Chapter 1: Toward Civilization

Section 2: The Dawn of History

It should have a mosaic of features reminiscent of both apes and humans, but that’s true of several species already found, so identification might be tough.
Section 2: The Dawn of History

A. Paleolithic Age

1. The “Old” Stone Age
2. the earliest period of human history
3. 2 million BCE to about 10,000 BCE
   - from the first stone tool makers to the first civilization
The Imaginative Road to Homo Sapiens

(by Smart)

Pliopithecus
Proconsul
Dryopithecus
Oreopithecus
Ramapithecus
Australopithecus
Homo erectus
Homo sapiens
Neanderthal
Cro-Magnon Man
Modern Homo Sapiens

Section 2: The Dawn of History
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B. African Beginnings

1. early human remains have been, and continue to be, found in Africa
   - specifically, the Great Rift Valley

2. Humans eventually migrated to:
   - a. Europe
   - b. Asia
   - c. Americas
   - d. Pacific Islands
   - e. and Australia
Section 2: The Dawn of History

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C. Hunters and Gatherers

1. Paleolithic peoples hunted and gathered their food
   - they DID NOT farm (produce their own food)

2. they lived in groups of 15 to 30 people
   - they could not gather enough food for more than 30 people

3. men usually hunted, women usually gathered
C. Hunters and Gatherers

4. Paleolithic peoples were **nomadic**: moving from place to place without a permanent home; constant human-environment interaction

5. Humans develop spoken language, learned to use fire, and invented more and more complex tools during this time
Section 2: The Dawn of History

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D. Early Religious Beliefs

1. the earliest evidence of “religion” began to appear about 30,000 years ago

2. these different early beliefs are known as **animism**
   - the belief that all things (trees, animals, rivers, oceans, rocks, dreams) were full of spirits/force

3. these beliefs are recorded in rock and cave art as well as some small stone statues

4. at the end of the Paleolithic Age, humans began to bury their dead, often with their possessions
   - this is the beginning of the belief in a life after death
Apache dancers, Hueco Tanks, western Texas.
Section 2: The Dawn of History

E. The Neolithic (Agricultural) Revolution

1. revolution =
   - A sudden or momentous change in a situation

2. Neolithic means =
   - NEW Stone Age

3. around 11,000 years ago (9,000 BCE)
Section 2: The Dawn of History

- E. The Neolithic (Agricultural) Revolution
  - 4. this is when humans learned to farm
    - humans are now able to produce their own food and no longer need to live a nomadic lifestyle
  - 5. farming was either:
    - a. invented in the Middle East and then spread around the world or
    - b. was simultaneously invented in different regions on Earth
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Section 2: The Dawn of History

E. The Neolithic Revolution

6. probably a result of women’s “gathering”

7. at this same time, domestication occurred:
   - domestication is the taming of certain animals for human benefit

8. domesticated animals provided several advantages to the humans who domesticated them:
   - a. source of food / protein
   - b. clothes
   - c. tools
   - d. weapons
   - e. shelter
F. Effects of the Neolithic Revolution and Domestication

1. biggest change in the way humans live their lives until the Industrial Revolution in the 1700’s CE (AD)
2. women lose their status in society
3. warfare increased
4. human life-expectancy decreased significantly
5. the beginning of personal property