

leccionesdehistoria.com

# UNIT 7: PREHISTORY

@rosaliarte



# 1. In this unit...

**This chapter is about Prehistory. Prehistory is the period from the appearance of humans on Earth (around 2.5 million years ago) until they learn to write (about 3,500 BC).**

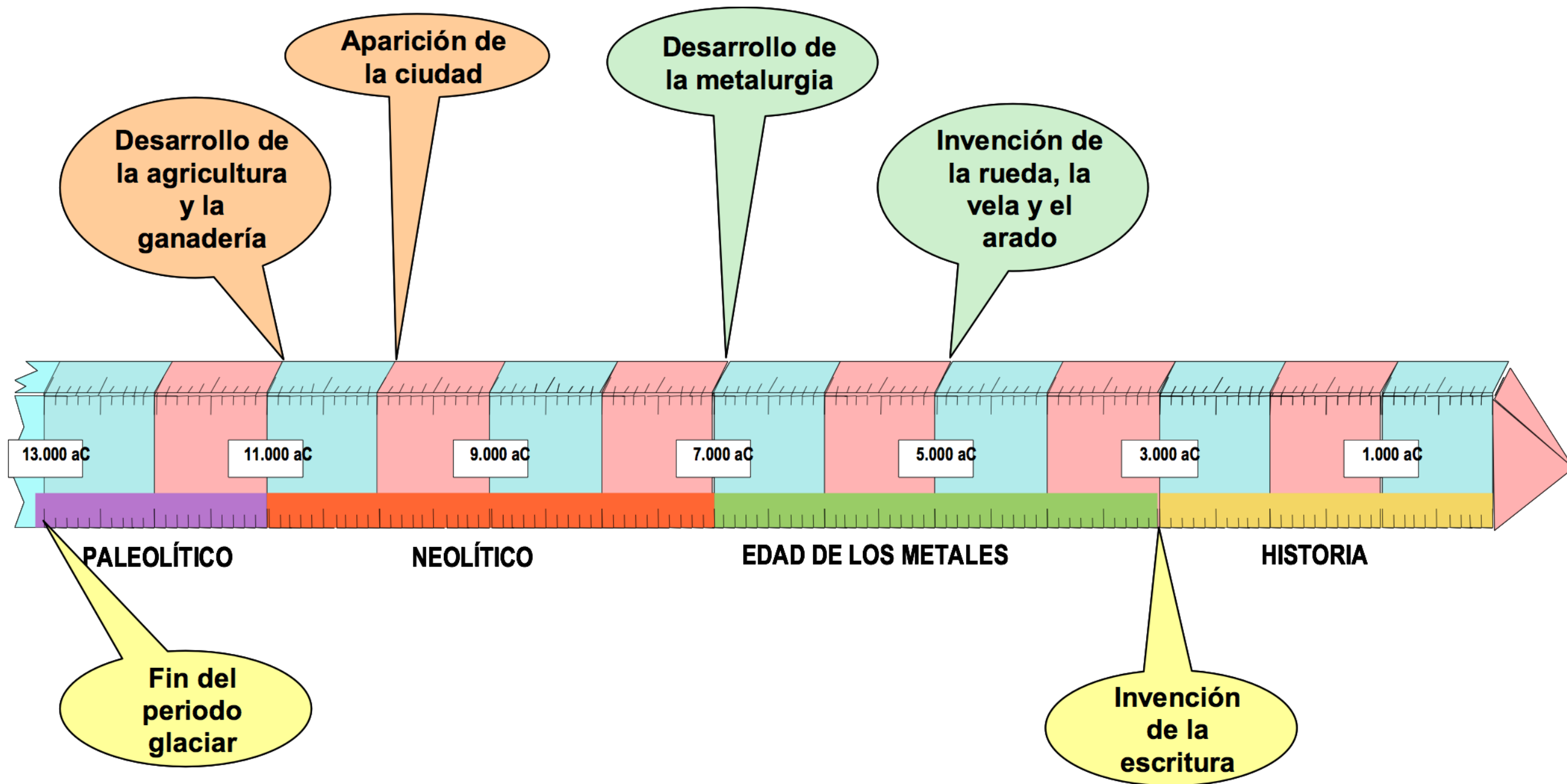
**We will look at three periods:**

- The Palaeolithic Age, when humans hunt animals and gather berries**
- The Neolithic Age, when people start farming and live in small villages**
- The period when people make better tools and weapons from metals like bronze and iron**

**There are no written records from this time, so we don't know very much about these people's lives. What we know comes from archaeological remains.**







# 1.1 The origins of man



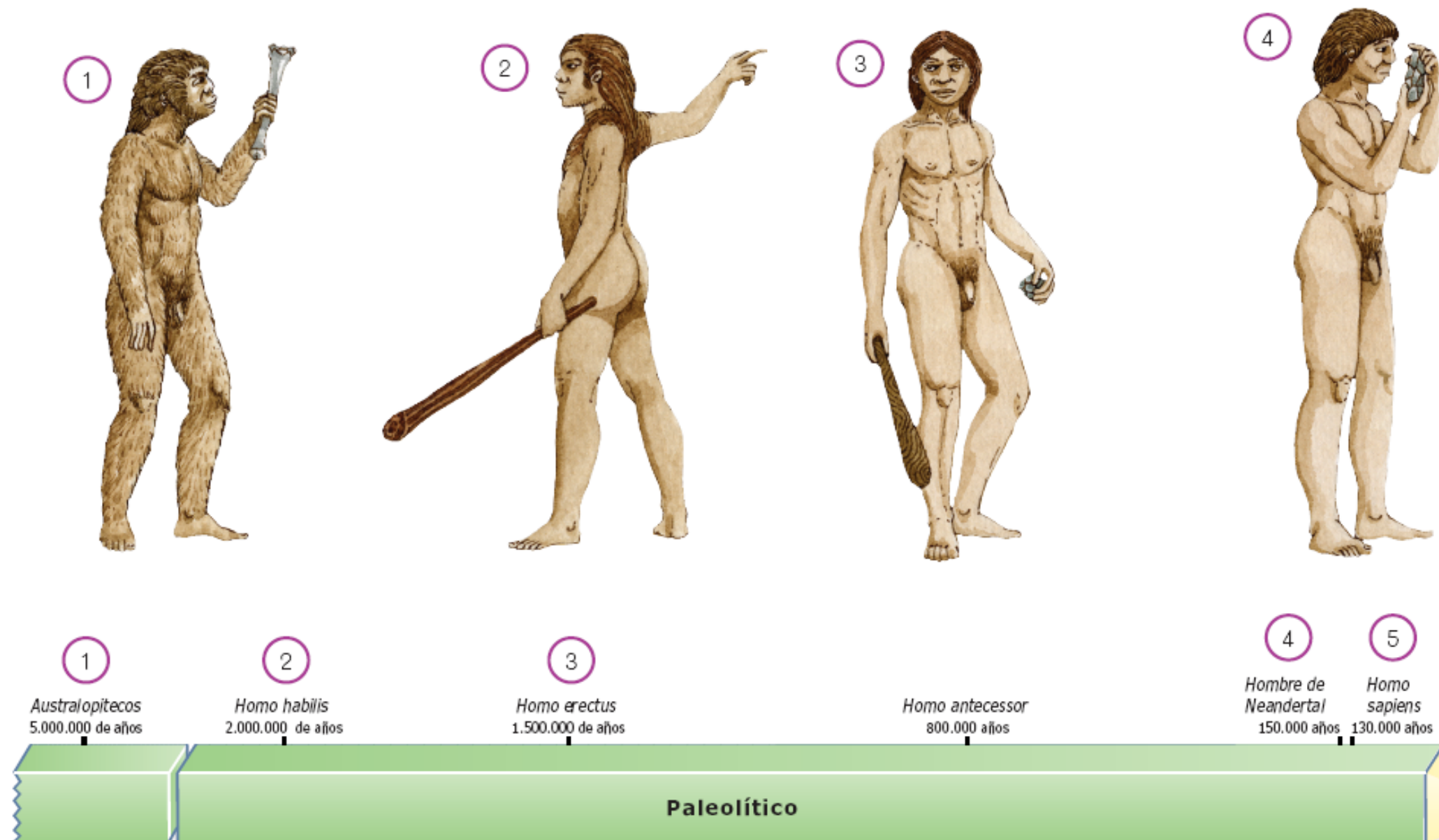
phillipmartin.info

Humans belong to a group of animals called the hominids. Millions of years ago, hominids started to develop in different ways. Some of them started walking on two feet. Their hands were now free to use tools. Over time, these hominids evolved into Homo Sapiens (or modern humans).

Separately, other hominids evolved into chimpanzees, gorillas and orangutans, so these are our relatives.







The human race was changing their physical appearance to adapt to the environment in which they lived.

It is a mistake to think about humans come from the monkey. The apes and the humans come from a common ancestor that was adapted differently. **Hominization** is the evolution process of man until he reaches the characteristics of people today.

