Understanding Culture, Society and Politics

Module 3
Looking Back at Human Bio Cultural and Social Evolution
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We value your feedback and recommendations.

Department of Education • Republic of the Philippines
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front Outside Cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copyright Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. General Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. General Instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Activity 1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Activity 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Activity 2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Activity 2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer key</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author’s Profile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

According to Banaag, of 2012 evolution is a natural process of biological changes occurring in a population across generations. It helps us identify and analyze man’s physiological development which is important in his subsistence.

More so, the evolution of man became an important concern in the emergence of different societies. All of the human’s social drives developed long before he developed intellectually. They therefore, instinctive. Such instinct a mother-love, compassion, cooperation, curiosity, inventiveness and competitiveness are ancient and embedded in the human. They were all necessary for the survival of the human and pre-human (www.onelife.com). Hence, man’s progression and characteristics are essential in understanding the capability for adaptation.

This module contains some activities that can help students recognize or trace the biological and cultural evolution of early to modern humans. Explore the significance of human material remains and arte factual evidence in interpreting including cultural and social including political and economic processes. Recognize museum, archeological and historical sites as venues to appreciate and reflect on the complexities to bio-cultural and social evolution as part of being and becoming human.

This module has two lessons:

- Lesson 1- Biological and cultural evolution: from homo habilis to homo sapiens sapiens in the fossil record
- Lesson 2- Cultural and socio-political evolution from: hunting and gathering to the agricultural, industrial, and post-industrial revolutions
GENERAL OBJECTIVES

After going through this module, you are expected to:
1. Trace the evolution of early humans;
2. Identify the early tools used by early hominid;
3. Recognize museum, archeological and historical sites through research as venues to appreciate and reflect on the complexities to bio-cultural and social evolution:
4. Discuss how society sustain itself across generations.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

To achieve the objectives of this module, do the following:
- Take your time reading the lessons carefully.
- Follow the directions and/or instructions in the activities and exercises diligently.
- Answer all the given tests and exercises.
- Familiarize yourself with the following terms

| Content Standard | 1. The human origins and the capacity for culture.  
|                  | 2. The role of culture in human adaptation.  
|                  | 3. The processes of cultural and sociopolitical evolution. |
| Performance Standard | 1. Analyze key features of interrelationships of biological, cultural, and sociopolitical processes in humans that can still be used and developed. |
| Learning Competency | 1. Trace the biological and cultural evolution of early to modern humans  
|                      | Code: UCSP11/12HBS-Ie-12  
|                      | 2. Explore the significance of human material remains and arte factual evidence in interpreting cultural and social, including political and economic, process  
|                      | Code: UCSP11/12HBS-If-13  
|                      | 3. Recognize national, local, and specialized museums, and archeological and historical sites as venues to appreciate and reflect on the complexities of bio-cultural and social evolution as part of being of being becoming human  
|                      | Code: UCSP11/12HBS-If-14 |
Directions: Choose the best answer.

_____ 1. It is the process of biological change occurring in a population across successive generations.
   a. Evolution
   b. Culture
   c. Biology
   d. Sociology

_____ 2. This specie is also known as the Handy Man”
   a. Homo Erectus
   b. Homo Habilis
   c. Homo Sapiens
   d. Homo rudolfensis

_____ 3. The earliest tool used by pre-human primates.
   a. Spears
   b. Broken pebbles
   c. Gatling gun
   d. Arrows

_____ 4. It refers to the period of flaked and polished stone implements.
   a. Mesolithic
   b. Paleolithic
   c. Neolithic
   d. Marsupial period

_____ 5. It refers to a high level of cultural and technological development of human beings.
   a. Society
   b. Community
   c. Civilization
   d. Nation

_____ 6. Types of societies that was organized along male-centered kinship groups.
   a. Pastoral societies
   b. Horticultural societies
   c. Industrial societies
   d. Agricultural societies

_____ 7. What does subsistence farming involve?
   a. involves producing enough food to feed the group
   b. involves producing too much food for the group
   c. no food produced for the group
   d. none of the above
8. The following are the cultural development of Paleolithic Age except one.
   a. use of simple pebble tools
   b. learned to live in cage
   c. discovered the use of fire
   d. food producing cultures

9. This subspecies known as Cro-Magnon characterized to be anatomically modern humans lived in the last Ice age in Europe.
   a. Homo sapiens sapiens
   b. Homo habilis
   c. Homo erectus
   d. Homo floresiensis

10. The following are characteristic of Post-industrial Societies except.
    a. knowledge and information are the hallmarks of this society.
    b. it is characterized by the spread of computer industries.
    c. depends on specialized knowledge to bring about continuing
    d. neighborhood is solid

Lesson 1

- Biological and cultural evolution: from homo habilis to homo sapiens sapiens in the fossil record.

