

# Groundbreaking Find: 1.5-Million-Year-Old Bone Tools Transform Human History

## Description

The recent discovery of bone artifacts in Tanzania has pushed back the earliest known date of bone tool technology by over a million years. Archaeologists in Olduvai Gorge unearthed a collection of bone tools believed to have been crafted by an ancestral human species known as *Homo habilis* 1.5 million years ago.

These bone artifacts, attributed to the Oldowan people, complement their existing reputation for stone tool use dating back 2.5 million years. The new findings reveal a more sophisticated and advanced tool technology previously unknown.

**These Are Human-Made Bone Tools Dating Back 1.5 Million Years**

Some of the tools in the Pleistocene Archaeology Lab of the Spanish National Research Council. (CSIC)

Archaeologist Ignacio de la Torre of the Spanish National Research Council highlights the significance of this discovery, suggesting an expansion in early humans' technological capabilities and cognitive capacities attributed to the incorporation of bone materials in tool production.

This advancement in tool technology, evident through the deliberate alteration of bones for tool-making purposes, offers insight into the transition between the Oldowan and Acheulean cultures. The tools, predominantly made from elephant and hippopotamus bones, potentially served various functions such as butchering.

Undoubtedly, these findings shed light on the complexity and innovation of our human ancestors, paving the way for further exploration and understanding of their technological and cognitive evolution.

Published in *Nature*, this research marks a significant milestone in our understanding of ancient toolmaking practices.



## Vocabulary List:

1. **Artifacts** /'ɑ:rtɪfækt/ (noun): Objects made or used by humans typically an item of cultural or historical interest.
2. **Sophisticated** /sə'fɪs.tɪ.keɪ.tɪd/ (adjective): Highly developed or complex; demonstrating a high level of knowledge or understanding.
3. **Technological** /,tek.nə'lɑ:dʒɪ.kəl/ (adjective): Relating to the practical application of scientific and industrial knowledge.
4. **Incorporation** /ɪn,kɔ:r.pə'reɪ.jən/ (noun): The act of combining or including something as part of a whole.
5. **Insight** /'ɪn.saɪt/ (noun): The capacity to gain an accurate and deep understanding of someone or something.
6. **Butchering** /'bʊtʃərɪŋ/ (verb): The act of killing animals for the purpose of processing their meat.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. Where were the bone artifacts recently discovered?  
Option: Tanzania  
Option: Olduvai Gorge  
Option: Spain  
Option: Egypt
2. What is the estimated age of the bone tools crafted by Homo habilis?  
Option: 1.5 million years  
Option: 2 million years  
Option: 1 million years  
Option: 3 million years
3. Which ancestral human species is believed to have crafted the bone tools?  
Option: Homo habilis  
Option: Homo sapiens  
Option: Neanderthals  
Option: Australopithecus
4. What kind of bones were predominantly used to make the tools?  
Option: Elephant and Hippopotamus bones



- Option: Lion bones
- Option: Tiger bones
- Option: Giraffe bones

5. Who highlighted the significance of the bone artifacts discovery?

- Option: Ignacio de la Torre
- Option: Mary Leakey
- Option: Louis Leakey
- Option: Jane Goodall

6. Which publication featured the research on the bone tool technology?

- Option: Nature
- Option: Science
- Option: National Geographic
- Option: Archaeology

### True-False

- 7. The bone tool technology discovery in Tanzania pushed back the known date by over a million years.
- 8. The bone artifacts are attributed to the Acheulean culture.
- 9. The bone tools complement the existing reputation of the Oldowan people for stone tool use.
- 10. The bone artifacts were believed to be crafted by Homo erectus.
- 11. The bone tools were made primarily from crocodile bones.
- 12. The technological capabilities and cognitive capacities of early humans expanded due to the incorporation of bone materials in tool production.

### Gap-Fill

- 13. The bone tool technology discovery in Tanzania has pushed back the earliest known date by over \_\_\_\_\_ years.
- 14. Archaeologist Ignacio de la Torre is from the \_\_\_\_\_ National Research Council.
- 15. The bone artifacts were dated to have been crafted by Homo habilis \_\_\_\_\_ million



years ago.

