

Chapter 2 Questions

1 Based on genetic evidence from both Y-chromosome and mitochondrial DNA, the most likely origin of North American Indian populations is _____.

- (A) Central Europe
- (B) Australia
- (C) Sub-Saharan Africa
- (D) Central and Northeast Asia

Answer: (D) Central and Northeast Asia

2 Which of the following occurred during the Pleistocene epoch?

- (A) Biologically modern human beings emerged in Africa.
- (B) The polar ice caps melted, causing ocean levels to reach unprecedented heights.
- (C) The interbreeding of Neandertals and modern human beings gave rise to Cro Magnons in Europe.
- (D) William of Occam advocated the principle of parsimony.

Answer: (A) Biologically modern human beings emerged in Africa.

3 Archaeologists think that the makers of the Dyuktai complex were able to experience rapid expansion because they used which of the following strategies?

- (A) they developed several different types of watercraft capable of moving rapidly down the coast
- (B) created the first permanent network of large settlements and outlying villages
- (C) emphasized small, temporary camps and highly mobile bands
- (D) seasonally followed migratory herds of megafauna between the tundra and the mountains

Answer: (C) emphasized small, temporary camps and highly mobile bands

4 Archaeology covers all of human history. This represents only a tiny fraction of the age of the earth, which is about _____ years old.

- (A) 4,600
- (B) 46,000
- (C) 4.6 million
- (D) 4.6 billion

Answer: (D) 4.6 billion

5 Which of the following best describes the “land bridge” which existed between Siberia

and Alaska and allowed the first people to enter North America?

- (A) a wide stretch of land now known as Beringia
- (B) a rudimentary bridge built by humans over a shallow sea
- (C) a large ice sheet connecting the continents
- (D) a narrow strip of ice connecting the two land masses

Answer: (A) a wide stretch of land now known as Beringia

6 Which of the following is NOT true about domesticated dogs?

- (A) they likely appeared in Eastern Asia around 15,000 years ago
- (B) there was strong selection for social and cognitive abilities during the course of domestication
- (C) they were intentionally domesticated by humans for the sole purpose of hunting
- (D) they likely accompanied the first populations of humans that entered North America

Answer: (C) they were intentionally domesticated by humans for the sole purpose of hunting

7 The single most important feature of the North American landscape before roughly 11,000 years ago was _____.

- (A) glacial ice
- (B) extensive forest cover
- (C) open prairie
- (D) the absence of lakes

Answer: (A) glacial ice

8 Southern Pennsylvania during the Pleistocene was mostly covered by _____.

- (A) ice
- (B) tundra
- (C) spruce forest
- (D) grassland

Answer: (B) tundra

9 In 1492, about how many distinct languages were probably spoken in North America?

- (A) 50
- (B) 400
- (C) 800
- (D) 1,000

Answer: (B) 400

10 True or False: In eastern subarctic Canada, several language complexes are spoken.

- (A) True
- (B) False

Answer: (B) False

11 Comparison of related languages allows for reconstruction of a common ancestral language, or _____.

- (A) protolanguage
- (B) glottochronology
- (C) Latin
- (D) daughter

Answer: (A) protolanguage

12 True or False: Glottochronology allows precise (absolute) dating for when two related languages split.

- (A) True
- (B) False

Answer: (B) False

13 A distinctive feature of northeast Asian and Native American teeth is:

- (A) "shovel-shaped" incisors
- (B) Supernumerary wisdom teeth
- (C) Long, "saber" canines
- (D) Root canals

Answer: (A) "shovel-shaped" incisors

14 True or False: Siberian bands likely lived in Beringia.

- (A) True
- (B) False

Answer: (A) True

15 An atlatl is swung like a _____ to launch a spear.

- (A) lawn dart
- (B) discus
- (C) tennis racket
- (D) baseball bat

Answer: (C) tennis racket

16 A common rock used to make a variety of sharp tools is:

- (A) chert
- (B) greenstone
- (C) andesite
- (D) iron

Answer: (A) chert

17 Bands were dependent on _____ and could not move too far from their social networks.

- (A) glaciers
- (B) whale oil
- (C) iron from meteorites
- (D) other bands

Answer: (D) other bands

18 The main mitochondrial haplogroups of Native Americans are:

- (A) A & B
- (B) C & D
- (C) X
- (D) All of the above

Answer: (D) All of the above

19 Bluefish Caves in _____ dates to 24,000 BP.

- (A) Newfoundland
- (B) Kamchatka, Siberia
- (C) Canada's Yukon
- (D) Ushki Lake

Answer: (C) Canada's Yukon

20 Which of the following is a site in northeastern Siberia dating to 30,000 BP?

- (A) Nenana
- (B) Ushki Lake
- (C) Mesa
- (D) Yana RHS (Rhinoceros Horn Site)

Answer: (D) Yana RHS

21 True or False: The potential for complex societies is inherent in all biologically modern

Homo sapiens.

(A) True

(B) False

Answer: (A) True