

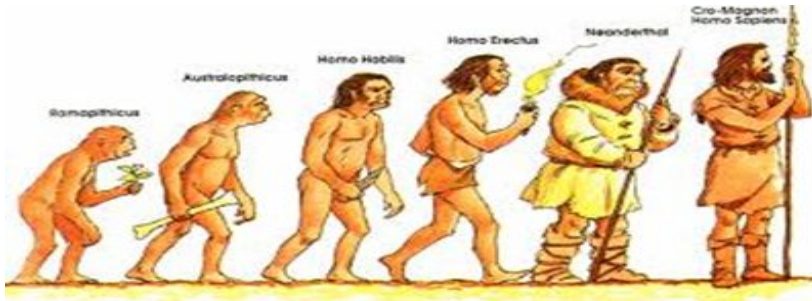
Name _____

Date _____

Prehistory Essay What makes us human?

Science tells us that people evolved from apes. This was a slow process that happened over millions of years and resulted in the first creatures who look like us hundreds of thousands of years ago. Now that you've learned about these early humans, think about how you might answer this question:

What makes us human?



Prepare persuasive essay that is at least three paragraphs long, making an argument for what you think is the strongest feature(s) that “makes us human.” Use the Rough Draft Organizer to plan your essay. Then, type a final to submit for a grade. Be sure to use the rubric as a guide and then staple the rubric to the BACK of your essay.

This assignment is due on _____ Work time in class will be on _____

Prehistory Essay What makes us human?

Criteria	NOVICE	APPRENTICE	PRACTITIONER	EXPERT
Focus: THESIS STATEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lacks focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus may be unclear. ● Too many viewpoints may be included and not supported. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clearly focused on one answer to the assigned prompt 	<p>Clearly focused on a complex answer to the assigned prompt</p>
Demonstrating knowledge of topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does not reference a development of Prehistoric people presented in class ● Supporting details are not relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Description of a development of Prehistoric people is incomplete or unclear. ● Little reference is made to information presented in class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Includes an overview of evolution, mentioning at least 2 species and describes one feature of each ● Includes a description of at least two developments of prehistoric people that were presented in class ● Supported by accurate information about Prehistory presented in class ● Shows how animal behavior is different from human behavior 	<p>Practitioner plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mentions at least 3 species and the features of each ● A clear and logical connection is made between Prehistoric and related modern human behavior.
Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contains many 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates a need for proofreading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates correct use of spelling, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mechanical errors

	mechanical errors		capitalization and punctuation	
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One or more organizational aspect may be missing or undeveloped: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Intro ○ Body ○ Conclusion ● Transitional phrases are missing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One organizational aspect of essay may be undeveloped: intro; body; or conclusion. ● Transitional phrases are repetitive 	<p>Three paragraph essay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intro: explains evolution and gives a thesis statement. ● Body: supports thesis with clear reasoning and examples from Prehistoric life. ● Conclusion: restates thesis and makes connection to modern human life +behavior ● Transitional phrases are used connecting paragraphs and connecting ideas. 	<p>Practitioner plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complex thesis or supporting details divided into two body paragraphs ● Uses a variety of transitional phrases seamlessly
Clarity of writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Text is difficult to follow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Some sentences may be incomplete or unclear. ● 1st or 2nd person pronouns may be used; missing antecedent. ● Errors in tense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All sentences are written completely and clearly. ● Writing is formal without use of 1st or 2nd person; 3rd person pronouns are defined. ● Past tense is used when referencing Prehistory; present tense is used when referencing modern times. 	<p>Practitioner plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Language is sophisticated and contains elements of voice.

Grade _____

Comments: