

Answer each of the following questions in a few paragraphs. Include specific examples to support your thesis and conclusions.

1. **Comparative Analysis:** What did all Paleolithic peoples share in common, and what differences subdivided them?
2. **Historical Analysis:** What were the key changes in human society that came with the Agricultural Revolution?
3. **Personal Reflection:** Would you prefer to live in a Paleolithic society, a pastoral society, an agricultural village society, or a chiefdom? Why?

Answer Key

1. *Answer would ideally include:*

- For much of the period, Paleolithic societies shared a number of important features, including life in bands of twenty-five to fifty people, a gathering and hunting lifestyle, a mobile lifestyle, a relatively egalitarian social structure, and relatively equal gender relations.
- Population density was low, and the population grew slowly.
- Relationships were understood in kinship terms.
- There were no formal chiefs, kings, bureaucrats, soldiers, nobles, or priests.
- Rituals, particularly those associated with burial, were important.
- Some societies were monotheistic; others believed in various spirits.
- Religion had a strong feminine dimension (Venus figurines, Great Goddess).
- Many subscribed to a cyclical view of time.
- However, varied environments and food supplies did create differences between groups that became increasingly pronounced as humankind spread around the globe. For instance, the spread of humans into the Pacific islands required the development of seaworthy canoe technologies that other Paleolithic groups did not develop, and the cold weather in parts of Eastern Europe, along with the lack of caves, spurred the development of multilayered clothing and partially underground dwellings constructed from the bones and tusks of mammoths.
- Another key differentiation occurred between 16,000 and 10,000 years ago, after the end of the last Ice Age. As plants and animals thrived, making a larger and more secure food source, some Paleolithic groups were able to settle down in more permanent settlements or villages. Others continued their nomadic existences. Those societies that settled down became larger and more complex. Settlement also meant that households could store and accumulate goods to a greater degree than their nomadic ancestors. This accumulation of goods led to inequality and a wearing away of the egalitarianism found in more nomadic Paleolithic communities.

2. *Answer would ideally include:*

- The Agricultural Revolution created a new relationship between humankind and other living things. Men and women no longer simply used what they found in nature but actively changed it.
- Population increased, and societies became larger and more densely populated.
- Permanent settlement allowed households to store and accumulate goods to a greater degree than their nomadic ancestors.
- People were able to accumulate more personal possessions
- More sophisticated techniques were developed in pottery making, textile weaving, and metallurgy.
- Humans secured more food resources from a much smaller area of land than was possible in gathering and hunting societies, starting a process of intensification.
- In many cases, a poorer diet and more disease were results.
- Settlement led to greater social inequality, which ran counter to the egalitarianism of Paleolithic communities.
- More elaborate functions of government emerged, whether through formal leaders

or informal lineage systems.

- Chiefdoms developed, with positions of power and privilege becoming inherited.
- The possibility of economic surplus opened the door to growing populations, specialization, and inequality.
- For all the changes brought about by Agricultural Revolution, some agricultural societies supplemented their food supplies by gathering, hunting, and fishing.

3. *Answer would ideally include:*

- A Paleolithic society had a more egalitarian social structure, without great differences in wealth and power.
- There was more equality in gender and social relations in a Paleolithic society, a pastoral society, and an agricultural village society compared to a chiefdom.
- People spent fewer hours working in a Paleolithic society, with greater leisure time than in later societies.
- Agricultural diets were often nutritionally poorer than those of Paleolithic societies, and agricultural societies were often more vulnerable to famine should their crops fail.
- Agricultural societies were larger and more densely populated than Paleolithic societies.
- Agricultural societies developed more advanced technologies than Paleolithic societies, including techniques for making pottery, weaving textiles, and metallurgy.
- A pastoral society allowed for greater mobility.
- An agricultural village society provided more stability and protection.
- Chiefdoms mostly benefited those who inherited positions of power.
- Commoners in chiefdoms had to pay tribute to the chief.

Use the following to answer questions 1-20:

Select the word or phrase from the Terms section that best matches the definition or example provided in the Definitions section.

