

Chapter 1: What is Biological Anthropology?

In this revision of the testbank, all of the questions have been updated to reflect changes in *Exploring Biological Anthropology, 3e*. There is also a new system for identifying the difficulty of the questions. In this revision, the questions are now tagged according to the four levels of learning that help organize the text. Think of these four levels as moving from lower-level to higher-level cognitive reasoning. The four levels are:

REMEMBER: a question involving recall of key terms or factual material

UNDERSTAND: a question testing comprehension of more complex ideas

APPLY: a question applying anthropological knowledge to some new situation

ANALYZE: a question requiring identifying elements of an argument and their interrelationship

Types of Questions

Easy to Difficult Level of Difficulty

	Multiple Choice	Essay	Total Questions
Remember	27	0	27
Understand	28	0	28
Apply	5	3	8
Analyze	0	3	3
	60	6	66

1. Biological anthropologists employ a unifying set of biological principles to discuss how our species came to be the way it is today. This set of principles is known as _____.

- a. biological anthropology
- b. forensics
- c. ethnography
- d. evolution

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 4)

2. According to biological anthropology, humans are primates and are the products of millions of years of evolution by natural selection.

- a. True
- b. False

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 4)

3. From the perspective of biological theory, humans are _____.

- a. not like all other biological species
- b. unrelated to primates
- c. the product of the same long process of adaptation as all other biological species
- d. much like all other biological species, but did not result from evolutionary processes

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 4)

4. A hominin is _____.

- a. an ape-like primate that walks on two legs
- b. a non-human animal
- c. an example of a “paradigm”
- d. none of these

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 4)

5. The pace of discovery of new fossil hominins has accelerated. The text states that this may be attributed to _____.

- a. regional political changes
- b. the better training excavators are receiving
- c. better pay for paleoanthropologists
- d. all of these

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 6)

6. Regional political changes and an increased number of researchers are the main reasons for the recent increase in paleoanthropological discoveries.

- a. True
- b. False

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 6)

7. The study of the skeleton is known as _____.

- a. Forensic anthropology
- b. Biocultural anthropology
- c. Molecular anthropology
- d. Osteology

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 6)

8. Which of the following typifies the work of an osteologist?

- a. a scientist who studies the relationship of culture, medicine, and evolution
- b. a researcher living amongst Lowland Gorillas
- c. a scientist piecing together tiny fragments of a skeleton
- d. a scientist researching the cultures of living peoples

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 7)

9. _____ may use their expertise in human variation in body form to help ascertain the ethnic affinities of skeletons.

- a. Osteologists
- b. Nutritional anthropologists
- c. Molecular anthropologists
- d. Archaeologists

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 7)

10. Skeletal biology is the study the human skeleton in relation to _____.

- a. diet
- b. other tissues such as muscles and tendons
- c. cultural practices such as medicine
- d. pathology

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 7)

11. Because the bones of the body develop along with other tissues such as muscles and tendons, it is necessary to study the interrelationship of the skeleton and its surrounding tissue. This study is known as _____.

- a. paleopathology
- b. forensic anthropology
- c. human biology
- d. skeletal biology

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 7)

12. A paleoanthropologist is likely to study _____.
- a. detailed measurements of the human body in all its forms
 - b. disease in ancient human populations
 - c. the interrelationship of diet, culture, and evolution
 - d. the fossil remains of humankind and its ancestors

(UNDERSTAND; Answer d; page 7)

13. A scientist is carefully excavating a fossil hominin. She is participating in which discipline?
- a. osteology
 - b. paleoanthropology
 - c. paleopathology
 - d. ethnography

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 7)

14. A paleopathologist studies ancient skeletons for signs of _____.
- a. trauma
 - b. nutritional deficiencies
 - c. epidemics
 - d. all of these

(UNDERSTAND; Answer d; page 8)

15. A scientist is examining an ancient skeleton for signs of vitamin deficiency. The scientist is engaging in
- a. paleopathology
 - b. cultural resource management
 - c. ethnology
 - d. none of these

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 8)

16. You would contact a paleopathologist if the skeleton you just found _____.
- a. seemed to have recently suffered from a blow to the head
 - b. may have signs of infectious disease
 - c. may be that of an extinct hominin
 - d. may be that of a non-human primate

(REMEMBER; Answer b; page 8)

17. The biological anthropologist most likely to be investigating at a crime scene is a(n) _____.
- a. human biologist
 - b. molecular anthropologist
 - c. forensic anthropologist
 - d. osteologist

(REMEMBER; Answer c; page 8)

18. Forensic anthropologists study _____.
- a. the bones of ancient primates
 - b. ancient hominins
 - c. the identification of skeletal remains and the means by which individuals have died
 - d. how cultural practices influence the spread of infectious diseases

