

## Ancient Arrow Poison Unearthed in 7,000-Year-Old Bone: Discovery

#### **Description**

In 1983, scientists found an old bone with arrowheads inside in South Africa. They kept it in a storage room until 2022. Researchers from the University of Johannesburg studied the bone. They discovered it had the oldest known plant toxin mixture for arrows. This shows the advanced knowledge of ancient people.

The bone was X-rayed again with better technology. Chemical analysis showed toxic substances in the bone that are not from nearby plants. This suggests people traveled far to get them.

In history, hunters used poisonous plants and animals to make their weapons more effective. In southern Africa, they combined different poisons for arrows. The earliest evidence of poison dates back 24,000 years. Research continues to uncover more ancient uses of poison in hunting.

This study helps us learn how ancient people used natural resources for survival. It shows their intelligence and skills in combining plant toxins for hunting. The findings teach us about the past and how people lived long ago.

# **Vocabulary List:**

- 1. **Discovered** /dɪs'kʌv.ərd/ (verb): Found or uncovered something that was previously unknown.
- 2. **Toxin** /'tɒk.sɪn/ (noun): A toxic substance produced by living cells or organisms.

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- 3. Evidence /'ev.I.dəns/ (noun): Facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid.
- 4. Combined /kəm'baɪnd/ (verb): Brought or put together.
- 5. Analysis /əˈnæl.ə.sɪs/ (noun): A detailed examination of the elements or structure of something.
- 6. Intelligence /In'tal.I.dʒəns/ (noun): The ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills.

# **Comprehension Questions**

#### **Multiple Choice**

1. What did scientists find inside an old bone in South Africa in 1983?

Option: Arrowheads

Option: Coins
Option: Tools



Option: Gemstones

2. What is the significance of the discovery of plant toxin mixture in the bone?

Option: Advanced knowledge of ancient people

Option: Lack of expertise in ancient hunting techniques

Option: Modern interference with the bone

Option: Inaccurate analysis

3. How far did the chemical analysis suggest people may have traveled to obtain toxins for the arrows?

Option: Far distances Option: Nearby locations Option: Within the same city

Option: No specific distance mentioned

4. What is one of the uses of poisonous plants and animals in hunting mentioned in the text?

Option: To make weapons more effective Option: To use for medicinal purposes

Option: To build shelters Option: To create artworks

IEWS.COM 5. Based on the historical evidence mentioned, how long ago does the use of poison in hunting date back?

Option: 24,000 years Option: 10,000 years Option: 5,000 years Option: 1,000 years

6. What does the study mentioned in the text help us comprehend about ancient people?

Option: Their intelligence and survival skills

Option: Their lack of resourcefulness

Option: Their inability to adapt to new environments

Option: Their isolation from other communities

#### **True-False**

- 7. The bone with arrowheads was found in South America in 1983.
- 8. The chemical analysis of the bone showed toxins only from nearby plants.



- 9. Ancient hunters did not use poisonous substances for hunting purposes.
- 10. The study unearthed evidence of poison use in hunting from 24,000 years ago.
- 11. The researchers found no link between poison use and improved hunting efficiency.
- 12. The study indicates that ancient people lacked skills in utilizing natural resources.

#### **Gap-Fill**

13. The bone was kept in a storage room until		
14. The researchers who studied the bone were from the University of		
15. The mixture of plant toxins discovered in the bone is believed to date back		
years.		
16. The combination of different poisons for arrows was common in southern		
17. The analysis of the bone confirmed the presence of toxic substances not locally sourced, indicating		
people may have traveled to obtain them.		
18. This study sheds light on the intelligence and skills of ancient people in utilizing		
resources for survival.		

## **Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Arrowheads 2. Advanced knowledge of ancient people 3. Far distances 4. To make weapons more effective 5. 24,000 years 6. Their intelligence and survival skills

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 2022 14. Johannesburg 15. 24,000 16. Africa 17. far 18. natural

# Vocabulary quizzes



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

1. Who first discovered the process of photosynthesis?

Option: Joseph Priestley Option: Isaac Newton Option: Marie Curie Option: Albert Einstein

2. What do we call the vast expanse that contains galaxies stars planets and everything in existence?

Option: Atmosphere Option: Universe Option: Solar System Option: Constellation

3. Which of the following chronic diseases is often linked to an imbalance in blood sugar levels?

Option: Diabetes
Option: Hemophilia
Option: Malaria
Option: Tuberculosis

4. In ancient times people sometimes \_\_\_\_\_\_ animals as part of religious rituals.

Option: Admired
Option: Sacrificed
Option: Protected

Option: Fed

5. A volcanic \_\_\_\_\_ can cause ash clouds lava flows and pyroclastic surges.

Option: Meditation
Option: Eruption
Option: Celebration
Option: Drought

6. What is data or information that supports a claim or proposition?

Option: Opinion
Option: Evidence
Option: Rumor
Option: Prediction

7. The seasonal movement of animals from one region to another is known as:

Option: Hibernation Option: Navigation Option: Migration



Option: Acceleration		
8. Plants require sunlight water and to grow and thrive.		
Option: Nutrients		
Option: Insects		
Option: Rocks		
Option: Nocks Option: Metal		
Орноп. метаг		
9. What are vast systems of stars gas and dust bound together by gravity?		
Option: Galaxies		
Option: Asteroids		
Option: Comets		
Option: Meteorites		
10. When an author's work is made available to the public it is said to be		
Option: Hidden	·	
Option: Printed		
•		
Option: Published		
Option: Burned		
Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct w	ord from the vocabulary list. )	
11 14		
11. When oxygen and hydrogen are	water is formed.	
12. Scientists conducted a detailed	of the DNA sample to identify the genetic	
markers.		
13. Suddenly a bright light	_ in the night sky startling the onlookers.	
14. Organic matter undergoes a process of	as it breaks down over time.	
15. The test results revealed a	connection between two seemingly unrelated	
13. The test results revealed a	connection between two seemingry unrelated	
variables.		
variables.		
16. The magician made the rabbit	from the hat much to the audience's delight.	
17. The old abandoned house had a	aura that intrigued the neighborhood	
children.		



18. Studies have found that lack of exercise is closely	to various health problems.	
19. The archaeological team made an exciting	when they unearthed ancient	
artifacts.		
20. In the early stages of the caterpillar's life it will	from its chrysalis as a	
butterfly.		
Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )		
21. The ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills is often asso	ciated with this trait.	
22. The act of becoming larger or more extensive.		
23. An act or process of finding or learning something for the first time.		
24. Gradually ceasing to be visible or exist.		
25. A poisonous substance produced within living cells or organisms.		
26. Something that is difficult or impossible to understand or explain.		
27. The process of determining something by mathematical logical or other methods.		
28. A religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order.		
29. To make information or work available to the public through a printed or digital medium.		
30. Cut into or shape (stone wood etc.) by cutting or using a tool.		

### **Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Joseph Priestley 2. Universe 3. Diabetes 4. Sacrificed 5. Eruption 6. Evidence 7. Migration 8. Nutrients 9. Galaxies 10. Published

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Combined 12. Analysis 13. Appeared 14. Decay 15. Surprising 16. Disappear 17. Mysterious 18. Linked 19. Discovery 20. Emerge

Matching sentence: 1. Intelligence 2. Expansion 3. Discovery 4. Disappearing 5. Toxin 6. Mystery 7.

Calculation 8. Ritual 9. Published 10. Carved



#### **CATEGORY**

1. Health - LEVEL2

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