Terms

- a. Venus figurines
- b. Dreamtime
- c. Clovis culture
- d. megafaunal extinction
- e. Austronesian migrations
- f. “the original affluent society”
- g. shamans
- h. trance dance
- i. Paleolithic settling down
- j. Göbekli Tepe
- k. Fertile Crescent
- l. teosinte
- m. diffusion
- n. Bantu migration
- o. Ishi
- p. Banpo
- q. “secondary products revolution”
- r. pastoral societies
- s. Çatalhöyük
- t. chiefdoms

1. The last phase of the great human migration that established a human presence in every habitable region of the earth. These people settled the Pacific islands and Madagascar in a series of seaborne migrations that began around 3,500 years ago.
2. A Chinese archeological site where the remains of a significant Neolithic village have been found.
3. The spread of Bantu-speaking peoples from their homeland in what is now southern Nigeria or Cameroon to most of Africa, in a process that started about 3000 B.C.E. and continued for several millennia.
4. An important Neolithic site in what is now Turkey.

5. Societal groupings governed by a chief who typically relies on generosity, ritual status, or charisma rather than force to win obedience from the people.
6. The earliest widespread and distinctive culture of North America; named from a particular kind of projectile point.
7. The gradual spread of agricultural techniques without extensive population movement.
8. A complex worldview of Australia's Aboriginal people that held that current humans live in a vibration or echo of ancestral happenings.
9. Region sometimes known as Southwest Asia that includes the modern states of Iraq, Syria, Israel/Palestine, and southern Turkey; the earliest home of agriculture.
10. A ceremonial site comprising 20 circles made up of carved limestone pillars located in southeastern Turkey. The site, which dates to 11,600 years ago, was built by gathering and hunting peoples who lived at least part of the year in settled villages.
11. The last surviving member of a gathering and hunting group known as the Yahi who lived in northern California. His people were driven into extinction during the second half of the nineteenth century by the intrusion of farming and herding "civilized" societies.
12. Dying out of a number of large animal species, including the mammoth and several species of horses and camels, that occurred around 11,000 to 10,000 years ago, at the end of the Ice Age. The extinction may have been caused by excessive hunting or by the changing climate of the era.
13. Term coined by the scholar Marshall Sahlins in 1972 to describe Paleolithic societies, which he regarded as affluent not because they had so much but because they wanted or needed so little.
14. The process by which some Paleolithic peoples moved toward permanent settlement in the wake of the last Ice Age. Settlement was marked by increasing storage of food and accumulation of goods as well as growing inequalities in society.

15. Human societies that rely on domesticated animals rather than plants as the main source of food; nomads lead their animals to seasonal grazing grounds rather than settling permanently in a single location.
16. A term used to describe the series of technological changes that began about 4000 B.C.E., as people began to develop new uses for their domesticated animals, exploiting a revolutionary new source of power.
17. In many early societies, a person believed to have the ability to act as a bridge between living humans and supernatural forces, often by means of trances induced by psychoactive drugs.
18. The wild ancestor of maize.
19. In San culture, a nightlong ritual held to activate a human being's inner spiritual potency to counteract the evil influences of gods and ancestors. The practice was apparently common to the Khoisan people, of whom the Ju/'hoansi are a surviving remnant.
20. Paleolithic carvings of the female form, often with exaggerated breasts, buttocks, hips, and stomach, which may have had religious significance.

Answer Key

1. e
2. p
3. n
4. s
5. t
6. c
7. m
8. b
9. k
10. j
11. o
12. d
13. f
14. i
15. r
16. q
17. g
18. l
19. h
20. a

Choose the letter of the best answer.

1. Which describes a religious or spiritual aspect of Paleolithic culture?
 - A) An outlook that sharply distinguished between the material and spiritual worlds
 - B) A single belief system based on monotheism and animism
 - C) A cyclical view of time that emphasized regeneration and disintegration
 - D) The worship of masculinity, as reflected in universally male images and statues

2. The Agricultural Revolution occurred independently in various parts of the world between
 - A) 300,000 and 250,000 years ago.
 - B) 100,000 and 60,000 years ago.
 - C) 45,000 and 30,000 years ago.
 - D) 12,000 and 4,000 years ago.

3. What was a feature of society during the Paleolithic era?
 - A) High population density
 - B) Relative egalitarianism
 - C) Class conflict
 - D) Widespread slavery

4. In contrast to the people who migrated to the Americas, the Austronesian migrants to the Pacific islands
 - A) brought domesticated plants and animals with them.
 - B) crossed the Bering Strait.
 - C) returned to their places of origin every year.
 - D) left their new environments mostly unchanged.

