

What was life like during the Paleolithic Era?

Objective:

- Describe what life was like for humans living during the Paleolithic Era.

Introduction: Vocabulary Review

→ Directions: Match each of the words on the left with the correct definition on the right.

Letter	Vocabulary Word	Definition
_____	hunting and gathering (v.)	A. having to do with the Old Stone Age, the time period from 2 million B.C.E. to about 10,000 B.C.E., characterized by the use of stone tools
_____	nomad (n.)	B. one who gets their food by killing wild animals and collecting wild fruit, vegetables and nuts
_____	nomadic (adj.)	C. a person who moves from one place to another following food sources
_____	paleolithic (adj.)	D. the act of getting one's food by killing wild animals and collecting wild fruit, vegetables, and nuts
_____	hunter-gatherer (n.)	E. the characteristic of moving from place to place staying in one place temporarily



Predict

Based on the vocabulary words above, answer the following question in the space below.

What do you think life was like during the Paleolithic Era?

Video: The Paleolithic Era



→ Directions: Watch excerpts of the videos "[Stories from the Stone Age \(1 of 15\)](#)" (1:00-5:30) and "[Stories from the Stone Age \(2 of 15\)](#)" (start-3:28, 8:15-8:42), then respond to the prompts below.

<p>1. What food did people eat in the Paleolithic Era?</p> <p>Wheat, barley, berries, animals</p>	<p>2. How did people get food in the Paleolithic Era?</p> <p>hunted, gathered, fished.</p>	<p>3. Approximately how many people lived together in Paleolithic communities?</p> <p>Small groups 20-30</p>
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<p>4. What effects did the hunter-gatherers in the videos have on their environment?</p> <p>By dropping seeds of berries and plants, they changed what plants would grow.</p>	<p>5. What effects did their environment have on them?</p> <p>- Provided food. - used nature for shelter - used wood + rocks for fire.</p>
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6. In the chart below, identify two advantages (+) and two disadvantages (-) of being a nomad and hunting and gathering for one's food.

+	-

Document Investigation



Close Read



Annotate

→ Directions:

- Annotate the documents below using the key provided.
- Respond to the prompts that follow each document.
- Fill out the [graphic organizer entitled "Paleolithic vs. Neolithic Life,"](#) with information that will help you answer the question:
What was life like during the Paleolithic Era?

Annotation Key

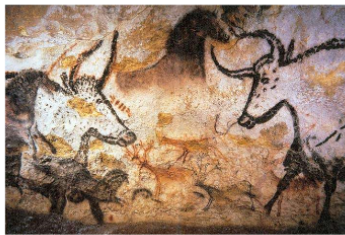
gold and silver in its treasury.
 where a gov't keeps its
 money

Circle words that are unclear and identify possible meanings.

why did Peter the great want to
 westernize his country
 Peter th
 were ex
 an econ
 mercan
 increas

Write questions in the margins to clarify misunderstandings.

Document 1



A Paleolithic cave painting in the Lascaux Cave in France depicting a bull and horses, animals that were important to the nomadic hunters that created the images.

[Lascaux paintings.jpg](#) by Prof saix is published under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](#) license

3 Based on the cave painting above, identify one characteristic of Paleolithic life. [1]

Document 2

used to make fire

- flint blades
- N. Africa

5,000 - 4,500 BCE

Tools from Hunter-Gatherer Societies



scraper
 - green jasper
 - South Central Sahara Desert
 5,200 BCE
 - 2,500 BCE

Hunter-gathering societies have used various types of stones, as well as bone and antler, to make a variety of tools such as scrapers, blades, arrows, spearheads, needles, awls, fishhooks, and harpoons. The 6.5- to 6.7-cm (2.5- to 2.6-inch) flint blades on the left are from North Africa, dating from 5000–4500 BCE. The 5.7- x 4.6-cm (2.2- x 1.8-inch) scraper on the right is made of green jasper, dates from 5200 to 2500 BCE, and was found in the south-central Sahara Desert.

Image is courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain.

4 Based on the images and description above, describe the technology used during the Paleolithic Era. [1]

Document 3

A modern day artist created these images to show the paleolithic lifestyle.



Image modified by New Visions (CC BY-SA NC). Original image is from Wikimedia and is in the public domain

Somewhat
reliable

5 Based on this image, identify **two** characteristics of life the Paleolithic Era. [2]

wore fur
from animals
killed animals
for food.

FA

SQ 9: What evidence do we have about life during the Paleolithic Era?

→ Directions: Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



Construct Arguments



Contextualize



Corroborate

Part I

Describe what life was like for humans living during the Paleolithic Era.

During the Paleolithic Era, the people were nomadic hunters and gatherers and life was tough.