**BIGGER BRAINS, MORE INTELLIGENT, BETTER TOOLS**



### AUSTRALOPITECUS

- 1-5 million years ago
- Lived in Africa
- Similar to chimpanzees
- Walked on two feet



### HOMO HÁBILIS

- 1.6 - 2.5 million years ago
- Lived in Africa
- First to make stone tools
- Lived from hunting and gathering



### HOMO ERECTUS

- 0.3 - 1.5 million years ago
- Lived in Africa and Asia
- Discovered fire
- Hunted in groups



### HOMO NEANDERTHALENSIS

- 35,000 - 130,000 years ago
- Lived in Africa, Asia and Europe
- First to bury their dead
- Could speak
- Wore clothes made of leather

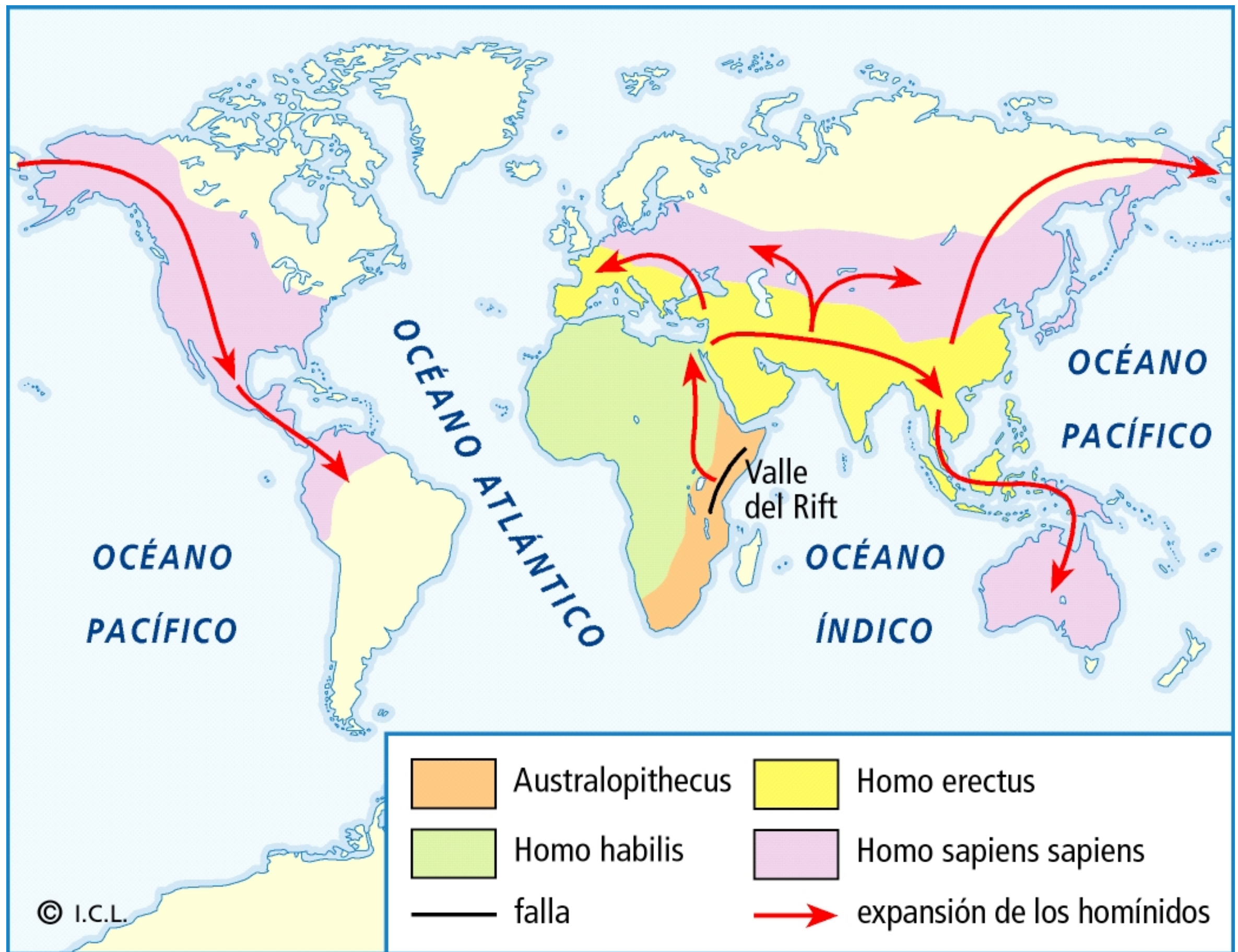


### HOMO SAPIENS

- Scientists think that Homo Sapiens first lived in Africa about 120,000 years ago. 40,000 years ago the spread to Asia and Europe. They replaced Homo Erectus and Homo Neanderthalensis.
- were taller, slimmer and more intelligent than Homo Neanderthalensis
  - Made better tools
  - Developed a more complex language
  - Created art

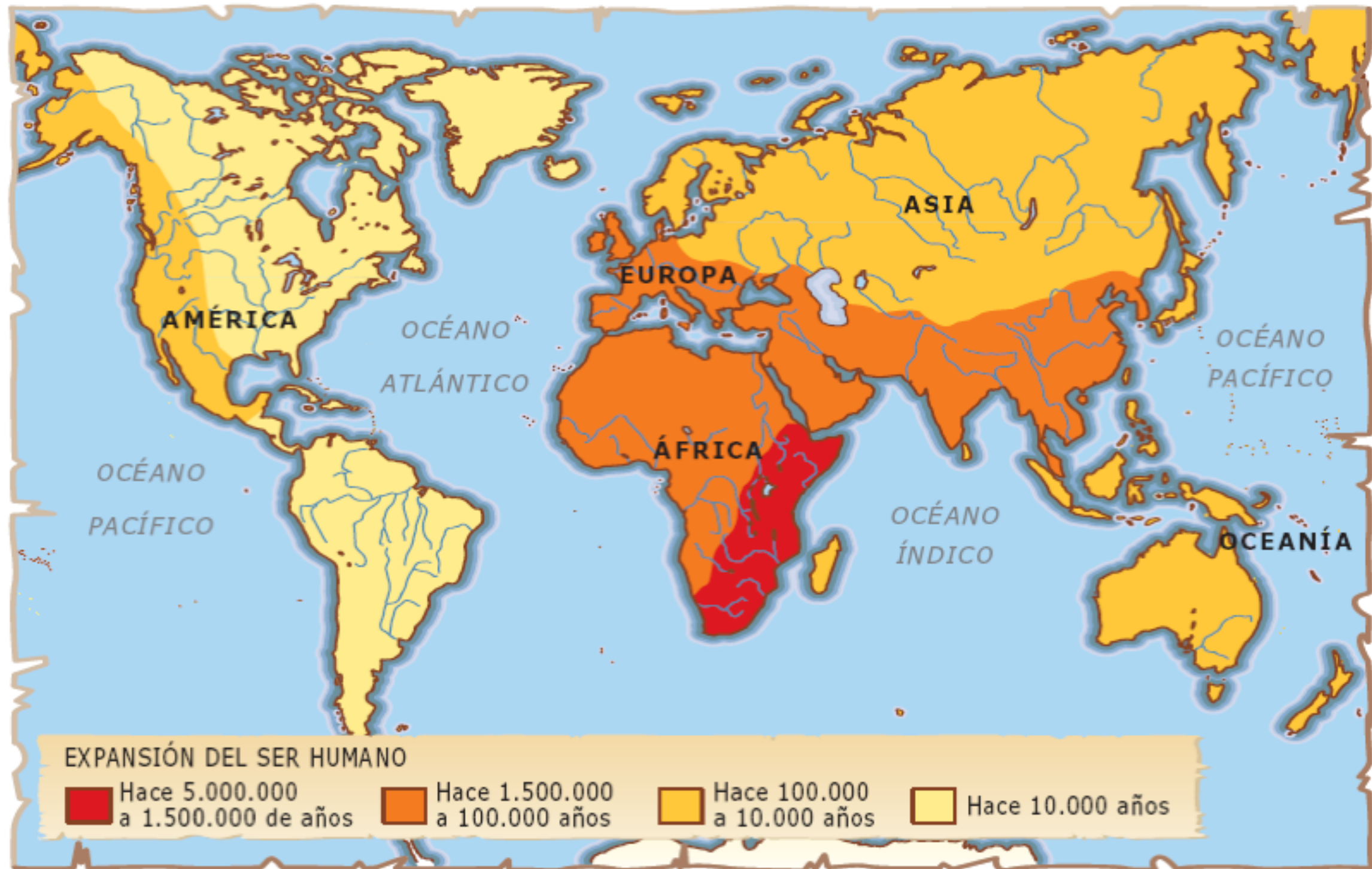








# MAPA DE LA EXPANSIÓN HUMANA







Australopithecus



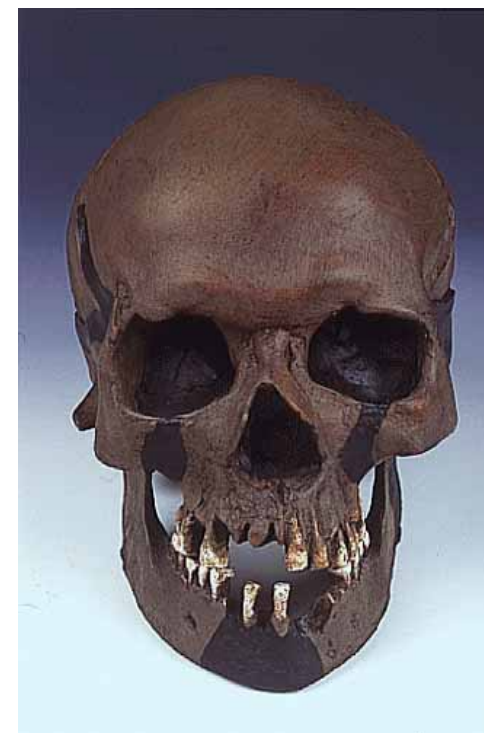
Homo Habilis



Homo Erectus



Homo Neanderthal



Homo Sapiens



**Lucy** fue la primera *Australopitecus* descubierta en 1974, en el Valle del Rift. Estos son los restos hallados del cuerpo de Lucy. Le pusieron este nombre porque los arqueólogos cuando la descubrieron estaban escuchando la canción de los Beatles *"Lucy in the sky with diamonds"*.



# 2. Palaeolithic Age

The Palaeolithic Age extends from the earliest use of stone tools until 7,000 BC. Palaeolithic means “old stone”, so this period is sometimes called the Old Stone Age. People live in groups of 20-30 people called bands. Sometimes the bands join together to make bigger, more organized groups called tribes.