L.C. trace the biological and cultural evolution of early to modern humans

Code: UCSP11/12HBS-Ie-12
Activity 1.1: Imagining Yourself

Directions:
The earth contains many buried objects from the pre-historic past. Imagine yourself that you are an archeologist or anthropologist looking for evidence of materials remains of the pre-historic past as well as other evidence of human activity. Answer this one in your activity notebook.

Answer the following Questions:
1. What specific evidence will you look for?
2. What material evidence will you be interested to know and learn about?
3. What technology will you use?

What’s New?
The Biological and Cultural Evolution

The Hominids
According to (Ember of 2002) that one of the most controversial aspects of Darwin’s theory, suggest that one species could evolve into another species. It is one of the earliest members of the primate family hominid, containing humans, their immediate ancestors, close extinct relatives.

Australopithecus
The first definite Hominid, their teeth share basic hominid characteristic of small canine, flat and thickly enameled molars and a parabolic dental arch, and there is ambiguous evidence that even the earliest australopithecines were bipedal. Bipedal refers to using two feet in moving.

The Homo Habilis
Is known from Tanzania, Kenya and South Africa. Species with a brain broca’s area which is associated with speech in modern humans and was the first to make stone tools. The ability to make and use tools is unique quality to humans such that the species is recognized to be the first true human. The specie names mean “Handy Man”. Lived about 2.4 to 1.4 million years ago scavenging for food.

The Homo Erectus
The species names “Upright Man” with body proportion similar to that modern humans. Lived 1.89 to 143,000 years ago; adapted to hot climates and most spread in Africa and Asia. They were the first hunters with improvised tools such as axes and knives, and were the first to produce fire.
The Homo Sapiens
The species name means “Wise Man” that appeared form 200,000 years ago. The present human race belongs to this species.

The Homo Sapiens Sapiens
Subspecies known as Cro-Magnon characterized to be anatomically modern humans and lived in the last Ice age of Europe 40,000 to 10,000 years ago. They were the first to produce art in cave paintings and crafting decorated tools and accessories.

SIMPLE DIFFERENTIATION OF THE CULTURAL EVOLUTION

PALEOLITHIC AGE
- Unpolished stone implements
- Hunting and gathering
- Nomadic way of living

NEOLITHIC AGE
- Polished stone tools
- Domestication of plants and animals
- Living in permanent places

Early societies started to emerge as a result of man interaction with his environment. Every society is organized in such a way that there will be rules of conduct, customs, traditions, folkways and mores, and expectations that ensure appropriate behavior among members (Palispis, 2007 p.254).

Activity 1.2
Directions: Fill-up the table with correct information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVOLUTION OF MAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPECIES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homo habilis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homo erectus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homo sapiens</td>
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<td>Homo sapiens sapiens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson 2

Cultural and Socio-Political Evolution: from Hunting and Gathering to the Agricultural, Industrial, and Post-Industrial Revolutions

L.C. explore the significance of human material remains and artefactual evidence in interpreting cultural and social, including political and economic, processes

Code: UCSP11/12HBS-If-13

L.C. recognize national, local, and archeological and historical sites as venues to appreciate and reflect on the complexities of bio-cultural and social evolution as part of being and becoming human

Code: UCSP11/12HBS-If-14

Activity 2.1

Directions:
The teacher will ask the student to make a photo essay through the use of art materials of the significance of human material remains and artefactual evidence. They will to present it with description, on how this artefact contributed to the present society.

RUBRICS:

Creativity------------------20
Thoughts and ideas-------20
Presentation-------------10
Total 50 pts.
A. The Neolithic Revolution

According to V. Gordon Childe the term “Neolithic Revolution” is also called “Agricultural Revolution”. It describes the origin and impact of food production—plant cultivation and animal domestication. “Neolithic” which means “New Stone Age” which is refer to techniques of grinding and polishing stone tools. More so, the main significance of the Neolithic was the new total economy rather than just the tool-making techniques. And now Neolithic refers to the first cultural period in a given region in which the first signs of domestication are present. The economy based on food production produced substantial changes in human lifestyle (Kottak, 2009).

1. Neolithic Stone Tools
   Neolithic period began when first human settled down and began farming. They continued to make tools and weapons from flint and some kinds of tools.

2. Fertile Crescent, a Cradle of Civilization
   The Fertile Crescent is the region in the Middle East which curves, likes a quarter-moon shape, from the Persian Gulf, through modern-day southern Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel and Northern Egypt. It contains comparatively moist and fertile land. The region is often called the “cradled of civilization” which saw the development of some of the earliest human civilizations.

B. Early Civilization and the Rise of the state

1. The emergence of Civilization
   Kottak (2009) states that most ancient civilizations have been studied by archeologist rather than historians because those civilizations evolved before the advent of writing. The earliest Neolithic societies were egalitarian—people did not differ much in wealth, prestige, or power.

