

Ancient Stone Tools Reveal Complex Human Interactions in East Asia

Description

The Middle Paleolithic period is an important time in human history. In Europe and Africa, this time is seen as active and changing. But in East Asia, it was thought to be quiet and unchanging. A new finding at the Longtan site in southwest China shows this is not true.



Products of the Quina system at the Longtan site, China. Image credit: Ruan *et al.*, doi: 10.1073/pnas.2418029122.

The Middle Paleolithic happened around 300,000 to 40,000 years ago. It is linked to the evolution of modern humans in Africa. In Eurasia, it also involved Neanderthals and Denisovans.

People thought that tools in China were simple and didn't change much during this time. But Professor Bo Li



and his team found many stone tools in Longtan, China.

These tools show a complex way of making tools known as the Quina system. This finding changes how we think about human history in East Asia. It shows that early humans in China were skilled and adapted to different environments.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Paleolithic** /ˌpeɪ.li.əʊˈliθ.ɪk/ (adjective): Relating to the early phase of the Stone Age characterized by the use of rudimentary stone tools.
2. **Evolve** /ɪˈvɔːlv/ (verb): To develop gradually especially from a simple to a more complex form.
3. **Neanderthals** /niˈændər,θɔːlz/ (noun): A species of archaic humans that lived in Europe and parts of Asia closely associated with the development of modern humans.
4. **Denisovans** /ˌden.ɪˈzəʊ.vənz/ (noun): An extinct species or subspecies of archaic humans known from fossil evidence found in Siberia.
5. **Artifacts** /ˈɑːrtɪfækt/ (noun): Objects made by humans typically an item of cultural or historical interest.
6. **Complex** /kəmˈpleks/ (adjective): Consisting of many different and connected parts; not simple.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. When did the Middle Paleolithic period occur?
Option: A) 300,000 to 40,000 years ago
Option: B) 100,000 to 10,000 years ago
Option: C) 500,000 to 200,000 years ago
Option: D) 50,000 to 20,000 years ago
2. What is the Quina system?
Option: A) A simple way of making tools
Option: B) A complex way of making tools
Option: C) A system involving only one type of tool
Option: D) A system not related to tool making
3. Where was the Longtan site located?
Option: A) Europe



- Option: B) Africa
- Option: C) East Asia
- Option: D) South America

4. What group of early humans were involved in the Middle Paleolithic period in Eurasia?

- Option: A) Cro-Magnons
- Option: B) Neanderthals and Denisovans
- Option: C) Homo habilis
- Option: D) Australopithecus

5. What new finding challenged the previous understanding of human history in East Asia?

- Option: A) Discovery of advanced agriculture
- Option: B) Discovery of new dinosaur species
- Option: C) Finding of the Quina system at Longtan
- Option: D) Unearthing of ancient pottery

6. Which journal published the paper about the research at Longtan site?

- Option: A) Journal of Ancient History
- Option: B) The Lancet
- Option: C) Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
- Option: D) Nature Communications

True-False

- 7. The Middle Paleolithic period was only active and changing in Europe and Africa.
- 8. The Quina system is a simple tool-making technique.
- 9. Professor Bo Li and his team found many stone tools in Longtan, China.
- 10. The discovery at the Longtan site indicated that early humans in China were not skilled.
- 11. The research at Longtan site was published in the American Journal of Archaeology.
- 12. The Quina system discovery has no impact on the understanding of human history in East Asia.

Gap-Fill



13. The Middle Paleolithic period happened around _____ years ago.
14. The Quina system discovery at the Longtan site challenges the notion that tools in China were _____ during that time.
15. Professor Bo Li and his team found many _____ in Longtan, China.
16. The Quina system discovery changes how we think about human history in _____.
17. The research about the Longtan site was published in the journal _____.
18. Early humans in China were skilled and adapted to different _____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A) 300,000 to 40,000 years ago 2. B) A complex way of making tools 3. C) East Asia 4. B) Neanderthals and Denisovans 5. C) Finding of the Quina system at Longtan 6. C) Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

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

Gap-Fill: 13. 300,000 to 40,000 14. simple and didn't change much 15. stone tools 16. East Asia 17. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 18. environments

Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. Which term describes a market where there is only one seller with significant market power?

Option: Competition

Option: Dominating

Option: Antitrust

Option: Monopoly

2. What economic concept refers to the rivalry among sellers trying to achieve such goals as increasing profits?



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- Option: Tools
Option: Trend
Option: Upload
Option: Competition
3. What is the capacity of a physical system to do work?
Option: Accountable
Option: Energy
Option: Responsible
Option: Impact
4. What are taxes or duties to be paid on a particular class of imports or exports?
Option: Mistakes
Option: Extension
Option: Operations
Option: Tariffs
5. Which term describes the process or activity of running a business organization etc.?
Option: Resolve
Option: Ban
Option: Administration
Option: Paleolithic
6. What term refers to fully and clearly expressed or demonstrated without any vagueness in meaning?
Option: Access
Option: Extort
Option: Explicit
Option: Moderators
7. Which term refers to the process of designing and building an executable computer program for accomplishing a specific task?
Option: Risky
Option: Coding
Option: Resolve
Option: Ban
8. What term describes the gradual development of something into a more complex or better form?
Option: Neanderthals
Option: Artifacts
Option: Evolve
Option: Denisovans
9. Which term describes things made up of complicated or interrelated parts?



- Option: Explicit
- Option: Complex
- Option: Access
- Option: Extort

10. What is the ability or right to use something or to enter a place typically guided or controlled by someone else's authority?

- Option: Moderators
- Option: Coding
- Option: Access
- Option: Risk

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

11. _____ laws are designed to protect consumers and promote competition by prohibiting unfair business practices.
12. Due to popular demand the event was _____ for another week.
13. The recent policy changes are expected to have a significant _____ on the financial markets.
14. It is crucial to _____ conflicts in the workplace in a timely and effective manner.
15. The project team was highly _____ in the development of the new product.
16. The online forum relies on community _____ to maintain a respectful and constructive environment.
17. We can learn valuable lessons from our past _____ and strive to avoid repeating them.
18. As a team leader you are _____ for ensuring that project deadlines are met.
19. The new manager streamlined the company's _____ to improve efficiency and



reduce costs.

20. The _____ era is characterized by the use of stone tools and the development of early human societies.

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

21. The government decided to prohibit the sale of alcohol in certain areas to address public health concerns.
22. Businesses strive to outperform their rivals in a competitive market to attract more customers.
23. Users can easily transfer files from their devices to the cloud by using the feature on the website.
24. Archaeologists discovered ancient tools and pottery that provided insights into the daily lives of early civilizations.
25. Evidence suggests that coexisted with early modern humans during prehistoric times.
26. Recent genetic studies have revealed the interbreeding between ancient humans and in Asia.
27. The criminal group attempted to money from the business owner by threatening to harm his family.
28. Investing in highly volatile stocks can be financially rewarding but also comes with significant risks.
29. Managers should be for their decisions and the outcomes of their actions within the organization.
30. Engineers use specialized to measure temperature and pressure in industrial processes.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Monopoly 2. Competition 3. Energy 4. Tariffs 5. Administration 6. Explicit 7. Coding 8. Evolve 9. Complex 10. Access

Gap-Fill: 11. Antitrust 12. extended 13. impact 14. resolve 15. involved 16. moderators 17. mistakes 18. responsible 19. operations 20. Paleolithic

Matching sentence: 1. Ban 2. Competition 3. Upload 4. Artifacts 5. Neanderthals 6. Denisovans 7. Extort 8. Risky 9. Accountable 10. Tools

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL1



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Author

aimeeyoung99

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