



1974 Discovery That Changed Our Understanding of Human Origins

Description

Lucy was once the oldest known member of the human family. Fifty years after her discovery in Ethiopia, her remains still raise many questions.

In a simple room at the National Museum of Ethiopia, Lucy's bones, which are 3.18 million years old, are carefully taken out of storage and placed on a table.

Her remains include teeth, skull pieces, parts of her pelvis, and a femur. Lucy is a famous *Australopithecus afarensis*.

A team of scientists found Lucy on November 24, 1974, in the Afar region of Ethiopia. The lead scientists were Maurice Taieb, Yves Coppens, Donald Johanson, Jon Kalb, and Raymonde Bonnefille.

They discovered 52 bone fragments, which make up about 40 percent of her skeleton. This helped change our understanding of human ancestors.

Researchers originally called her A.L-288-1, but they later named her Lucy after a Beatles song.

Lucy walked on two legs and was about 1.10 meters tall. She likely died between the ages of 11 and 13.

Scientists continue to learn about her life. Many questions remain about how she lived.

The museum often gets requests for research, but Lucy's remains do not leave Ethiopia.

New technology helps scientists study her bones and learn even more.

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Vocabulary List:

1. **Remains** /rɪ'meɪnz/ (noun): The parts of a person or animal that are left after death.
2. **Skeleton** /'skel.ɪ.tən/ (noun): The framework of bones that supports the body of a person or animal.
3. **Understanding** /,ʌn.də'stænd.ɪŋ/ (noun): The knowledge or perception of a situation or fact.
4. **Researchers** /rɪ'sɜːr.tʃərz/ (noun): People who conduct systematic investigations to establish facts.
5. **Technology** /tɛk'nɒl.ə.dʒi/ (noun): The application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes.
6. **Discovered** /dɪs'kʌv.əd/ (verb): Found or identified something for the first time.



Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. When was Lucy discovered?

Option: November 24, 1974

Option: January 1, 1980

Option: May 15, 1965

Option: September 10, 1999

2. What is the age of Lucy's remains?

Option: 1 million years old

Option: 3.18 million years old

Option: 500,000 years old

Option: 10,000 years old

3. What was Lucy's species?

Option: Homo sapiens

Option: Australopithecus afarensis

Option: Neanderthal

Option: Cro-Magnon

4. How much of Lucy's skeleton was discovered?

Option: 20 percent

Option: 60 percent

Option: 40 percent

Option: 80 percent

5. What was the original designation of Lucy?

Option: A.L-288-1

Option: Jane Doe

Option: Lucinda

Option: A.F-1974

6. How tall was Lucy estimated to be?

Option: 0.80 meters



- Option: 1.50 meters
- Option: 1.10 meters
- Option: 2.00 meters

True-False

- 7. Lucy was discovered in the National Museum of Ethiopia.
- 8. Lucy likely died between the ages of 15 and 17.
- 9. New technology has not contributed to the study of Lucy's bones.
- 10. Only a few bone fragments of Lucy have been found.
- 11. Lucy was named after a Pink Floyd song.
- 12. Lucy belongs to the species Homo habilis.

Gap-Fill

- 13. Lucy is a famous _____.
- 14. Lucy walked on _____ legs.
- 15. Lucy's remains are _____ years old.
- 16. Lucy was discovered in the Afar region of _____.
- 17. Lucy likely died between the ages of _____ and 13.
- 18. Lucy was named after a _____ song.

Answer

- Multiple Choice:** 1. November 24, 1974 2. 3.18 million years old 3. Australopithecus afarensis 4. 40 percent
5. A.L-288-1 6. 1.10 meters
- True-False:** 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. False
- Gap-Fill:** 13. Australopithecus afarensis 14. two 15. 3.18 million 16. Ethiopia 17. 11 18. Beatles



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which type of white blood cells are responsible for fighting infections?
Option: Lymphocytes
Option: Neutrophils
Option: Monocytes
Option: Eosinophils
2. What is the application of medical care or therapy for a condition called?
Option: Prevention
Option: Diagnosis
Option: Treatment
Option: Recovery
3. What force keeps stars and planets in orbit around each other?
Option: Magnetism
Option: Friction
Option: Gravity
Option: Repulsion
4. Which eye condition is commonly referred to as nearsightedness?
Option: Hyperopia
Option: Myopia
Option: Astigmatism
Option: Presbyopia
5. What term is used to describe finding or learning about something for the first time?
Option: Research
Option: Discovery
Option: Knowledge
Option: Study
6. What refers to the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes especially in industry?
Option: Science
Option: Innovation
Option: Technology
Option: Research



Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

7. _____ are constantly working on new studies and experiments to advance scientific knowledge.
8. The _____ provides structural support and protection for the body.
9. A microscope is an essential _____ for studying microscopic organisms.
10. A _____ is an abnormal mass of tissue that may be benign or malignant.
11. The force of _____ pulls objects towards each other.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

12. The hurricane caused extensive damage and left many people homeless.
13. The surprise party was full of energy and enthusiasm.
14. The old car never broke down and always started on the first try.
15. The theory attempted to explain the origins and nature of the universe.
16. Advancements in this field have transformed the way we communicate and work.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Monocytes 2. Treatment 3. Gravity 4. Myopia 5. Discovery 6. Technology

Gap-Fill: 7. Researchers 8. Skeleton 9. Instrument 10. Tumor 11. Gravity

Matching sentence: 1. Severe 2. Exciting 3. Reliable 4. Cosmic 5. Technology

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL1

Date Created

2024/11/22

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