2. The Cradles of Civilization
   Is the term that refers to civilization that emerged independently. All of these civilizations developed around rivers, it provided enough water for large-scale agriculture, enabling people to abandon a hunter gatherer lifestyle and to grow and store surplus food.
a. **Tigris-Euphrates River Civilization of Mesopotamia** - The most known ancient civilization was in Mesopotamia, in a region which lies in modern Iraq. It is sometimes called the *Fertile Crescent* because it is a crescent-shape area between Tigris and Euphrates river.

b. **The Nile Valley Civilization of Egypt**. Egypt was known as the Gift of the Nile because the annual flooding of the Nile made possible for agriculture on which Egyptian civilizations was based.

c. **The Yellow River Civilization of China**. In 3000 B.C. the Yellow River Valley was settled by farmers. Chinese legends holds that Xia dynasty arose and flourished during the prehistoric period.

d. **Indus Valley Civilization of India**. The ancient civilization of the Indus Valley, located in modern Pakistan, is unique because unlike the continuously existing civilization of Mesopotamia, Egypt and China it rose and fell, leaving only mysterious ruins to testify to its existence.

### 3. **Features of Civilizations**

Perry (1983) states that historians use the term *civilization* to distinguish between *prehistoric* societies and the considerably more advanced societies that developed later. The following are features of civilization;

a. **Cities**. Civilized societies were urban societies, for civilization developed in cities. They were larger and more complex than villages. They had palaces, temples, markets, workshops, and homes.

b. **Writing**. Written language enabled people to preserve, organize and expand their knowledge. It made it easier for government officials, priests, and merchants to carry out their duties.

c. **Specialization**. Civilized societies were specialist-artisan, merchants, priests, record-keepers, government officials, farmers. In exchange for the food they got from the villages, city dwellers supplied farmers with good manufactured in the city. It encouraged trade, local and regional, and trade encouraged the exchange of ideas.
d. Government. In civilized societies government became more organized. There were rulers who issued laws and officials to carry them out.

e. Religion. Civilized societies had organized religions with a powerful, trained, and wealthy priesthood. From the priesthood, people derived their values and attitudes toward life.

4. Democratization.

Is a process by which democracy expands within states across the world? Both as a process as a concept, democratization draws on long history. It might be most readily understood as a concept that encapsulates the expansion of a set of related political ideals with different intellectual vintages that gain public prominence during the emergence of capitalist modernity.

According to (Shively of 2005) states that democracy is a states in which all fully qualified citizens vote at regular intervals to choose, from among alternative candidates, the people who will be charge of setting the state’s policies. Democracy comes from the Greek word demokratia: demos meaning “people” and kratia meaning “government”. Therefore, democracy is “government of the people”

At the present time the world democracy has rather magical connotation and somewhat tranquilizing effect. Any citizen who persuaded that its own government system is a democratic one is likely to accept the political power exercised by that system.

Activity 2.2:

Directions:

The learners are tasked to conduct a research on using net in 10 different national and local museums and historical sites. The students shall get a brief background of the museum with pictures and compile everything in scrapbook for submission, and answer in A4 size bond paper “How society sustain itself across generations”?

Rubrics for Grading

Relevance to the topic -----------------15 points

Creativity of compiling ---------------15 points

Total 30 points
Summary

The physical as well as the mental development of early human beings helped them understand and adapt to their existing environment. Thus, their adjustment served as the onset of their culture. Cultures enables the members of society develop ways of coping with the exigencies of nature as well as ways of harnessing their environment (Panopio, et al. 1994 p. 37). The changes made by man through his interaction with the environment established by the different cultural evolution which determine man’s sociocultural development.

Post-test

Directions: Choose the best answer

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GLOSSARY

**Evolution** - is a natural process of biological changes occurring in a population across successive generations.

**Bipedal** - refers to using two feet in moving.

**Paleolithic Age** – old stone age

**Neolithic Age** - new stone age

**Cradles of Civilization** - refers to civilization that emerged independently

**Tigris-Euphrates River Civilization of Mesopotamia** - The most known ancient civilization was in Mesopotamia, in a region which lies in modern Iraq.

**The Nile Valley Civilization of Egypt** - Egypt was known as the Gift of the Nile because the annual flooding of the Nile made possible for agriculture on which Egyptian civilizations was based.

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**Democracy** - comes from the Greek word *demokratia*: *demos* meaning “people” and *kratia* meaning “government”. Therefore, democracy is “government of the people”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C. 10</th>
<th>A. 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. 8</td>
<td>A. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. 6</td>
<td>A. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. 5</td>
<td>C. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. 3</td>
<td>B. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. 2</td>
<td>A. 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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