

THEME 1

EVOLUTION OF MANKIND

A. Go through the following points before you read the chapter

1. Human evolution is about the origin of human beings. All humans belong to the same species, which has spread from its birthplace.
2. The term 'human' in this context means the genusHomo.
3. It was known for centuries that man and the apes were related.
4. The great apes live in tropical rainforests. It is thought that human evolution started when a group of apes (now called the australopithecines) began to live more in the savannah. A savannah is more open, with trees, shrubs and grass. This group started walking on two legs. They began to use their hands to carry things. Life in the open was different, and there was a big advantage in having better brains. Their brains grew larger, and they began to make simple tools. This process began at least 5.6 million years ago. We have fossils of two or three different groups of walking apes, and one was the ancestor of humans.
5. Evolution involves the gradual changes from simple to more complex forms. Humans are believed to have developed from simpler forms.

B. Read the chapter

C. Must Read to Comprehend the Chapter Better:

- a. _Evolution of Mankind at a glance (pg no.10)_
- b. _Quickies, Let us Revise(pg.no.11)

D. Read the questions from exercise and then check the answers provided

• Exercises

(Solution of Questions from A - E)

A.MCQs

- 1.a
- 2.c
- 3.c

4.c

5.c

B.

1.The long process of change from ape like ancestors to modern human beings is called the evolution of Mankind.It took over a period of approximately six million years.

2.The modern humans originated nearly 160,000 years ago.

3.Fossils are the remains or impressions of a prehistoric plant, animal or human which have changed into stone.Generally,these fossils are embedded in rock and remain preserved for millions of years.

4.On the basis of fossils Mankind can be classified as-

I.Homo habilis

II.Homo erectus

III.Homo sapiens

B5.There are various sources and evidences of evolution of Mankind such as-

I.Variou tools (such as stone tools) that primitive people used

II.Findings of archaeologists, such as cave paintings ,evidences of hearths and different food sources

III.Findings of several changes occurred due to farming and pastoralism.

C.

1.False

2.True

3.False

4.False

5.False

D.

1.human fossils

2.Fossils

3.complicated

4.palaeolithic

5.caves

E.Match

1.b

2.a

3.e

4.c

5.d

• *Home Task*

Answer the following questions:

- a. Who are Archaeologist?
- b. What do you mean by Prehistoric period?
- c. Who are Homo sapiens?
- d. Prepare a timeline of human evolution?