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Ways of the World: A Brief Global History

First Edition

CHAPTER 1

First Peoples: Populating the Planet
To 10,000 B.C.E.

Comparison:

- a. typically have less leisure time than members of agricultural or industrial societies.
- b. have been referred to as “the original affluent society” not because they had so much but because they wanted or needed so little.
- c. typically have longer life spans than members of agricultural or industrial societies.
- d. do not intentionally or unintentionally alter their environments.

Members of gatherer-hunter societies

Comparison:

- a. It was the period when mankind settled all regions of the earth except Australia and the Americas.
- b. It was a period when mankind adapted to live in every environmental niche from the frigid arctic, to rainforests, to mountains, to deserts.
- c. It was a period of slow technological development.
- d. It encompassed well over 90 percent of the time that human beings have inhabited the earth.

Which of the following is NOT a true statement concerning the Paleolithic period?

The Way We Were

B) For 95 percent of human history, the means of life was gathering and hunting.

1. Food collection, not food production
2. Has been labeled “Paleolithic” (old stone age) era

The Way We Were

- C. It's wrong to ignore the first 200,000 years of human experience.
 - 1. Archaeology reveals a great deal about these peoples
 - 2. They settled the planet
 - 3. They created the earliest human societies
 - 4. They were the first to reflect on issues of life and death

Out of Africa to the Ends of the Earth: First Migrations

Homo sapiens emerged in eastern and southern Africa 250,000 years ago.



Spot Map 1-1
Maps of the World, First Edition
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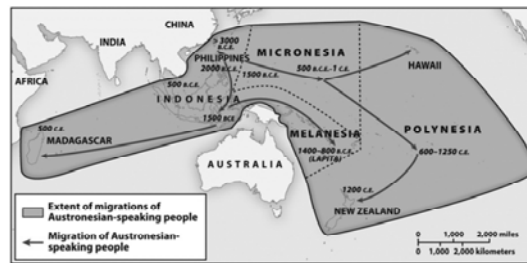
Out of Africa to the Ends of the Earth: First Migrations

1. Stayed there exclusively for about 150,000 years
2. Africa was home to the “human revolution,” in which culture became more important than biology in shaping human behavior
3. Humans began to inhabit environments not touched by earlier hominids
4. Technological innovation: use of stone and bone tools

**Out of Africa to the Ends of the Earth:
First Migrations**

5. Hunting and fishing, not just scavenging
6. Patterns of exchange
7. Use of ornaments, perhaps planned burials
8. Between 100,000–60,000 years ago: beginning of migrations out of Africa
 - a. Adapted to nearly every environment on earth
 - b. Much took place in the difficulties of the last Ice Age

Into Eurasia



Map 1-2
Ways of the World, First Edition
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1. Humans started migrating into the Middle East around 51,000 years ago

Into Eurasia

2. The best evidence of early European settlement comes from southern France and northern Spain
 - a. settlers in northern Europe were pushed southward into warmer areas around 20,000 years ago
 - b. developed new hunting habits, new hunting technologies years ago
3. Earliest Europeans left hundreds of cave paintings: depictions of animals and humans and abstract designs (maybe early form of writing)

Into Eurasia

4. Development of new technologies in Ukraine and Russia
 - a. Needles, multilayered clothing, weaving, nets, baskets, pottery, etc.
 - b. Partially underground dwellings made from mammoth remains
 - c. Suggests semi permanent settlement
 - d. Creation of female figurines (“Venus figurines”); earliest dated at least 35,000 years ago

Into Australia



National Geographic
Atlas of the World, First Edition
Bill Buchanan/Science

1. Humans reached Australia about 60,000 years ago from Indonesia

Into Australia

2. Very sparse settlement; estimated 300,000 people in 1788
3. Development of some 250 languages
4. Still completely a gathering and hunting economy when Europeans arrived in 1788

Into Australia

5. Complex worldview: the Dreamtime

- a. Stories, ceremonies, and art tell of ancestral beings
- b. Everything in the natural order is an echo of ancient happenings
- c. Current people are intimately related to places and events in past

6. Major communication and exchange networks

- a. Included stones, pigments, wood,
pituri (psychoactive drug)
- b. Also included songs, dances, stories, and rituals

Into the Americas

1. when settlement of the Americas began is still argued over (somewhere between 30,000 and 15,000 years ago)
 - a. Mode of migration (Bering Strait or by sea down west coast of North America) also still argued about
 - b. How many migrations and how long they took also argued over
 - c. Evidence of humans in southern Chile by 12,500 years ago

Into the Americas

2. Clovis: the first clearly defined and widespread culture of the Americas
 - a. Name comes from the Clovis point, a kind of projectile point
 - b. Flourished 12,000–11,000 years ago
 - c. Hunted large mammals (mammoth, bison)
 - d. Disappeared about 10,900 years ago, at the same time as the extinction of a number of large mammals
3. Next stage: much greater cultural diversity, as people adapted to the end of the Ice Age in different ways

Into the Pacific

1. The last phase of the great human migration, started ca. 3,500 years ago
2. Migration by water from the Bismarck and Solomon islands and the Philippines
3. Very quick migration over very long distances
4. Migrants spoke Austronesian languages (can be traced to southern China)

Into the Pacific

5. Settled every habitable area of the Pacific basin within 2,500 years
 - a. Also settled the island of Madagascar
 - b. Made Austronesian the most widespread language family
 - c. Completed initial human settlement of the world ca. 900c.e. with occupation of Aotearoa (New Zealand)

Into the Pacific

6. Pacific settlers

- a. Took agriculture with them, unlike other migrations
- b. Apparently followed a deliberate colonization plan
- c. Created highly stratified societies or chiefdoms
(e.g., Hawaii)
- d. Massive environmental impact on previous uninhabited lands

OP...Which of the following do you find the most attractive feature of Paleolithic society?

- a. Egalitarian social structure
- b. Relations between genders
- c. Gathering and hunting lifestyle
- d. Variety of lifestyles that one could partake in