

Name: _____

Self-study Problems #8: Oldowan toolmakers and early *Homo*

1. Describe an Oldowan tool.
2. What is a core tool?
3. Discuss the question of which hominin made the Oldowan tools of about 2.5 mya.
4. How does the genus *Homo* differ in life history strategy from earlier hominins?
5. How might a shift towards complex foraging have led to basic characteristics of the genus *Homo*?
6. What evidence suggests that Plio-pleistocene tool-and-bone sites were *not* home bases?
7. What behaviors of chimps are similar to those proposed for the Oldowan toolmaking hominins?
8. Roughly when did the first stone tools appear, and roughly when did the first members of the genus *Homo* appear?

9. What do we call the first species in the genus *Homo*?
10. What is interesting about the geographic distribution of the first species of the genus *Homo*?
11. Describe some features of the earliest species of *Homo* that make it different from earlier hominins.
12. Name and describe the stone tools made by *Homo ergaster*.
13. What were Acheulean tools used for?
14. Did *Homo ergaster* control fire?
15. What was the first hominin to reach Asia, and what was it like?
16. What do the kinds of tools that *Homo ergaster* and *Homo erectus* made suggest about their cognitive abilities?

17. List two varieties of the genus *Homo* that probably were our ancestors, and two that probably were not.

18. What species or varieties of the genus *Homo* lived in Europe?

19. What are browridges, and what is thought to be their function?

20. What is a mode 3 tool?

21. Describe a few key characteristics of *Homo floresiensis*.