(REMEMBER; Answer c; page 8)

19. A _____ is most likely to participate in a police investigation.
- a. primatologist
 - b. osteologist
 - c. paleoanthropologist
 - d. forensic anthropologist

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 8)

20. Jane Goodall's field study of chimpanzees is a prime example of _____.
- a. osteology
 - b. ethnography
 - c. primatology
 - d. none of these

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 8)

21. Which of the following is a reason primatologists study non-human primates?
- a. to learn about human evolution
 - b. to learn about their patterns of behavior
 - c. to learn about the anatomy and physiology of extinct primates
 - d. all of these

(APPLY; Answer d; page 8)

22. One place primatologists often find jobs are at conservation agencies.
- a. True
 - b. False

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 8)

23. Which of the following does NOT fall under the discipline of human biology?
- a. nutritional anthropology
 - b. the study of human variation
 - c. forensic anthropology
 - d. biocultural anthropology

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 9)

24. The study of human adaptation focuses on _____.
- a. the interrelationship of culture, nutrition, and illness
 - b. physiological adjustments to the Earth's physical environments
 - c. the variations between primates
 - d. the many ways human populations culturally adapt to the environment

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 9)

25. Nutritional anthropologists study the interrelationship of _____.
- a. disease, evolution, and culture
 - b. diet, culture, and evolution
 - c. environment, genetics, and adaptation
 - d. culture, evolution, and non-human primate eating habits

(REMEMBER; Answer b; page 9)

26. Today, anthropologists study human anatomic and genetic variation _____.

- a. to learn about ancient human migrations and the peopling of the world
- b. because it teaches us about the supremacy of certain human races
- c. because traits such as skin color and skull shape offer clues about intelligence and potential for achievement
- d. all of these

(APPLY; Answer a; page 9)

27. Biomedical anthropologists study the influence of _____ on the spread of infectious disease.

- a. primate anatomy
- b. extreme environmental conditions
- c. cultural practices
- d. the skeleton

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 9)

28. Which of the following is most likely to study the effects of urbanization, pollution, and health?

- a. osteologists
- b. molecular anthropologists
- c. biomedical anthropologists
- d. paleoanthropologists

(REMEMBER; Answer c; page 9)

29. Biocultural anthropologists study _____.

- a. hominin evolution
- b. the relationship of the skeleton with its surrounding tissue
- c. human variation
- d. the interplay of biological and cultural factors

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 4)

30. Which of the following may NOT be labeled a type of human biology?

- a. nutritional anthropology
- b. biomedical anthropology
- c. molecular anthropology
- d. forensic anthropology

(UNDERSTAND; Answer d; page 8)

31. _____ seek(s) to understand the genetic differences and similarities between humans and non-human primates.

- a. Molecular anthropology
- b. Primatology
- c. Anthropometry
- d. None of these

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 9)

32. When was physical anthropology established as an academic discipline?

- a. the second half of the nineteenth century
- b. the mid twentieth century
- c. the first half of the eighteenth century
- d. the late twentieth century

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 10)

33. The earliest physical anthropologists focused mostly on _____.

- a. primate evolution
- b. anthropometry and craniometry
- c. the behavioral studies of non-human primates
- d. ecology and genetics

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 10)

34. Which of the following is NOT an element of the neo-Darwinian synthesis?

- a. the use of newly introduced dating techniques
- b. a new focus on primate behavior and ecology
- c. a new focus on human races as pigeonholed categories
- d. the use of molecular genetics to reconstruct biological histories

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; pages 10)

35. The main architect of the “new physical anthropology” was _____.
- a. Sherwood Washburn
 - b. Charles Darwin
 - c. Galen
 - d. none of these

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 10)

36. The neo-Darwinian synthesis emerged by the _____.
- a. second half of the nineteenth century
 - b. mid twentieth century
 - c. first half of the eighteenth century
 - d. late seventeenth century

(REMEMBER; Answer b; page 10)

37. Which of the following best defines *anthropology*?
- a. the study of non-human primates, their anatomy, and their evolution.
 - b. the study of ancient humans
 - c. a study of humanity focusing on its biological and genetic aspects
 - d. the study of humankind in all its forms

(UNDERSTAND; Answer d; page 4)

38. Anthropology is unique in its _____.
- a. focus on biology
 - b. focus on race and disease
 - c. cultural and biological perspective
 - d. social focus

(REMEMBER; Answer c; page 4)

39. Culture can be defined as the sum total of _____ of a group of people.
- a. learned traditions
 - b. genetically inherited behaviors
 - c. universal taboos
 - d. biological traits