## HOW DO PEOPLE GET FOOD?

In the Palaeolithic Age, people live by hunting and gathering. This means:

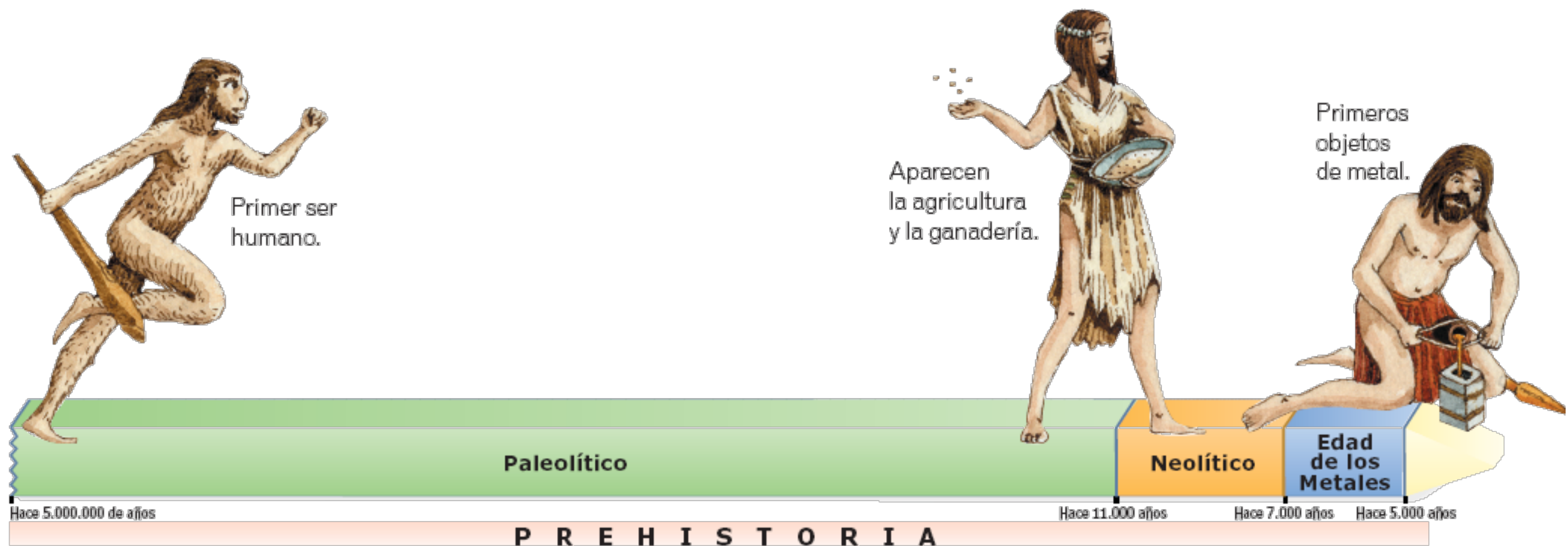
- Hunting animals, like bison, deer and mammoths
- Fishing
- Gathering (or collecting) fruit, nuts, eggs and honey



phillipmartin.info



During the Paleolithic there was the hominization process, the manufacture of tools, the creation of clans and the **predatory economy**\*. Inside the clan was a chief who directed the rest of the people who submitted to his authority. In the clan everyone worked to survive. Each member was specialized in different tasks: men in hunting, women in gathering, etc.





## HOW DO THEY USE FIRE?

When people discover fire, they can:

- Cook food
- Frighten away animals like lions, wolves and tigers
- Light and heat their caves - they can now live in colder parts of the world

## WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Palaeolithic people are nomads - they have to move around to find food. They stay in caves or shelters made of animal skins or of branches and leaves. That's why sometimes call Palaeolithic people cavemen.





