

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



1. What is the scientific name for the Neanderthal?

Homo Sapiens Erectus

Homo Erectus Neanderthalensis

Homo Neanderthalensis

Homo Sapiens Neanderthalensis

2. When did the Neanderthal species go extinct?

400,000 years ago

40,000 years ago

600,000 years ago

10,000 years ago

3. What was the primary food source for the Neanderthal?

large game animals such as mammoths

small game animals such as rabbits

fish and seaweed

grains and vegetables

4. Were Neanderthals capable of complex behaviors?

Yes

No

Scientists aren't sure.

The lecturer doesn't say.

5. What is/are the possible reason(s) for the Neanderthal extinction?

climate change

competition with modern humans

disease

all of the above

6. What are the Neanderthals' contributions in human history?

providing valuable insights into human evolution

development of human behavior and culture

both A and B

none of the above

**Discuss these questions with a friend or classmate.**

1. What information from the lecture did you find the most interesting? Why?
2. Do you think there may still be some Neanderthals alive today? Why? / Why not?
3. What do you think modern humans will look like in another one million years?
4. Why do living things evolve?
5. Would you like to travel back in time? Why? / Why not?
6. What three questions would you like to ask a Neanderthal?

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



## Audio Script

The Neanderthal is an extinct species of human that lived in Europe and Asia from around 400,000 to 40,000 years ago. They are closely related to modern humans and are considered to be a separate subspecies of Homo sapiens, known as Homo sapiens neanderthalensis.

Neanderthals were robustly built, with a large skull, strong jaw, and prominent brow ridges. They were also significantly shorter and more muscular than modern humans, with an average height of around 5 feet 5 inches for males and 5 feet for females. They had a large brain size, which was slightly larger than that of modern humans, and were skilled hunters and toolmakers.

The Neanderthal diet consisted mostly of large game animals, such as mammoths and bison, which they hunted using stone-tipped spears. They also ate plant foods and were able to use fire for cooking. They were also skilled at making a variety of stone tools, including hand axes, flint knives, and scrapers.

Neanderthals were also capable of complex behavior, such as burying their dead with ritual and symbolic artifacts, and evidence suggests that they may have had a form of language. They also had a strong social structure and were able to adapt to a wide range of environments, from warm Mediterranean climates to the harsh conditions of Ice Age Europe.

Despite their similarities to modern humans, Neanderthals were not direct ancestors of modern humans. Instead, it is believed that modern humans and Neanderthals share a common ancestor that lived around 600,000 years ago. The two species eventually diverged and evolved along separate lines, with modern humans eventually replacing the Neanderthals.

The exact reason for the Neanderthal extinction is still debated among scientists, but it is believed that a combination of factors, including climate change, competition with modern humans, and possibly disease, may have contributed to their demise.

Today, Neanderthals are of great interest to scientists and researchers, as they provide valuable insights into human evolution and the development of human behavior and culture. Advances in genetic research have also allowed scientists to study the Neanderthal genome and compare it to the genome of modern humans, providing new insights into our evolutionary history.

Overall, the Neanderthal is an important part of human history, and their existence has greatly contributed to our understanding of human evolution and the development of human behavior and culture. Despite the fact that they went extinct tens of thousands of years ago, their legacy lives on through the ongoing research and discoveries being made about them.

## ANSWER KEY

1. Homo Sapiens Neanderthalensis
2. 40,000 years ago
3. large game animals such as mammoths
4. Yes
5. all of the above
6. both A and B