Year 13 Science: Trends in human cultural evolution

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try these without your notes first, then check the answer key.

Practice

1. Put these in order, oldest first: Mousterian, Oldowan, Upper Palaeolithic, Acheulean.

2. Which tool industry first shows a symmetrical shape planned before making?

3. The Acheulean began about 1.76 million years ago and the Mousterian about 250 000. About how long did the Acheulean last, in years?

4. Give the indirect evidence that clothing is at least 83 000 years old.

5. Name one biological change that cooking may have allowed.

Exam-style question: fire

Ash and burnt bone in Wonderwerk Cave suggest hominins were controlling fire by about 1 million years ago, and hearths are common at sites from about 400 000 years ago.

6. Describe two uses of fire other than cooking.

7. Explain how fire helped hominins move into colder environments.

8. Explain how cooking could have affected the biological evolution of hominins.

9. Discuss fire as an example of positive feedback between biological and cultural evolution, including one disadvantage of relying on it.

Fix the mistake

10. Correct this statement: "Cultural evolution is the same as biological evolution, just about tools."

11. Correct this statement: "Each tool industry was used only by one species."

12. Correct this statement: "Farming made people healthier straight away."

13. Correct this statement: "Fire was used to cook as soon as Homo habilis appeared."