16. The bone tools were predominantly made from elephant and \_\_\_\_\_ bones.

17. The advancement in tool technology offered insight into the transition between the Oldowan and \_\_\_\_\_ cultures.

18. The research on bone tool technology was published in \_\_\_\_\_.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Olduvai Gorge 2. 1.5 million years 3. Homo habilis 4. Elephant and Hippopotamus bones 5. Ignacio de la Torre 6. Nature

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

**Gap-Fill:** 13. a million 14. Spanish 15. 1.5 16. hippopotamus 17. Acheulean 18. Nature

## Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. What term is used to describe extremely large scales of measurement in space?

Option: Projections

Option: Cognitive

Option: Astronomical

Option: Dementia

2. Which field of study focuses on the origin and development of the universe?

Option: Interstellar

Option: Cosmology

Option: Lexical

Option: Traverse

3. What is the name of the vast region of space where the Sun's influence dominates?

Option: Anomalies

Option: Heliosphere

Option: Influenced

Option: Intricate



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4. What term describes the process of changing from one state to another?
- Option: Distributions
  - Option: Transitioning
  - Option: Facilitate
  - Option: Retrieval
5. Which word best describes something that is complex and advanced?
- Option: Artifacts
  - Option: Mesmerizing
  - Option: Sophisticated
  - Option: Technological
6. What term refers to estimates or predictions based on present data and trends?
- Option: Cognitive
  - Option: Projections
  - Option: Incorporation
  - Option: Insight
7. Which term means to completely change something in a fundamental way?
- Option: Revolutionize
  - Option: Butchering
  - Option: Catalog
  - Option: Dementia
8. What word describes things that deviate from what is standard normal or expected?
- Option: Celestial
  - Option: Anomalies
  - Option: Crimson
  - Option: Spectacle
9. Which term means to make an action or process easier and more efficient?
- Option: Interstellar
  - Option: Facilitate
  - Option: Influenced
  - Option: Intricate
10. Which term relates to the vocabulary of a language or field of study?
- Option: Heliosphere
  - Option: Lexical
  - Option: Retrieval
  - Option: Traverse



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

11. \_\_\_\_\_ is a term for a decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life.
12. The artist spent weeks creating the \_\_\_\_\_ design in the stained glass window.
13. You can use this software to \_\_\_\_\_ lost data from your computer.
14. The documentary showed the cruel practice of animal \_\_\_\_\_ in some regions.
15. Her music was deeply \_\_\_\_\_ by the sounds of nature.
16. The library has an extensive \_\_\_\_\_ of rare books and manuscripts.
17. The quick \_\_\_\_\_ of information is crucial in emergency situations.
18. The latest software update includes several \_\_\_\_\_ to improve performance.
19. The company is planning the \_\_\_\_\_ of new technologies into their product line.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ abilities decline in patients suffering from advanced dementia.

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

21. The aurora borealis is a beautiful natural that lights up the night sky.
22. Astronomers study objects in the sphere such as stars planets and galaxies.
23. As the sun set the sky turned a vibrant shade of .
24. The meteor shower was a breathtaking in the clear night sky.
25. The dance performance was so that the audience was captivated throughout.
26. Archaeologists discovered ancient that provided insights into early human civilization.
27. The company invested heavily in advancements to stay competitive in the market.



28. The science fiction movie explored the idea of travel beyond our solar system.

29. Art often cultural and social norms reflecting the values of a society.

30. The statistics class focused on analyzing data to draw meaningful conclusions.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Astronomical 2. Cosmology 3. Heliosphere 4. Transitioning 5. Sophisticated 6. Projections  
7. Revolutionize 8. Anomalies 9. Facilitate 10. Lexical

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Dementia 12. intricate 13. retrieve 14. butchering 15. influenced 16. catalog 17. retrieval  
18. enhancements 19. incorporation 20. Cognitive

**Matching sentence:** 1. phenomenon 2. celestial 3. crimson 4. spectacle 5. mesmerizing 6. artifacts  
7. technological 8. interstellar 9. influences 10. distributions

## CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL5

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