modern Homo sapiens

The Rise of Modern Humans: Chapter 9

Archaic Homo sapiens Neandertal

- 1. Where are the oldest human fossils found? What is their age?
- 2. What range did archaic humans occupy?
- 3. Describe the material culture of archaic humans.
- 4. Locate the Neandertals in space and time. How do they differ from other groups of genus Homo structurally and behaviorally?
- 5. What is the evidence suggesting communal cooperation? spiritual beliefs?
- 6. Where and when do the first fossils of anatomically modern humans come from? What physical and cultural features distinguish them from archaic Homo sapiens?
- 7. Explain the basic premise of the Recent African Origin Model of modern human evolution.
- 8. Explain the basic premise of the Multiregional Evolution model.
- 9. What is the multiple dispersal model?
- 10. How is the fossil evidence interpreted in light of these theories?
- 11. What does the genetic research contribute to the question of modern human evolution? (mitochondrial DNA, Y chromosome, genetic diversity)

Human Biological Diversity in Context: Chapter 10

melanin	polymorphism	eugenics
craniometrics	cline	

- 1. What is the adaptive advantage of variations in skin color? Of body type/size?
- 2. Why study polymorphisms? What is a cline?
- 3. Explain the argument that there is no biological basis for the concept of human "races".
- 4. If there are no races, how would you explain the phenotypic differences between contemporary peoples?
- 5. How would you describe the relationship between "race" and "IQ"?
- 6. What are the hypotheses for the variation in blood types?
- 7. Describe the role of culture in human variation with respect to sickle cell and lactose tolerance.

Modernity and Human Biology: Chapter 11

demography	modernity
epidemiology	menopause/menarche

- 1. Describe the pattern of infectious disease in hominid evolutionary history. Why and how did food production change our relationship with disease?
- 2. Briefly describe age ratio in developing and overdeveloped countries. What factors contribute to their variations in fertility and mortality?
- 3. What are the 1st, 2nd, 3rd epidemiological transitions? What does this suggest that we have to look forward to?
- 4. What type of diseases cause most deaths in industrialized countries? Compare to developing countries.
- 5. Explain how the cultural patterns of diet and activity patterns are affecting populations today.
- 6. What does life course data show about differences between populations with respect to menarche and menopause?
- 7. What predictions can you make regarding the future evolution of humans?