

Read the “Race and History: Origin of Humanity and Racial Differentiation” by Cheikh Anta Diop.

I will post each of these questions on TikTok over the next several days where you can share your answers.

1. The author of the article was Cheikh Anta Diop. Who was he? What have you learned about him? Did you know about him before?
2. What is Gloger’s law, and what is its significance? What conclusions can we draw from this law?
3. In which country is the oldest known mine in the world found? How old is it? Located that country on a map.
4. Grimaldi Man proceeded (came before) Cro-Magnon. What color was he, and how much older was Grimaldi Man than Cro-Magnon Man?
5. Where did the differing of races occur, and how long ago was it?
6. When did whites first appear on the planet, and how long after Grimaldi Man did it happen?
7. Who was the Chancelade Man, and when did he appear?
8. What, if anything, have you learned from this article? How does it help your understanding of humanity?
9. Google a map of Africa and identify which countries in Africa are near the Great Lakes region.

Vocabulary Words

Humanistic paleontology is the study of ancient life, like dinosaurs and fossils, while also thinking about how people connect to them. It looks at not just the science of old bones but also how they inspire stories, art, and ideas about the past.

Ramification - the consequences of an action or event.

Pigment - Pigment is what gives things their color! It's like tiny magic dust inside things that makes them look red, blue, green, or any other color. For example, the green in leaves comes from a pigment called *chlorophyll*, and the color of your eyes comes from special pigments. Even crayons and paint have pigments that give them their bright colors!

Filiation - how a thing is related to another from which it is derived or descended in some respect

Homo erectus - They were some of the first humans to stand up and walk on two legs all the time.

Homo sapiens - (wise human) is the scientific name for modern humans.

Homo sapiens sapiens - (*very wise human*) is a name used for *modern* humans

Parietal - denotes the wall of a body cavity or hollow structure.

Paleolithic - relating to the early phase of the Stone Age (lasted about 2.5 million years).

Stillbayen - The **Stillbay (Stillbayen) culture** was a Middle Stone Age tool-making tradition that existed around **75,000 to 100,000 years ago** in Africa, mainly in what is now South Africa. It is known for its advanced **stone tools**, especially finely made, leaf-shaped spear points. These tools suggest that early humans during this time had sophisticated skills in shaping stones for hunting and other uses.

Stillbay is also important because it provides early evidence that humans were **thinking in complex ways**, possibly even using symbols and art. Some archaeological sites from this period show signs of **early engraving and the use of ochre**, which may have been used for decoration or rituals.

Antiquity - the ancient past.

Archeology. (*archaeological*) is the study of human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artifacts and other physical remains.

Swaziland - The new name for Swaziland is **Eswatini**. In 2018, King Mswati III changed the country's name to **the Kingdom of Eswatini** to reflect its Swazi heritage and move away from its colonial past.

Dogmaticism is when someone strongly believes in certain ideas or rules and refuses to consider other opinions or possibilities. It's like sticking to your beliefs no matter what, even if new information or different views come up. People with dogmatic views can be very sure they're right and might not be open to changing their minds.

Stratigraphical method - a way of studying layers of rock (called *strata*) to learn about the Earth's history.

A priori is a Latin term that means "**before experience**". It refers to knowledge or ideas that you can understand or figure out without needing to experience them first. For example, if you know that all bachelors are unmarried men, you don't need to meet every bachelor to know this —it's something you can know just by thinking about the definitions of the words. It's like using logic or reasoning to figure something out without needing direct evidence.

The **Wurm Glaciation** refers to the **last major ice age** in Europe, which occurred during the **Pleistocene Epoch**, about **115,000 to 11,700 years ago**. It was the final phase of the most recent ice age, when large ice sheets covered much of northern Europe, including parts of Britain, Germany, and France. During this time, temperatures were much colder than today, and glaciers moved across the land, shaping the landscape.

Lithical Industry - The term **lithical** refers to **stone** or **rock**, often used in the context of **lithic technology** or **lithic tools**, which are tools made from stone. In archaeology, when we talk about **lithic industries**, we mean the stone tool-making cultures and techniques used by early humans and ancient societies.