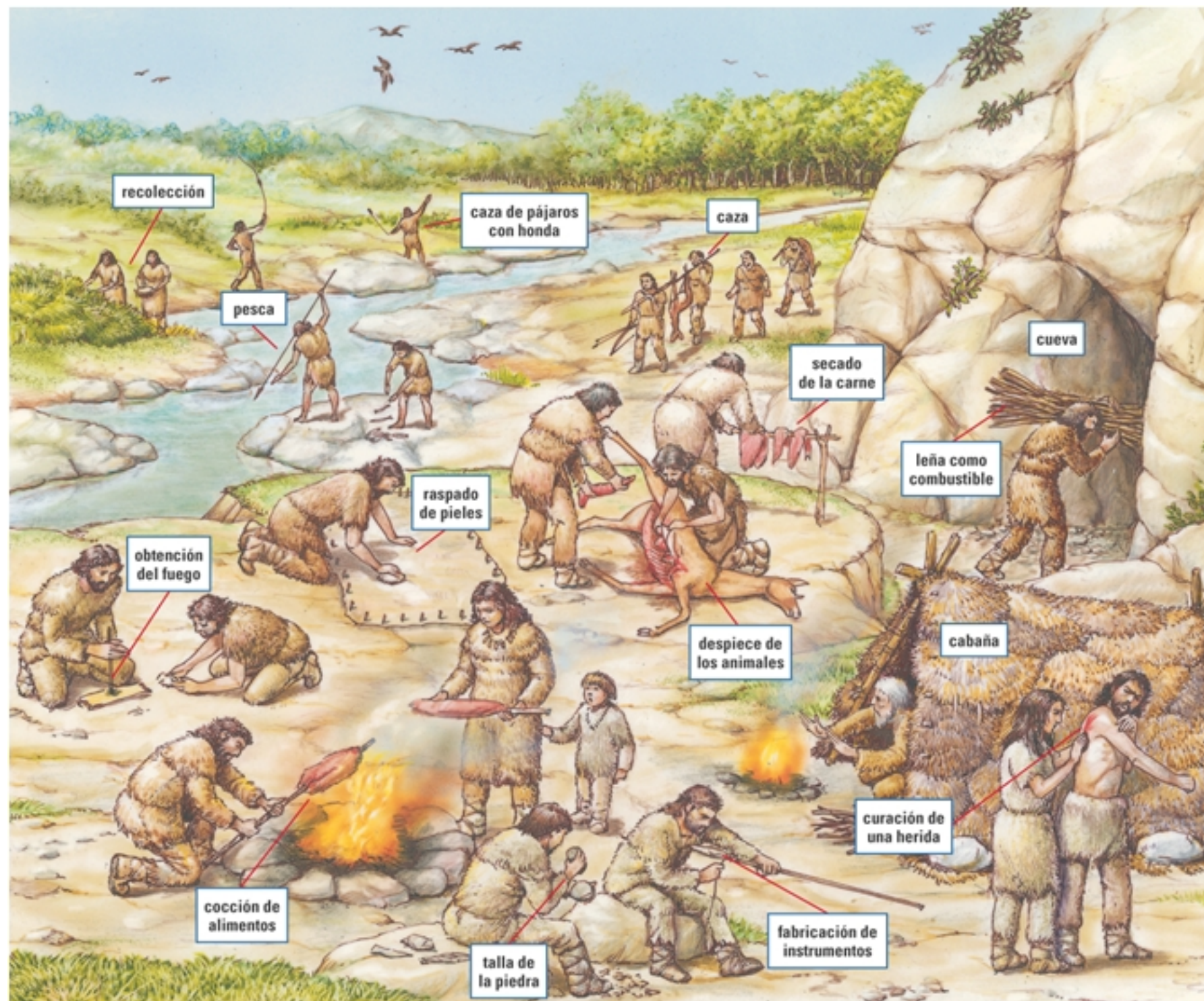


leccionesdehistoria.com

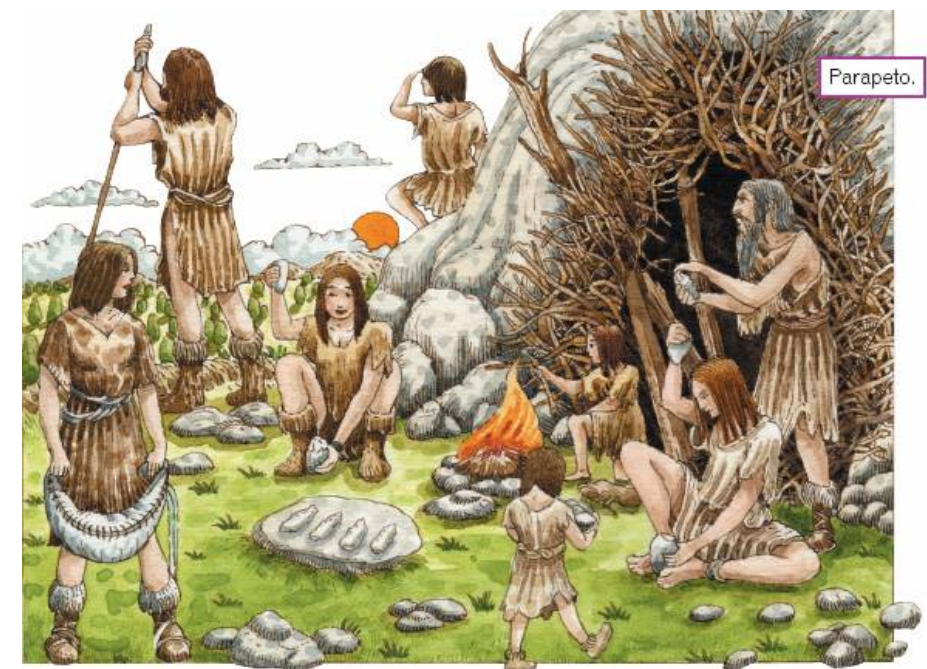
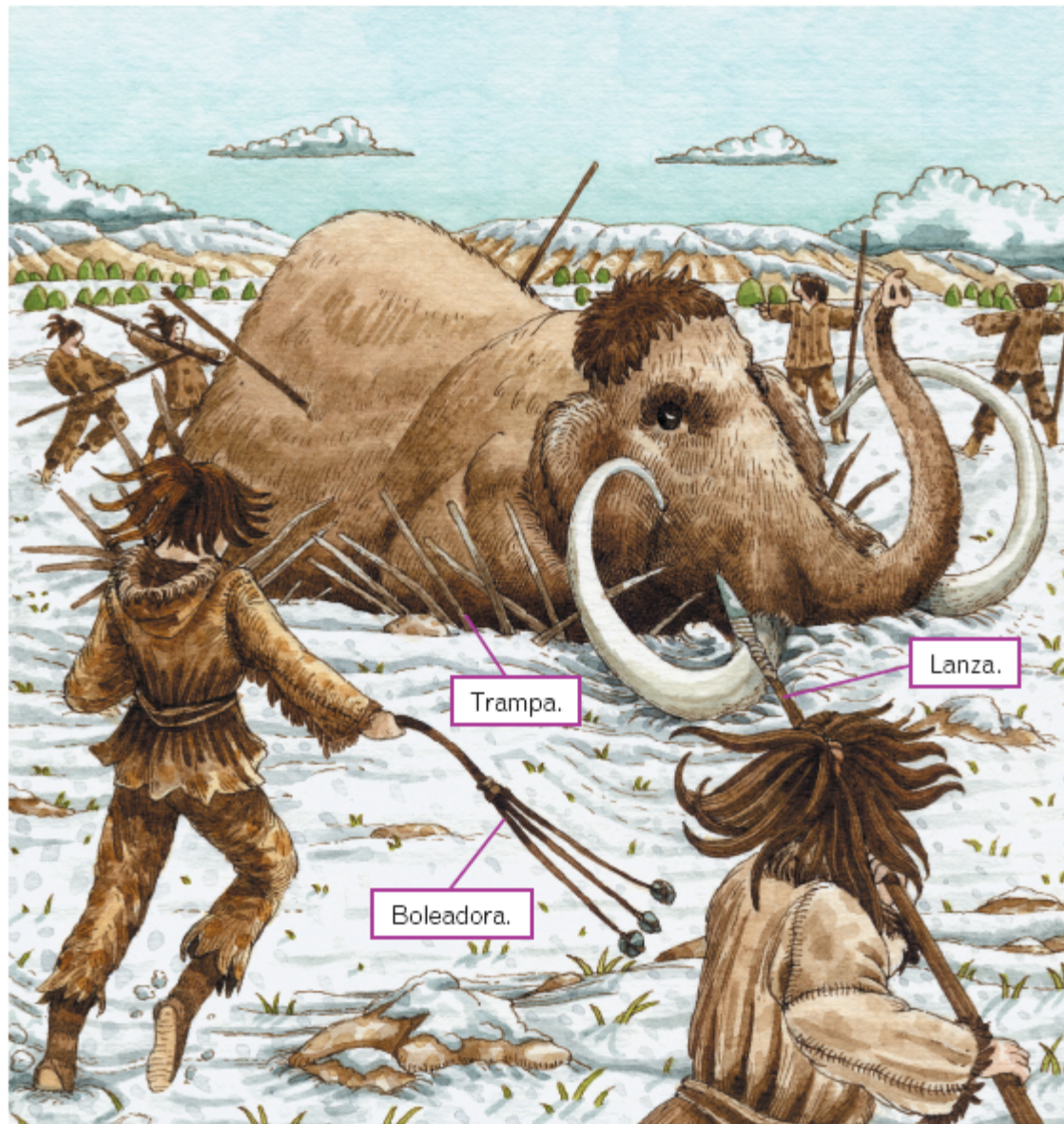








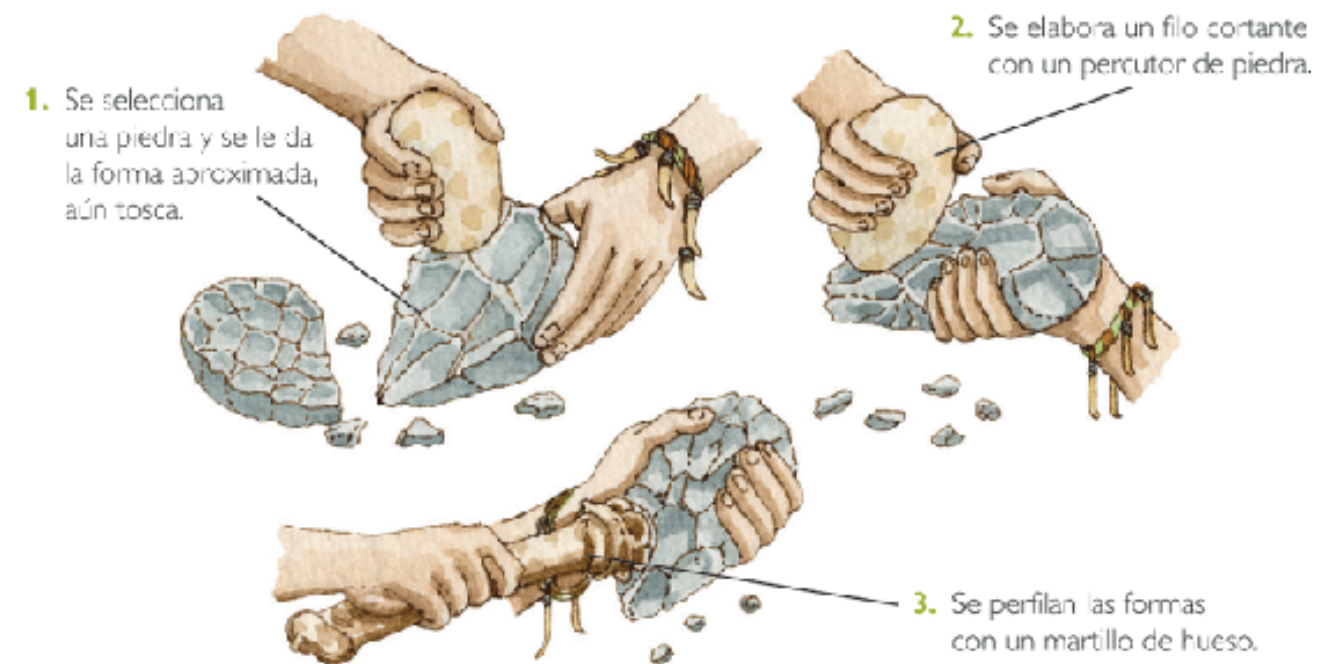






## WHAT TOOLS DO THEY HAVE?






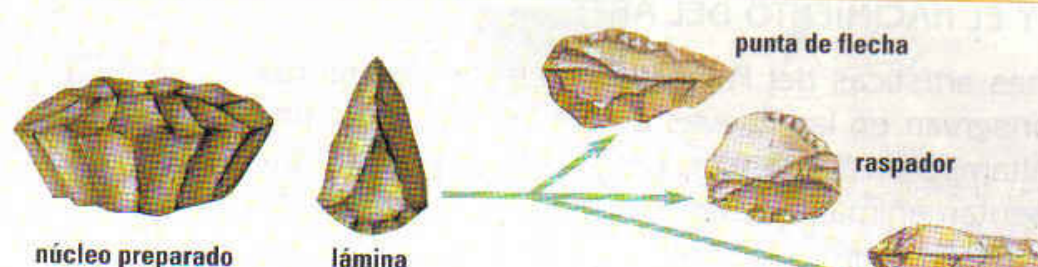


They make stone tools.  
Gradually their tools get better and more specialized - they have different tools for different jobs. They also start to make tools, like needles and harpoons, from bone and horn.



## WHAT CLOTHES DO THEY WEAR?

They wear clothes made of animal skins. They use bone needles to make them.



