Anthropology Essentials

Anthropology · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which subfield of anthropology specifically examines the biological development of humans and non-human primates?

A) Cultural anthropology
B) Biological anthropology
C) Linguistic anthropology
D) Archaeology

2. The 'Olduvai Gorge' in Tanzania is a world-renowned site primarily because it yielded significant evidence for which stage of human evolution?

A) Homo sapiens
B) Homo habilis
C) Neanderthals
D) Australopithecines

3. What is the term for the process by which a researcher immerses themselves in a community to study its culture over an extended period?

A) Ethnocentrism
B) Ethnography
C) Excavation
D) Radiocarbon dating

4. In archaeology, what does 'stratigraphy' refer to?

A) The study of soil layers to determine relative age
B) The chemical analysis of bone fragments
C) The mapping of ancient trade routes
D) The classification of pottery styles

5. Which hominin species is widely believed to be the first to intentionally use fire?

A) Homo habilis
B) Homo erectus
C) Homo neanderthalensis
D) Australopithecus afarensis

6. What is 'enculturation'?

A) The loss of cultural identity
B) The process of learning one's own culture
C) The scientific study of ancient languages
D) The biological adaptation to high altitudes

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7. The 'Rosetta Stone' was crucial to linguistic anthropology because it allowed scholars to decipher:

A) Mayan hieroglyphs
B) Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs
C) Cuneiform script
D) Indus Valley seals

8. Which term describes the judging of another culture solely by the values and standards of one's own culture?

A) Cultural relativism
B) Ethnocentrism
C) Holism
D) Ethnology

9. What is the primary purpose of 'carbon-14 dating' in an archaeological context?

A) Determining the diet of an organism
B) Calculating the age of organic remains
C) Measuring the density of stone tools
D) Analyzing the DNA of ancient populations

10. Who is considered the 'father of American anthropology' and a major advocate for the concept of cultural relativism?

A) Margaret Mead
B) Franz Boas
C) Louis Leakey
D) Jane Goodall

11. What is the 'bipedalism' trait that distinguishes hominins from other great apes?

A) Ability to climb trees
B) Ability to walk on two legs
C) Large brain volume
D) Tool manufacture

12. Which theory suggests that humans migrated out of Africa approximately 60,000 to 90,000 years ago to populate the rest of the world?

A) Multiregional hypothesis
B) Recent African origin model
C) Island hopping theory
D) Great Migration theory

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13. In cultural anthropology, what does 'kinship' refer to?

A) The study of political power
B) The system of social relationships based on descent and marriage
C) The religious beliefs of a group
D) The economic structure of a society

14. What is the 'Neolithic Revolution' in archaeology?

A) The invention of the steam engine
B) The transition to agriculture and permanent settlements
C) The discovery of bronze metalworking
D) The development of complex written language

15. Which tool technology is associated with the 'Acheulean' period, often characterized by hand axes?

A) Oldowan
B) Mousterian
C) Clovis
D) Levallois