Aurignacian industry - The **Aurignacian industry** refers to a specific set of **stone tools** and **cultural practices** associated with **early modern humans** (*Homo sapiens*) during the **Upper Paleolithic period**, roughly between **40,000 and 28,000 years ago**. This cultural phase is named after the site of **Aurignac** in southern France, where the tools and artifacts were first discovered. The Aurignacian people were some of the first humans to create **sophisticated tools**, like blades, scrapers, and **bone and ivory tools**. They also began to make **art**, such as **cave paintings** and **sculptures**. The tools were often made from flint, and there's evidence that they used **animal bones** and **antlers** to craft more specialized items. This period marks a significant step in human cultural development, as it shows signs of creativity, advanced technology, and symbolic thinking.

Lower Perigordian - The **Perigordian** refers to a cultural phase during the **Upper Paleolithic** (around 40,000 to 28,000 years ago) named after the **Périgord** region in southwestern France, where many archaeological sites were discovered. It is associated with **early modern humans** (*Homo sapiens*) and is characterized by the use of **stone tools**, including finely crafted **blades**, **scrapers**, and **burins** (sharp tools used for engraving or carving).

The Perigordian culture also includes evidence of **advanced hunting techniques**, **art**, and the use of **bone** and **ivory** for tools and ornaments. Like the Aurignacian culture, the Perigordian

marks an important period in human prehistory, showing the development of more refined tool-making skills and the beginnings of symbolic behavior, such as creating personal ornaments and art.

Mousterian period - The **Mousterian period** refers to a cultural phase that occurred during the **Middle Paleolithic**, roughly between **300,000 and 30,000 years ago**. It is most closely associated with **Neanderthals**, although early modern humans (*Homo sapiens*) also used Mousterian tools in some areas.

The Mousterian is known for its distinctive **stone tools**, which were mainly made using the **Levallois technique**, a method of preparing a stone core to produce flakes of a specific shape and size. These tools include **scrapers**, **points**, **blades**, and **knives**, and were used for tasks like hunting, butchering animals, and processing plants.

The Mousterian period also shows evidence of **social organization**, with some sites indicating that Neanderthals might have used tools to craft **clothing** and **shelters**. While their art and symbolic behaviors were not as advanced as those of early modern humans, the Mousterian represents an important stage in human development, with Neanderthals showing increasing sophistication in tool use and survival strategies.

Morphology is the study of the **structure and form** of things. In biology, it refers to the shape, size, and structure of **organisms** and their parts. For example, when studying a plant, morphology would focus on the shape of its leaves, flowers, and roots. In humans or animals, it might look at features like limbs, skulls, or teeth.

In a broader sense, morphology can also be used in **linguistics** to study the structure of words, such as how prefixes, roots, and suffixes are combined to form different meanings.

Dolichocephalic (*dollar-coss-sa-falick*) - having a relatively long skull.

Brachycephalic (*brack-e-sa-falick*) - having a relatively broad, short skull

Mesocephalic - having a head of medium proportions, not markedly brachycephalic or dolichocephalic.

Mesolithic Age - relating to the middle part of the Stone Age.

The **Basques** are an indigenous ethnic group that primarily lives in the region known as **the Basque Country**, which spans parts of northern Spain and southwestern France. They have a unique language called **Basque** (or **Euskara**), which is one of the oldest languages in Europe and is not related to any other known language family.

The **Alpine race** is a historical term once used in physical anthropology to describe a particular group of people in Europe who were believed to share certain physical traits. This term

was part of a broader classification system for human populations based on skull shape, body type, and other characteristics.

People of the **Alpine race** were typically thought to have:

- **Medium to short height**
- **A round or broad face**
- A relatively **wide nose** and **heavyset build**
- **Fair skin** (though sometimes more olive-toned)

These characteristics were believed to be common among populations from the **Alps** region, which spans parts of France, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy. However, it's important to note that these classifications, like many others from the same era, are now considered outdated