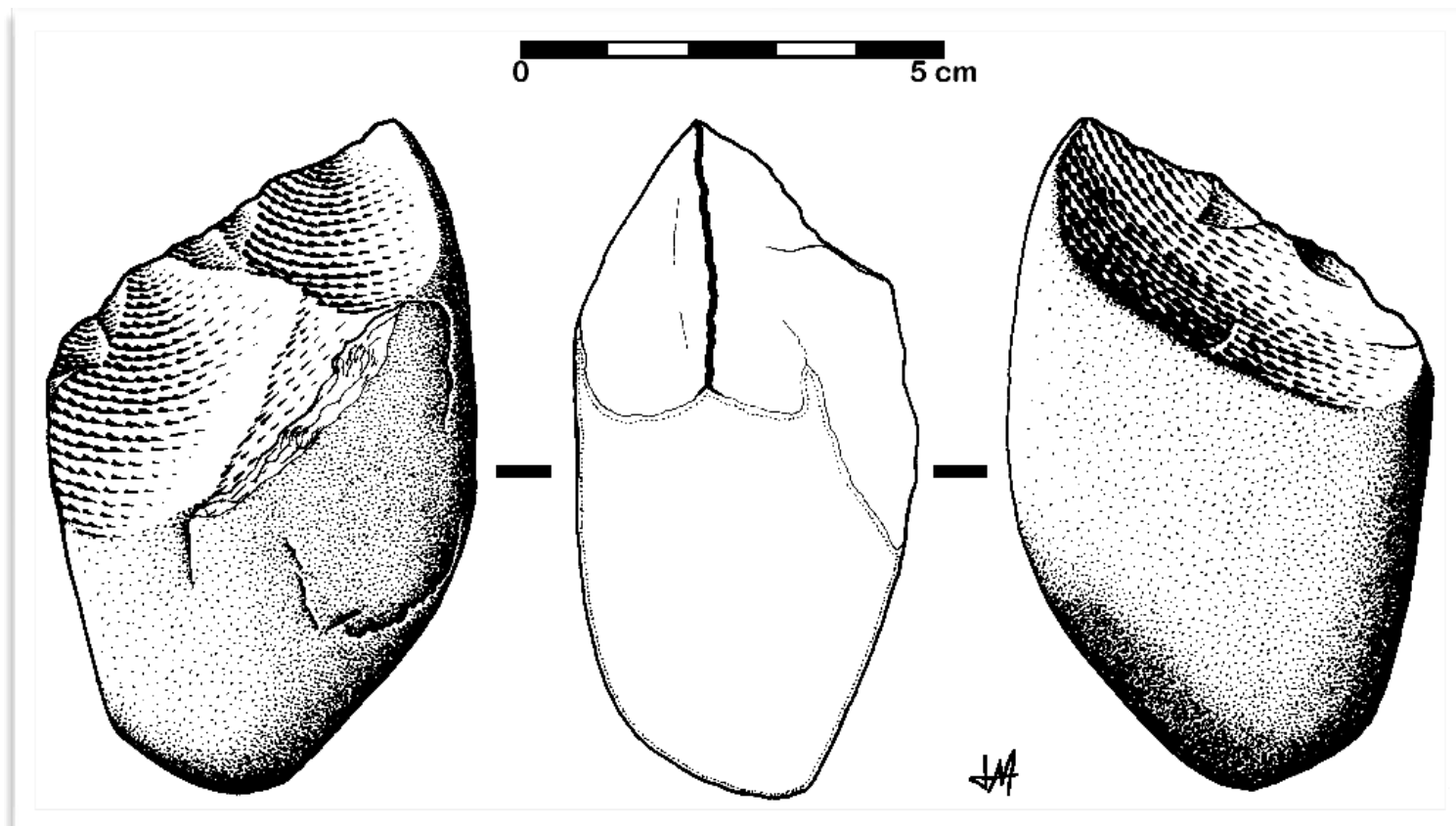
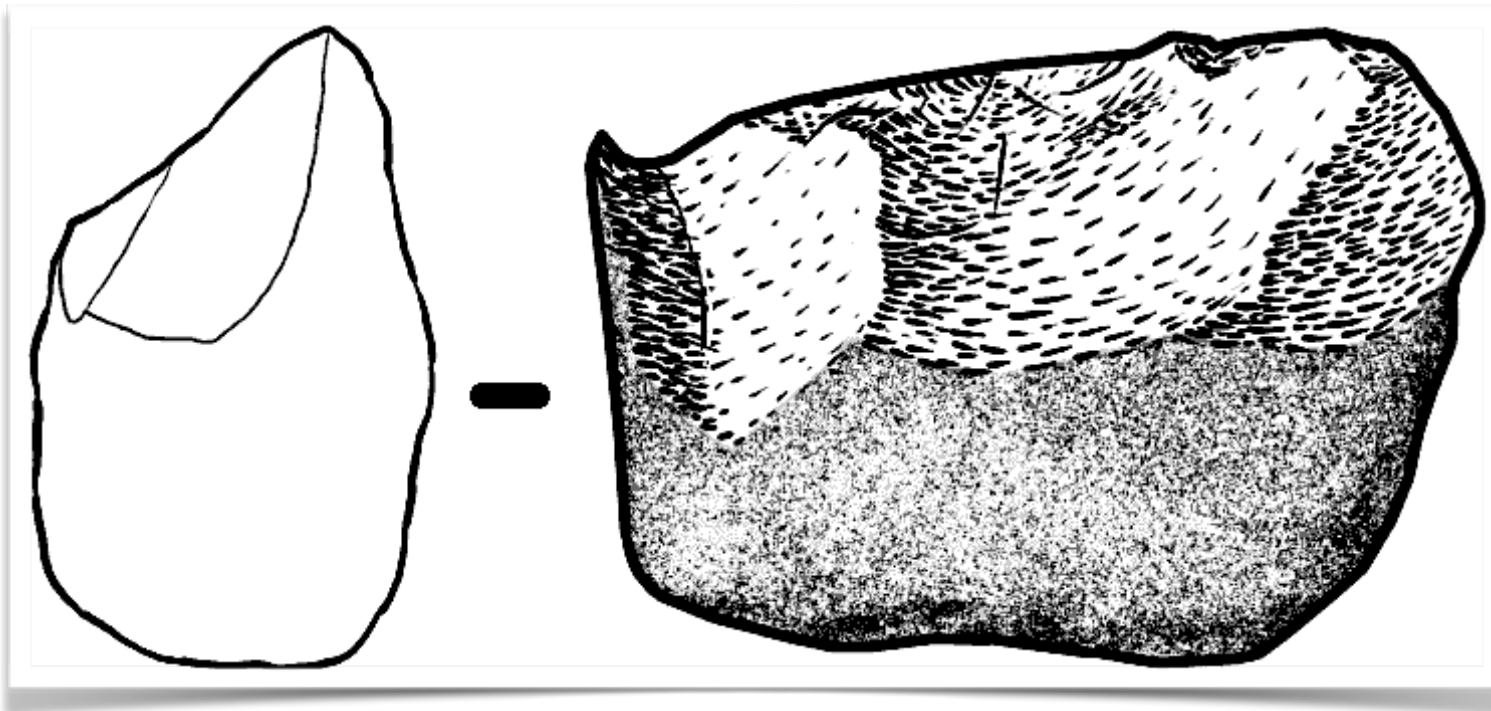
Época	Instrumentos		Utilidad
Paleolítico Inferior	 Homo habilis	 <p>guijarro</p> <p>percutor</p> <p>lasca</p> <p>núcleo</p> <p>arista cortante</p> <p>técnica: percusión directa</p>	<b>Útil polivalente:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Golpea de forma más eficaz.</li> <li>-Corta leña.</li> <li>-Fractura huesos.</li> <li>-Sirve como arma.</li> </ul>
	 Homo erectus	 <p>punta</p> <p>hacha de mano bifaz (2 aristas cortantes)</p> <p>núcleo de sílex o cuarcita</p> <p>retoque por ambas caras</p> <p>bifaz</p> <p>lasca</p>	<b>Útil polivalente:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Corta madera.</li> <li>-Arranca tubérculos.</li> <li>-Despedaza animales.</li> </ul>
Paleolítico Medio	 Homo sapiens Neanderthal	 <p>núcleo preparado de sílex</p> <p>lámina de sílex</p> <p>punta de flecha</p> <p>raspador</p> <p>perforador</p>	<b>Útiles especializados:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Flecha: arma eficaz para cazar.</li> <li>-Raspador: curtido de pieles.</li> <li>-Perforador: agujerea pieles para cosido.</li> </ul>
Paleolítico Superior	 Homo sapiens sapiens	 <p>punta de flecha de sílex</p> <p>arpón de hueso</p> <p>aguja de hueso</p> <p>propulsor de madera o asta</p>	<b>Útiles más especializados:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Flechas fáciles de unir a un palo.</li> <li>-Arpón: instrumento de pesca.</li> <li>-Aguja: cosido de pieles</li> <li>-Propulsor: mayor alcance de tiro en la caza.</li> </ul>

