

REVIEW OF HOMINIDS

(NOTE: This list includes only the species you'll need to know for the exam)

Genus & species	Approximate dates	Locations Found	Notes
<i>Sahelanthropus tchadensis</i>	7-6 mya	Central Africa	Oldest (possible) hominid ever; very small brain, small canines & flat face
<i>Ardipithecus ramidus</i>	5.8 – 4.4 mya	East Africa	Fully bipedal; grasping, opposable big toe; evidence for bipedalism in arboreal context; omnivorous
<i>Australopithecus afarensis</i>	3.9 – 2.9 mya	East Africa	aka “Lucy”; Fully bipedal; some time in trees; omnivorous; very ape-like appearance; Don Johanson discovered (along w/”First Family”); Footprints from Laetoli (found by Mary Leakey) show human like pattern 3.7 mya
<i>Australopithecus africanus</i>	3.5 – 2.3 mya	South Africa	1 st australopithecine found (1924) by Raymond Dart -“Taung Child” ; foraging omnivore; ancestral to Homo?
<i>Paranthropus robustus</i>	2.0 – 1.0 mya	South Africa	1 st <i>robust</i> australopithecine found; believed to be evolutionary dead-end; found by Robert Broom
<i>Paranthropus boisei</i>	2.3 – 1.2 mya	East Africa	aka “Nutcracker Man”; became extinct; dietary specialist; massive jaws, teeth; crest; found by Mary Leakey
<i>Homo habilis</i>	2.4 – 1.5 mya	East Africa	aka “Handy Man”; found by Louis Leakey; 1 st stone tool maker; used Oldowan style tools; scavenged meat & cracked bones to get marrow
<i>Homo erectus</i>	1.8–0.3 mya	E./N./S. Africa, Europe, Asia	Used Acheulian style hand axe tools; 1 st to use fire, cook food; hunt big animals; big brained, close to modern tooth form; 1 st to leave African continent; hand axe is signature tool
<i>Neanderthals</i>	200,000- 35,000	ONLY Europe & Middle East	Cold adapted, cave dwellers; used Mousterian type tools deliberate burials; close range hunting of large animals; some open air shelters, exploited marine food resources
Anatomically modern <i>Homo sapiens</i>	120,000	Oldest in Africa, Europe, Asia, & Australia	Large shelters, open camps, caves, regular hunting, sewn clothing, very sophisticated & varied tools(burins,spear throwers, blade tools); cave paintings, carvings/sculptures in bone, wood, ivory, stone, jewelry