5. Which of the following describes a feature of chiefdoms?
 - A) The use of force to ensure obedience from subjects
 - B) The absence of centralized authority
 - C) The collection of tribute from commoners
 - D) The separation of religious and secular power

6. What did migrants to Australia and the Pacific Islands use to get to their destinations?
 - A) Clovis points
 - B) Mammoths
 - C) Land bridges
 - D) Boats

7. What role did women play in agricultural village societies?
- A) Women led important rituals and ceremonies.
 - B) Women rode horses and fought in battles.
 - C) Women participated in farming and textile work.
 - D) Women organized irrigation systems and controlled trade.
8. Which of the following was the point of departure for migration to the Americas?
- A) New Guinea
 - B) Eastern Siberia
 - C) Aotearoa
 - D) Easter Island
9. Which of the following describes both pastoral and agricultural village societies?
- A) Both were made up of mobile populations that moved frequently.
 - B) Both were made up of bands of twenty-five to fifty people.
 - C) Both possessed relatively egalitarian social structures with few social distinctions.
 - D) Both possessed permanent settlements near the sea.
10. Which of the following represents a way that Paleolithic humans shaped their environment?
- A) They deliberately set fires to encourage the growth of particular plants.
 - B) They regulated their hunting to avoid the extinction of various large animals.
 - C) They drove wild animals into new regions to increase their numbers.
 - D) They regulated the human population to avoid overtaxing the environment.
11. How did the last Ice Age affect Paleolithic people?
- A) Ice served as an important preservative for food, making it possible for them to settle in the same place for extended periods.
 - B) The cold weather killed off most large mammals that had preyed on early human beings.
 - C) As the glaciers advanced, humans could easily move into new regions because humankind had originated in cold climates.
 - D) The lower sea levels associated with the Ice Age created land bridges, allowing human beings to travel to many regions of the earth.

12. Which of the following offers evidence that Paleolithic peoples were shifting from a nomadic way of life to a more settled lifestyle?
- A) Extinction of large mammals
 - B) Increase in the size of tools
 - C) Elaborate burial sites
 - D) Global warming
13. Which of the following is true of both the Paleolithic era and Age of Agriculture?
- A) The prevalence of female imagery
 - B) The power of priests
 - C) The modification of the genetic composition of plants
 - D) The spread of permanent settlements
14. How did the north/south orientation of the Americas affect the unfolding of the Agricultural Revolution in that part of the world?
- A) Farmers in the Americas developed no grain crop that could sustain large populations.
 - B) The successful domestication of large mammals by people in the Americas made crop domestication less important.
 - C) Crops were slow to spread because they had to adapt to different climactic and vegetation zones.
 - D) Agricultural innovations developed first in Mesoamerica and then spread north and south.
15. Which of the following was an important development during the Paleolithic period?
- A) Humankind created the first alphabet.
 - B) Humankind migrated to different parts of the world.
 - C) Humankind established the first civilizations.
 - D) Humankind developed ironworking technologies.
16. Which factor contributed to the Agricultural Revolution?
- A) A sharp decline in population
 - B) An increase in the number of large mammals
 - C) A need for additional food
 - D) The rise of chiefdoms

17. Which of the following distinguished the Agricultural Revolution in the Americas from the Agricultural Revolution elsewhere?
- A) The scarcity of animals that could be domesticated
 - B) A common climatic and vegetation zone
 - C) High agricultural yields and population density
 - D) Uniformity of farming practices and techniques
18. What was the result of the spread of agriculture through diffusion and migration?
- A) The spread of language groups
 - B) The creation of gathering and hunting societies
 - C) The strengthening of maritime empires
 - D) The extinction of pastoral societies
19. Which of the following explains why some regions did not make the transition to an agricultural way of life?
- A) There were not enough people to do all the work involved with farming.
 - B) Farming was considered socially demeaning.
 - C) Knowledge about farming did not spread beyond the core areas where the Agricultural Revolution had taken place.
 - D) Environmental conditions were not suitable for farming.
20. Which of the following was a result of the Agricultural Revolution?
- A) The initial human settlement of the earth
 - B) The invention of the plow
 - C) Higher risk of disease and famine
 - D) The decline of trade
21. Which of the following explains why conflict was frequent between pastoral societies and agricultural societies?
- A) Pastoral societies wanted the food crops and manufactured goods produced by agricultural societies.
 - B) Agricultural societies domesticated animals, but pastoral societies domesticated plants.
 - C) Agricultural societies sought access to the richer grazing lands controlled by pastoral societies.
 - D) The animals herded by pastoral societies could be found only in land controlled by agricultural societies.