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 4)

40. Culture is learned.

- a. True
- b. False

(REMEMEBER; Answer a; page 4)

41. Biocultural anthropology recognizes that _____.

- a. culture has no influence on biology
- b. biology cannot influence culture
- c. culture is purely biological
- d. culture can influence biology

(UNDERSTAND; Answer d; page 4)

42. Biology produced culture, but culture does not influence biology.

- a. True
- b. False

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 4)

43. Which of the following is NOT a subfield of anthropology?

- a. biological anthropology
- b. linguistic anthropology
- c. biocultural anthropology
- d. archaeology

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 4)

44. Which of the following is a subfield of anthropology?

- a. forensic anthropology
- b. molecular anthropology
- c. linguistic anthropology
- d. ethnology

(REMEMBER; Answer c; page 4)

45. _____ is sometimes considered a fifth anthropological subfield.

- a. Archaeology
- b. Molecular biochemistry
- c. Economic anthropology
- d. Applied anthropology

(APPLY; Answer d; page 4)

46. The majority of anthropologists in the United States are _____.

- a. cultural anthropologists
- b. biological anthropologists
- c. applied anthropologists
- d. none of these

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 4)

47. Cultural anthropology is the study of _____.

- a. human societies in a cross-cultural perspective
- b. the form and function of language
- c. cultures that did not leave any recorded written history
- d. how people used to live

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 5)

48. Which of the following is most likely to be conducted by a cultural anthropologist?

- a. a study of gorilla behavior
- b. a comparison of wedding rituals
- c. a study of ancient artifacts
- d. an analysis of hominin fossils

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 5)

49. Some forms of cultural anthropology overlap with the humanities more so than the social sciences.

- a. True
- b. False

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 5)

50. Which of the following could be defined as an effort to understand the workings of another culture by comparing it to the culture of the investigator?

- a. cultural resource preservation
- b. ethnography
- c. sociology
- d. linguistic anthropology

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 5)

51. Ethnology is considered a subfield of _____.

- a. anthropology
- b. linguistic anthropology
- c. archaeology
- d. cultural anthropology

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 5)

52. Ethnologists differ from sociologists in the extent to which they immerse themselves in the human lives they are studying.

- a. True
- b. False

(UNDERSTAND; Answer a; page 5)

53. _____ anthropology is the study of humans as biological organisms, considered in an evolutionary framework.

- a. Physical
- b. Biological
- c. Molecular
- d. Osteological

(REMEMBER; Answer a; page 10)

54. Today, biological anthropologists tend to focus their work in remote regions of the globe.

- a. True
- b. False

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 10)

55. An anthropologist studying past cultures through the investigation of artifacts is belongs to which subfield?

- a. applied anthropology
- b. descriptive linguistics
- c. biocultural anthropology
- d. archaeology

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 5)

56. The artifacts and implements of our daily lives are collectively referred to as _____.

- a. ethnological culture
- b. material culture
- c. cultural resource preservation
- d. culture

(REMEMBER; Answer b; page 5)

57. Which of the following archaeologist is most likely to be at the excavation of a two million year old site?

- a. salvage archaeologist
- b. prehistoric archaeologist
- c. historical archaeologist
- d. text-aided archaeologist

(UNDERSTAND; Answer b; page 5)

58. Which of the following is NOT likely to be studied by an archaeologist?

- a. ancient tools
- b. the buildings left behind by an ancient civilization
- c. the languages of the past
- d. past climatic conditions

(UNDERSTAND; Answer c; page 5)

59. Linguistic anthropologists study _____.

- a. language use
- b. the role that language plays in shaping culture
- c. the roots of human language
- d. all of these

(REMEMBER; Answer d; page 5)

60. _____ is perhaps the major human endeavor.

- a. Language
- b. Communication
- c. Culture
- d. Reproduction.

(APPLY; Answer c; page 4)

Short Essays

61. Discuss the scope of biological anthropology using three related disciplines as examples. What do these related disciplines have in common? How do they differ?

(APPLY)

62. Provide a brief discussion of the roots of modern biological anthropology. Explain the specific contribution of Sherwood Washburn. (ANALYZE)

63. Define anthropology. Describe the various subfields of anthropology. Using examples from each, explain what they all have in common. (ANALYZE)

64. What is cultural anthropology? Citing at least three cultural anthropology subfields, explain the sorts of things cultural anthropologists study. (APPLY)

65. What is archaeology? Citing examples from least three types of archaeology, explain the sorts of things archaeologists study. (APPLY)

66. Why is language so important to anthropologists? Describe the various research areas for linguistic anthropologists. (ANALYZE)