Human Biological Anthropology

Anthropology · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which skeletal feature is considered a key diagnostic trait for obligate bipedalism in hominins?

A) The presence of a sagittal crest
B) The angle of the foramen magnum
C) The size of the canine teeth
D) The absence of a mandible

2. What is the primary evolutionary function of eccrine sweat glands in the human body?

A) Hormonal regulation
B) Thermoregulation
C) Nutrient absorption
D) Protection against parasites

3. Which term describes the gradual change in the frequency of a gene across a geographic area?

A) Clinal variation
B) Genetic drift
C) Convergent evolution
D) Phenotypic plasticity

4. What is the 'thrifty gene hypothesis' used to explain in biological anthropology?

A) The development of language
B) The prevalence of type 2 diabetes
C) The loss of body hair
D) The increase in brain size

5. Which bone in the human body is most commonly used by forensic anthropologists to estimate biological sex?

A) Sternum
B) Patella
C) Pelvis
D) Clavicle

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6. What physiological adaptation allows populations living at high altitudes to thrive in low-oxygen environments?

A) Increased lung capacity
B) Increased bone density
C) Larger heart size
D) Thicker skin

7. The study of ancient diseases in human skeletal remains is known as what?

A) Osteology
B) Paleopathology
C) Forensic taphonomy
D) Bioarchaeology

8. Which skin pigment provides protection against ultraviolet radiation and determines skin tone?

A) Keratin
B) Hemoglobin
C) Melanin
D) Collagen