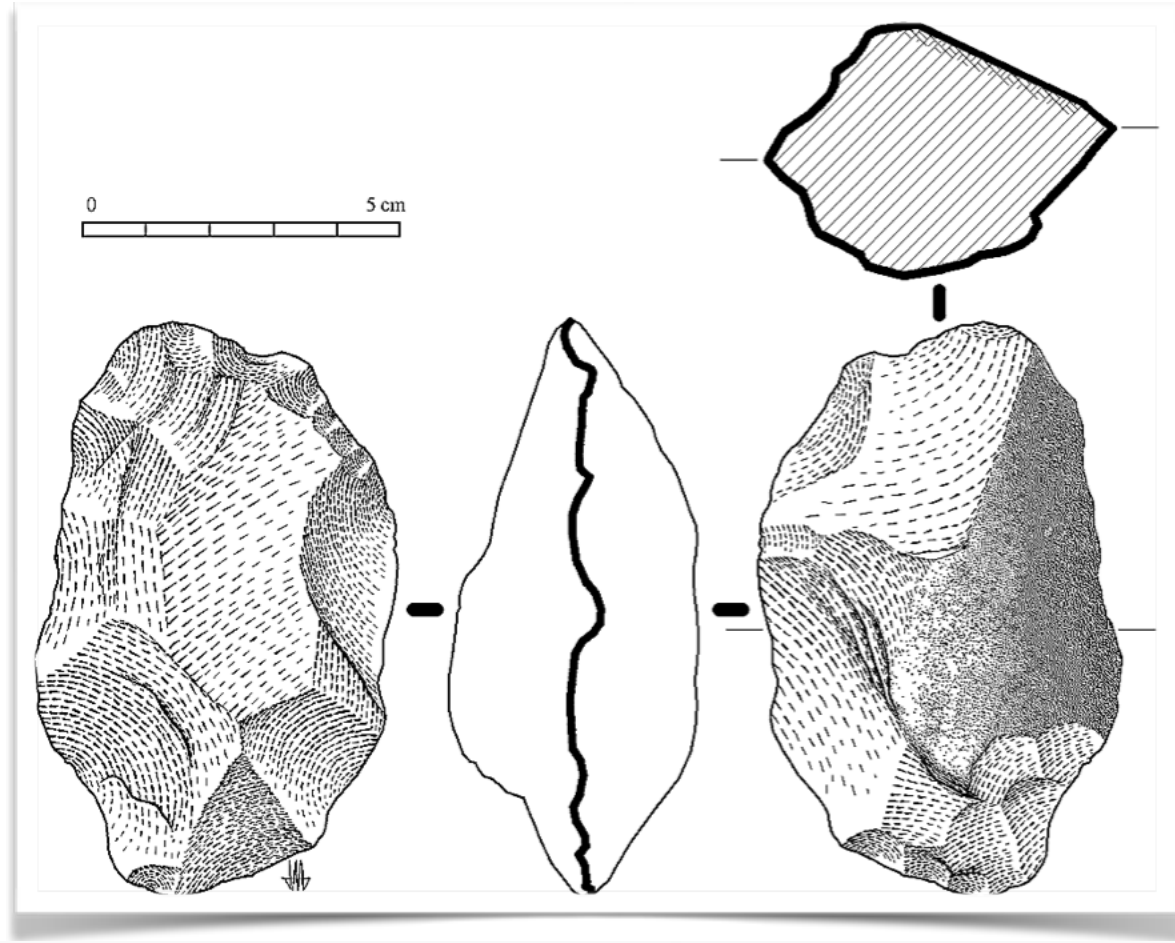




leccionesdehistoria.com

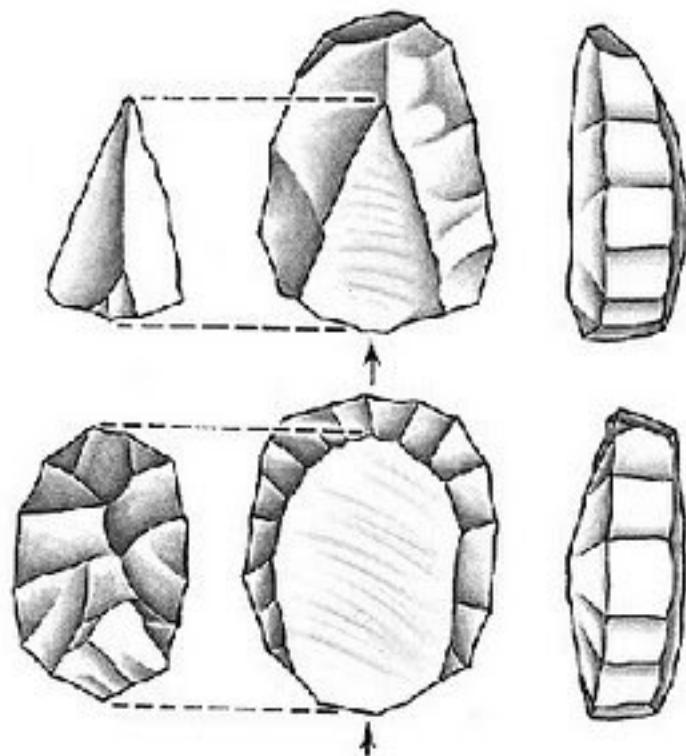






leccionesdehistoria.com





Esquema de obtención de punta y lasca Levallois

Objeto: *Punta levallois.*  
 Periodo: Paleolítico Inferior / Medio.  
 Material: Silex.

Ref. 00123



leccionesdehistoria.com





## WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE IN?

The people believe that they are surrounded by spirits. The spirits can help them when they are hunting, but they can also cause disease and death.

They perform rituals to keep the spirits happy and they believe in magic. They think that painting an animal will help them to catch it



# Ejercicios en la libreta:

Para el próximo día tienes que tener los apuntes de esta parte en tu libreta.



# 3. Neolithic Age

When temperatures increased after the last Ice Age, people started farming. This changed people's lives in lots of ways. The changes were so big that we call this the Neolithic Revolution. This was the start of the Neolithic Age, which lasted from 7,000 BC until 3,500 BC. Neolithic means "new stone", so the Neolithic Age is sometimes called the New Stone Age.

## WHAT IS THE NEOLITHIC REVOLUTION?

- When people start farming, life changes completely:
- They grow crops like wheat, barley, rye, lentils, and peas
  - They domesticate animals like sheep, goats and pigs



[philipmartin.info](http://philipmartin.info)







When people start to grow their own food, they don't need to move around any more. They are sedentary, which means they live permanently in one place. They start living in villages.

## **WHAT ARE THE VILLAGES LIKE?**

- The villages are normally close to rivers, so that they can drink the river water and use it to irrigate the crops
- The walls of the houses are made of mud bricks and the roofs are made of branches
- Most people are quite equal in the villages, but some people own more animals and fields than others. This makes them richer.



## Creciente fértil





# VIDA SEDENTARIA

A partir del Neolítico, hombres y mujeres pasaron de ser nómadas a sedentarios. También comenzó el cultivo de la tierra y la domesticación de animales. Las personas trabajaron de manera conjunta e implementaron la división de tareas según el sexo, la fuerza y la edad.



**LA VIVIENDA**  
Se construían siguiendo los cursos de agua y cerca de los campos fértiles. Se utilizaba madera, paja y caña.

**LA AGRICULTURA**  
Permitió liberarse de la dependencia de la disponibilidad de recursos naturales, ya que con el tiempo se logró cosechar más de lo que se consumía.

**PULIDO DE LA PIEDRA**  
Se realizaba frotando la piedra con arena húmeda o con piedras más duras. Permitió una mejoría en la calidad de los utensilios.

**MOLIENDA**  
Con la ayuda de una roca plana y otra redondeada molían los granos.

## PRINCIPALES ANIMALES DOMESTICADOS



Vaca Cerdo Oveja  
Perro Cabra Caballo

**LOS TEJIDOS**  
Fueron facilitados por la materia prima obtenida de los ovinos domesticados y de las plantas cosechadas.



## LAS HERRAMIENTAS



## LA CERÁMICA

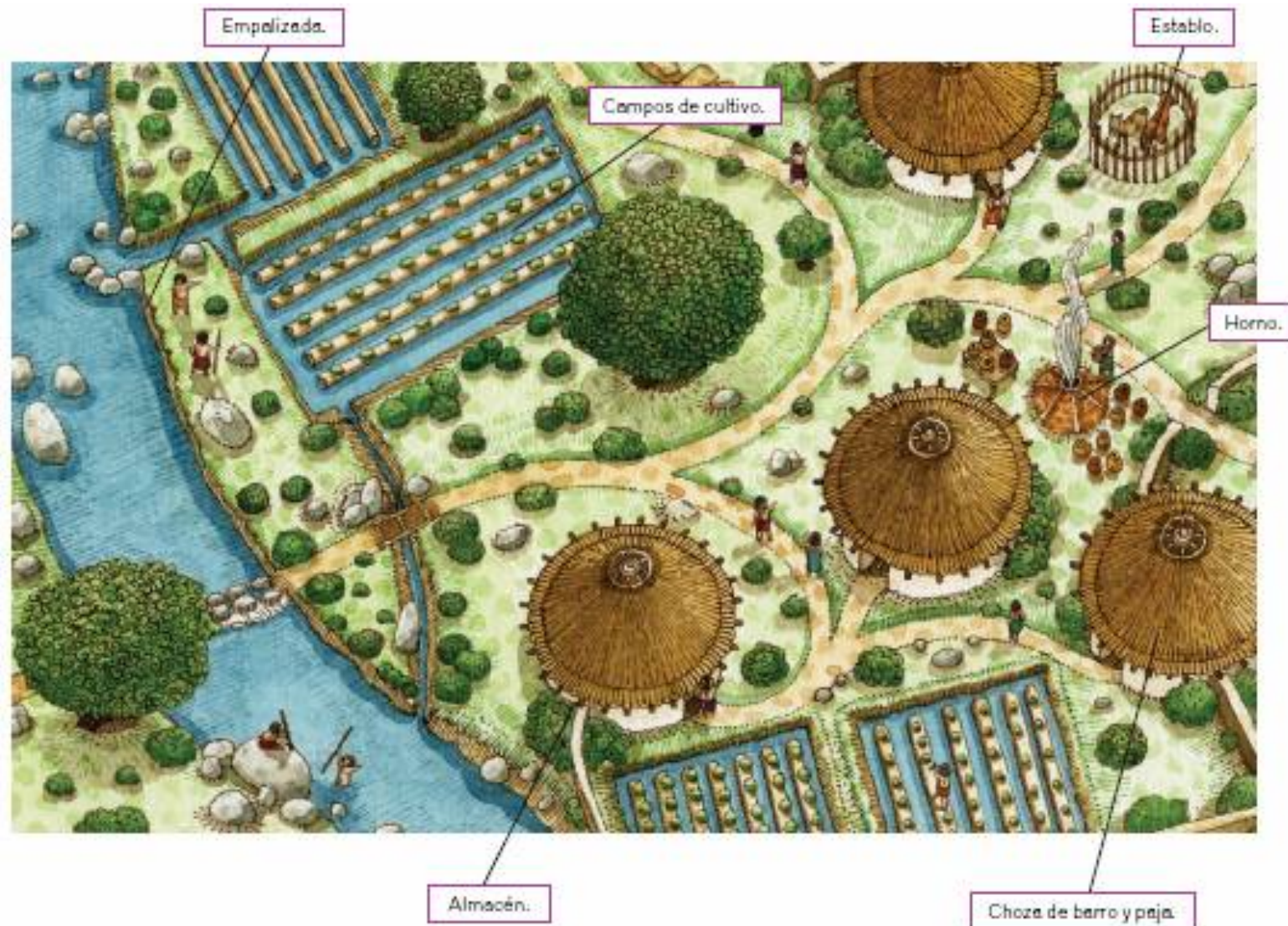


## FABRICACIÓN DE UNA VASIJA





Primeros poblados, vida en cabañas. Irán creciendo hasta convertirse en ciudades.

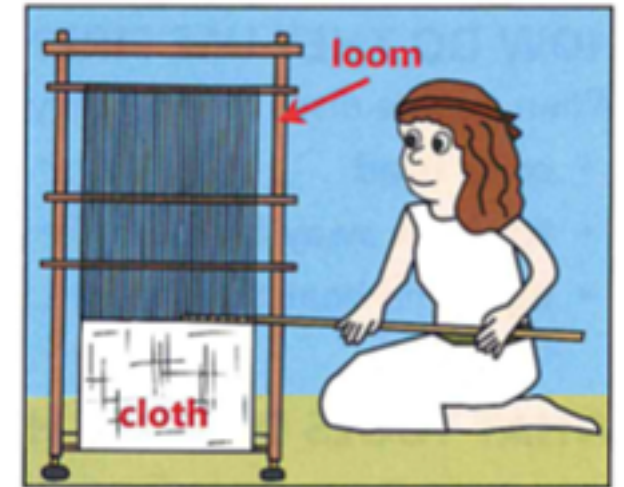




## WHAT ELSE CHANGES?

In the Neolithic Age, people learn new techniques, including:

- **Stone polishing:** they make smoother stone tools
- **Textiles:** they learn to make thread and weave cloth
- **Pottery:** they learn to make pots; they use them to store and cook food



## WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE IN?

They bury their dead with personal objects like jewelry and tools. This may be because they believe in life after death. The people worship their ancestors, who are buried in large necropolises (cmenteries). Necropolis means "city of the dead"