22. Which of the following describes a feature of pastoral societies?
- A) Village-based horticulture
 - B) Animal husbandry
 - C) Intensification of land use
 - D) Oppression of women
23. What common feature did pastoral and agricultural societies share?
- A) Organization of society based on kinship
 - B) Systems of labor based on slavery
 - C) Preference for male children
 - D) Inherited positions of power and privilege
24. Which form of society during the Age of Agriculture is considered to have a distinct element of inequality?
- A) Paleolithic societies
 - B) Pastoral societies
 - C) Gathering and hunting societies
 - D) Chiefdoms
25. What is another name for the Agricultural Revolution?
- A) Fertile Crescent
 - B) Neolithic Revolution
 - C) "Secondary products revolution"
 - D) Mesoamerica
26. Which of the following is used as evidence that the earliest humans first emerged in Africa?
- A) Cave paintings
 - B) Domestication of plants
 - C) Processing of ochre
 - D) Shrine-like buildings
27. Humans in the Paleolithic era already had the knowledge to do which of the following?
- A) Make pottery
 - B) Harvest wool
 - C) Ride horses
 - D) Make wine

28. Which of the following is the earliest evidence that gathering and hunting peoples were starting to make the transition to agriculture?
- A) Maize
 - B) Sickles
 - C) Canoes
 - D) Milk
29. The Clovis culture of North America provides evidence of
- A) the beginning of the last Ice Age.
 - B) warfare between rival tribes.
 - C) cultural diffusion over a large area.
 - D) the domestication of animals.
30. Which of the following describes a development associated with the migration of Austronesian-speaking peoples throughout the Pacific?
- A) The dependence on ice bridges to reach their destinations
 - B) The emergence of chiefdoms in the regions where they settled
 - C) The preservation of the ecosystem and natural habitats
 - D) The egalitarianism of the societies that emerged

Answer Key

1. C
2. D
3. B
4. A
5. C
6. D
7. C
8. B
9. C
10. A
11. D
12. C
13. A
14. C
15. B
16. C
17. A
18. A
19. D
20. C
21. A
22. B
23. A
24. D
25. B
26. C
27. A
28. B
29. C
30. B

Answer each question in three or four sentences.

1. What kinds of uniquely human activities show up early in the African archeological record, supporting the theory that humans originated on that continent?
2. What was the chronological sequence of human settlement of the planet?
3. What does the surviving evidence reveal about the religious beliefs and practices of Paleolithic humans?
4. How did different environmental conditions influence the emergence of agriculture in different parts of the world?
5. Why did some areas of the world not experience the Agricultural Revolution?
6. How did the Agricultural Revolution affect the environment?
7. What was the relationship between pastoral societies and agricultural village societies?
8. In what ways were chiefdoms different from agricultural village societies?

Answer Key

1. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Human beings began to inhabit forests and deserts within Africa where no homini lived before.
- There were technological innovations of various kinds, including stone blades and fastened to shafts, tools made from bone, and grindstones.
- There exists evidence of hunting and fishing, not just the scavenging of dead animals.
- Settlements were planned around the seasonal movement of game and fish.
- Patterns of exchange over a distance of almost 200 miles indicate larger networks of communication.
- The use of body ornaments, beads, and pigments such as ochre as well as possible planned burials suggest social and symbolic behavior characteristic of human activity throughout the subsequent millennia.

2. *Answer would ideally include:*

- The earliest *Homo sapiens* emerged in Africa 250,000 years ago.
- The first human migration out of Africa occurred 100,000 years ago.
- Human entry into eastern Asia took place 70,000 years ago.
- Humans first reached Australia 60,000 to 40,000 years ago.
- Human entry into Europe occurred 45,000 years ago.
- Human entry into the Americas happened 30,000 to 15,000 years ago.
- Austronesian migration to the Pacific islands and Madagascar took place 3,500 to 2,000 years ago.
- Human entry into New Zealand happened around 1,000 years ago.

3. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Our understanding of Paleolithic religious beliefs is somewhat limited because bones and stones tell us little about what Paleolithic peoples thought and because the art they produced is subject to many interpretations.
- Paleolithic peoples possessed a rich ceremonial life, as can be seen in their cave paintings and burials.
- No full-time religious specialists existed, but part-time shamans with special skills dealing with the spirit world emerged as the need arose.
- Some Paleolithic societies were monotheistic; others worshipped several levels of supernatural beings.
- Others believed in an impersonal force suffused throughout the natural order that could be accessed by shamans during a trance dance.
- The prevalence of Venus figurines and other symbols all across Europe has convinced some scholars, but not all, that Paleolithic religious thought had a strongly feminine dimension.
- It seems likely that many Paleolithic peoples had a cyclical view of time that drew on the changing phases of the moon and the cycles of female fertility.

4. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Fertile Crescent (southwest Asia: Iraq, Syria, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, southern Turkey)
 - o A cold and dry spell (11,000 to 9500 B.C.E.) diminished the food supply.
 - o The solution was to domesticate plants and animals.

- o A wide variety of wild plants and animals were concentrated in a small area, creating favorable conditions for the shift to agriculture.
 - o The east/west orientation facilitated the rapid spread of agricultural practices across similar environments.
 - Northeastern Africa (Sudan)
 - o Grassland vegetation and rainfall created good conditions for farming.
 - o However, conditions were less favorable than those found in the Fertile Crescent, resulting in scattered farming practices spread over sub-Saharan Africa.
 - o Another result was less productive agriculture.
 - o The east/west orientation facilitated the rapid spread of agricultural practices across similar environments.
 - Americas
 - o Agriculture developed in separate locations throughout the Americas.
 - o There were very few animals that could be domesticated.
 - o No domesticated animals meant no ready supply of meat, manure, power to pull carts, and the like.
 - o The north/south orientation of the Americas meant that agricultural practices spread slowly because they had to adapt to different climatic and vegetation zones.
 - o The relative isolation of agricultural regions also meant that crops spread less successfully.
5. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Some regions had unfavorable conditions for farming (desert and arctic environments).
 - Nature provided abundant food sources so there was no incentive to farm.
 - Some areas were distant from agricultural societies.
 - Some people deliberately chose not to farm, preferring the lifestyle of hunting and gathering.
6. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Forests and grasslands came under cultivation.
 - Soil erosion and deforestation made the land unsuitable for farming.
 - Human selection changed the genetic makeup of plants and animals.
7. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Conflict
 - o Pastoralists were attracted to the wealth and sophistication of agricultural societies.
 - o Pastoralists wanted access to the richer grazing land controlled by agricultural societies.
 - o Pastoralists wanted the food crops and manufactured goods produced by agricultural societies.
 - Peaceful exchange of technologies, ideas, products, and people
8. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Both were permanent settlements based on agriculture.
 - Agricultural village societies
 - o conducted their affairs without full-time rulers.
 - o often organized themselves in terms of kinship groups or lineages.

- o were characterized by a lineage system that provided the framework within which large numbers of people could make and enforce rules, maintain order, and settle disputes.
 - o developed modest social and economic inequalities, but they were not as well defined as those of chiefdoms and were not hereditary.
- Chiefdoms
 - o contained more inequality.
 - o were run by chiefs who inherited power and privilege.
 - o may have had organized irrigation systems and controlled trade with neighboring areas organized by temple priests.
 - o required commoners to pay tribute.

Choose the letter of the best answer.

1. According to Source 1.1, which of the following describes the role of Yhi and Baime in the creation of the world?
 - A) Yhi instructed Baime to awaken the world with his light.
 - B) Baime instructed Yhi to awaken the world with her light.
 - C) Yhi resurrected the world after Baime destroyed it.
 - D) Baime resurrected the world after Yhi destroyed it.

2. According to Source 1.2, which of the following statements reflects Platypus's response to the different animals' requests to join their respective groups?
 - A) Platypus will join the group that will make him king.
 - B) Platypus will join the group that defeats the other groups.
 - C) Everyone has to belong to a particular community.
 - D) Everyone has a unique quality that makes her or him special.

3. Which of the following does the myth of Mutjinga in Source 1.3 justify?
 - A) Men's monopoly of power
 - B) Women's control of men
 - C) Divisions within society
 - D) Enslavement of certain groups

4. According to the Purukapali myth in Source 1.4, which of the following precipitated the introduction of death into human life?
 - A) Theft
 - B) Greed
 - C) Adultery
 - D) Gluttony

5. Which of the following stories portrays women in a positive light?
 - A) Yhi Brings Life to the World
 - B) The Platypus
 - C) The Mutjinga Myth
 - D) The Purukapali Myth

Answer Key

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. A