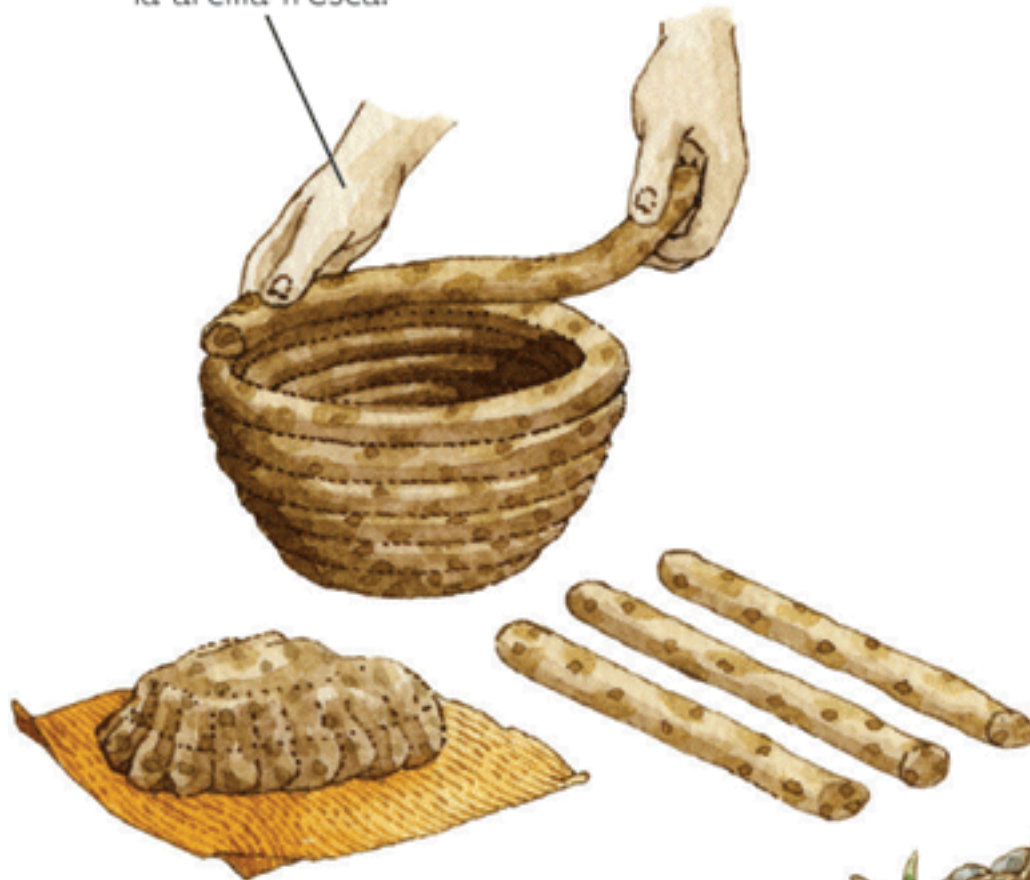




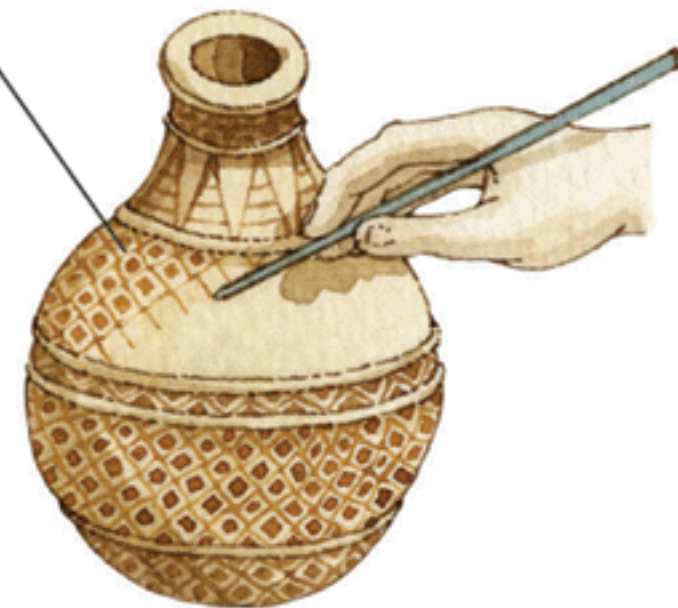




1. Se modelaba a mano la arcilla fresca.



2. Se grababan adornos y dibujos geométricos o lineales.



3. Se cocía en una hoguera o en pequeños hornos.









# 4. USING METALS: The Bronze Age and Iron Age

- In the Bronze Age, people started using metal. The first metal they used was copper. In about 3,500 BC they learned to combine copper and tin to make bronze, which is stronger than copper. The Iron Age began when people started to use iron instead of bronze.

## WHAT DO THEY USE METAL FOR?

They use metal for lots of different things including:

- **Tools:** one of the new metal tools is the plough
- **Jewellery:** including necklaces and bracelets
- **Weapons:** like swords, spears and helmets

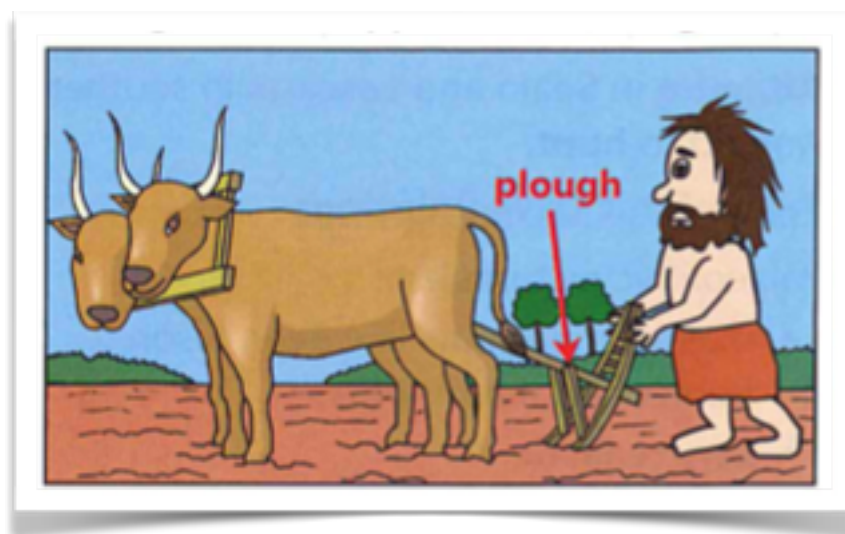


## HOW DO THEY MAKE THINGS FROM METAL?

- To start with, they just hit pieces of metal with a stone hammer to make the shape they want.
- Later they learn to heat up the metal to make it easier to shape.

## THE FIRST TRADE

The first trade starts when people exchange the new metal objects for other things, like food. The wheel and the sail are invented, so there are new forms of transport. It is now much easier to move things around, so trade increases





## HOW DOES THIS AFFECT THE WAY PEOPLE LIVE?

- When population wealth increase, some villages get bigger and turn into towns.
- Making things from metal is difficult, so there are specialist metal workers or blacksmiths. Other people are specialist craftsmen or artisans who make pottery and jewellery.
- Specialisation means that for the first time there are different social groups. Some of these groups are richer and more powerful than others.
- Some people become warriors to protect the wealth of the town or village. One of the warriors is chosen to be the chief or king.











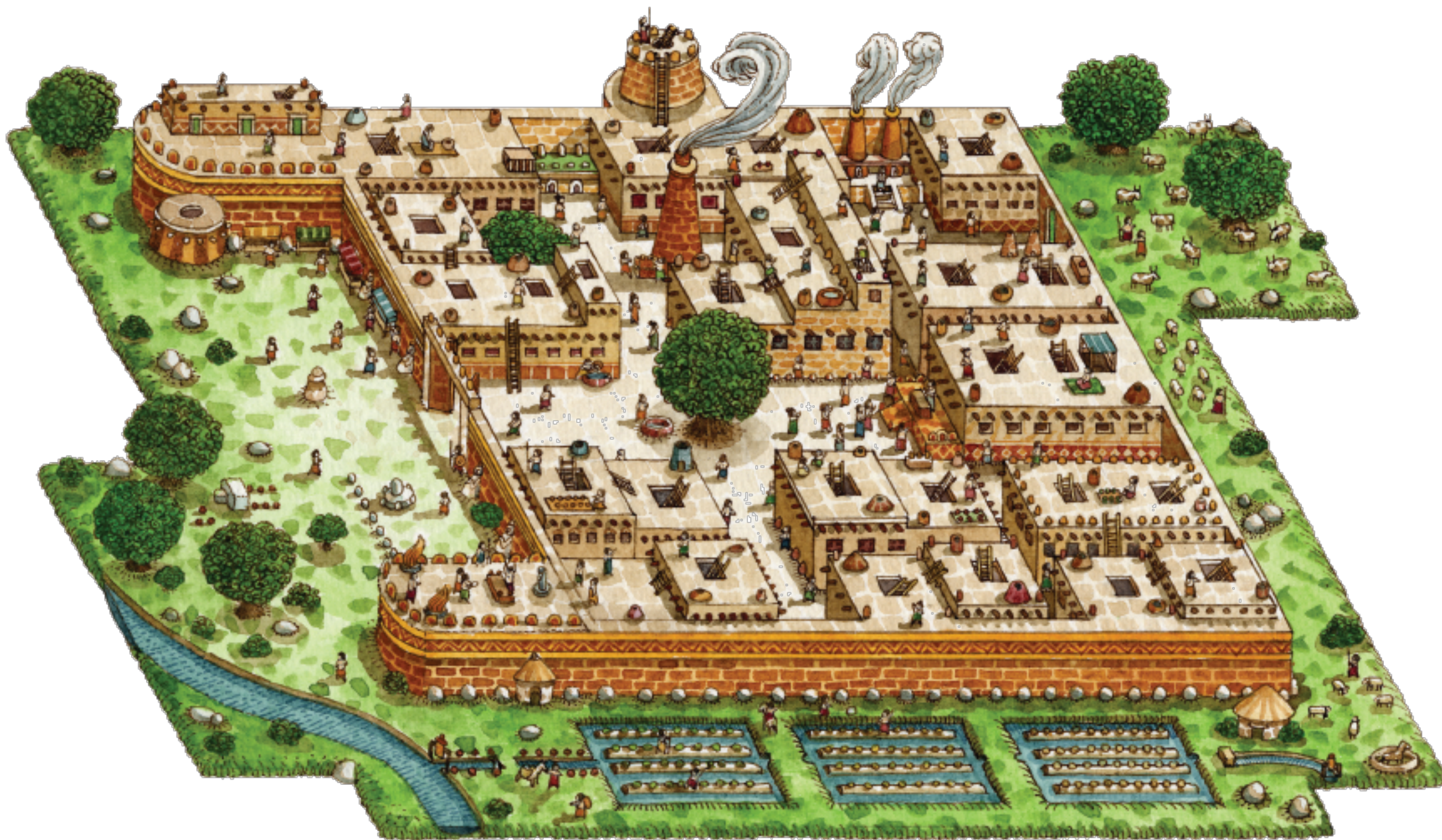
Oro.



Hierro

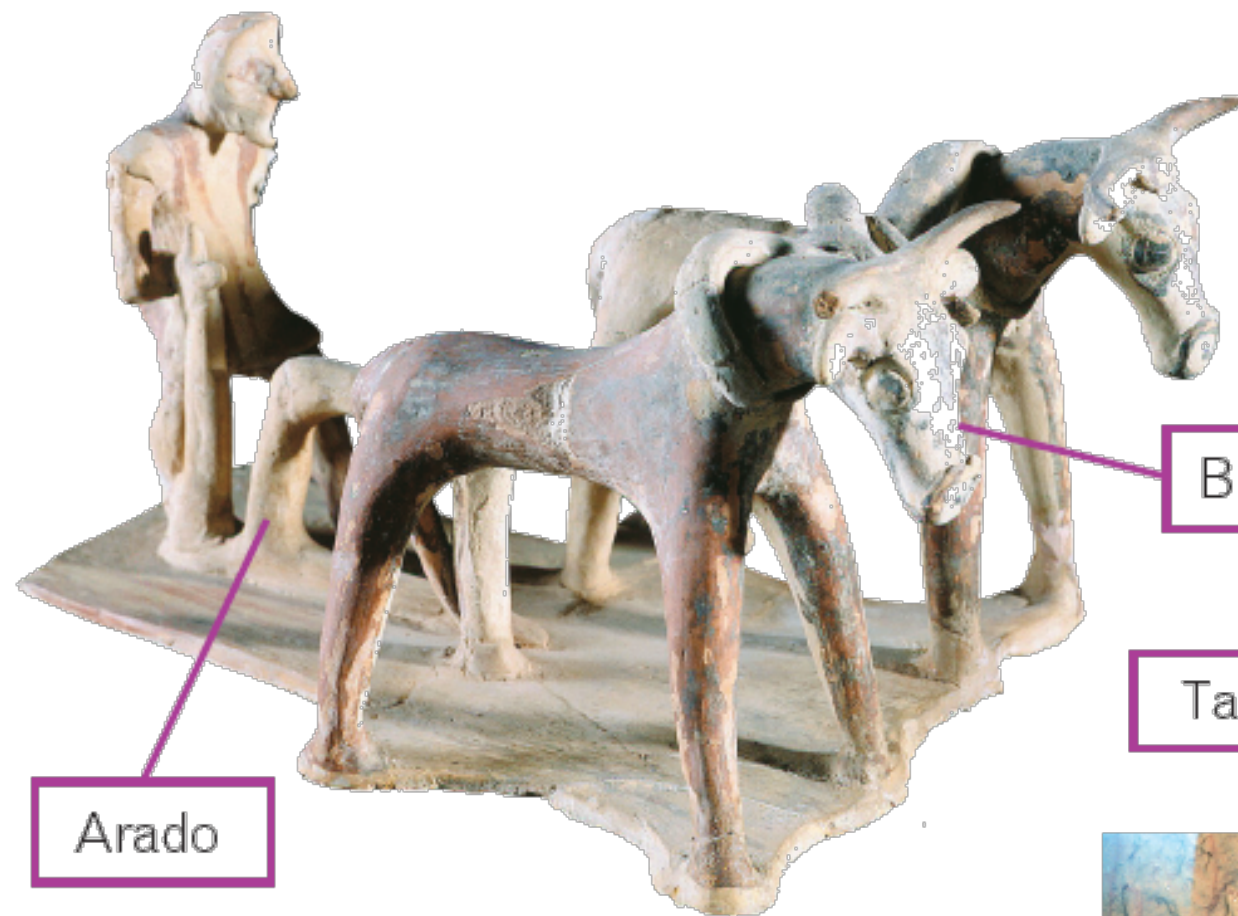






leccionesdehistoria.com





Arado

Bueyes

Tapadera.

Era de cerámica.



La urna se enterraba.









## **MORE WAR**

In the Bronze Age, towns start to fight against each other because:

- When the population grows, there is more competition for the best farmland
  - People need metal, and will fight for it

The people who lived in this period wanted to defend themselves against their enemies, so:

- They built their town on the top of a hill
  - They built walls around it

## **WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE IN?**

The people believe in gods who represent the forces of nature, like the sun, the wind, thunder and lightning.

There are also gods of the earth, sea and sky.

People perform religious ceremonies and make sacrifices to the gods.



# Ejercicios en la libreta:

Para el próximo día tienes que tener los apuntes de esta parte en tu libreta.



# 5. PREHISTORIC ART

## **CAVE PAINTING**

People started painting on cave walls over 30,000 years ago. The most famous cave paintings are at Altamira in Spain and Lascaux in southern France. We think the people painted the animals that they wanted hunt.

## **PALAEOLITHIC CAVE PAINTINGS:**

- Mainly of animals like deer, bison, horses and mammoths
- Very realistic
- Painted in several colours

## **NEOLITHIC CAVE PAINTINGS:**

- Represent groups of people hunting, farming or dancing
- Are more abstract
- Only use one colour









Andamio.

Antorcha.

Elabora  
las pinturas.





## **ROCK CARVINGS**

People also carved pictures on rocks and animal bones.



## **STATUES**

In the Palaeolithic Age, people made small statues of women from stone, bone and horn. We call these Venus figurines. They have exaggerated sexual organs. We think they are symbols of fertility.









# 6. MEGALITHS

At the end of the Neolithic Age, people started making huge monuments, called megaliths, from blocks of stone. The stones can be up to 20 metros high, and there are several different types:

## **MENHIRS OR STANDING STONES:**

- are single blocks of stone standing vertically. We think their use was related to the sun and the seasons.

## **DOLMENS:**

- are made of several standing stones with more stones across the top to make a roof. Dolmens were used as tombs.









## **STONE CIRCLES:**

- consist of lots of stones arranged in a circle. The most famous stone circle is Stonehenge, but there are more than 1,000 other stone circles in Great Britain and Ireland





8 de julio de 1994

# El yacimiento de Atapuerca

Tras encontrarse los fósiles de seis homínidos, esta sierra se confirmó como la cuna de los primeros europeos

A finales del siglo XIX, la excavación de una trinchera para el paso del ferrocarril desde la sierra de la Demanda hasta Burgos, deja al descubierto varias cuevas con importantes depósitos de restos paleolíticos



## Pruebas de canibalismo

En Gran Dolina se encontraron huesos humanos con **signos de descarnamiento con herramientas**, probablemente miembros de otros clanes rezagados o enfermos

Cortes de herramientas

Al ser una zona de paso, caían animales heridos que servían de alimento

## Gran Dolina

En ella se hallaron los restos de un homínido que se documentaba por primera vez en el mundo: el **Homo antecessor**, datado hace 780.000 años

## Sima del Elefante

Presenta los restos de ocupación humana más antiguos de Europa occidental: huesos con al menos **1,2 millones de años**

## Galería de las estatuas

## La Trinchera del Ferrocarril

## Sima de los huesos

Casi una treintena de **Homo Heidelbergensis** de diferentes edades y sexo aparecen aquí junto a varias especies de animales

## El Homo Antecessor

Descubierto y bautizado gracias a los restos de Atapuerca, representa a los primeros humanos que habitaron Europa.

Homo Ergaster

Homo Antecessor

Homo Heidelbergensis

Homo Neanderthalensis

Los extintos Neandertales provenían como especie de los que migraron a Europa

En África evolucionó hacia el Homo Sapiens

Homo Sapiens

2 Millones de años

1

0,5

0,3

0,1

## Cantera de arqueólogos

A partir de 1990 el equipo se profesionalizó y trabajan más de un centenar de personas durante casi dos meses en verano. Realizan extracción de restos, creación de bases de datos y posterior análisis en el laboratorio



Cueva del Siléx

Cueva Mayor

## Conservación única

La entrada de sedimentos crea unas condiciones idóneas para preservar los restos fósiles



Roca caliza

Sedimentos

1896-1901

La excavación de la trinchera para el paso del ferrocarril descubre el acceso al complejo de galerías subterráneas de la sierra

1976

Se descubre una mandíbula y 17 restos humanos que el arqueólogo Emiliano Aguirre identifica como anteriores al Neandertal

1989

Se contabilizan **300 restos humanos** en la Sima de los Huesos

1990

Hallan utensilios de piedra en Gran Dolina de casi **un millón de años**

1992

Encuentran el **cráneo más completo hasta la fecha** de todo el yacimiento. Llamado **"Miguelón"**

1994-1996

Restos de lo que parece un nuevo homínido se encuentran en Gran Dolina junto con **indicios de antropofagia**

1997

El equipo de investigación de Atapuerca presenta en Madrid una nueva especie de homínido, el **Homo Antecessor**

1998

Encuentran en Gran Dolina un **hacha de mano de gran formato de 400.000 años**. Fue tallada en otro lugar y llevada a Atapuerca. La bautizan **"Excalibur"**

2000

La UNESCO declara los yacimientos de la sierra de Atapuerca **Patrimonio de la Humanidad**

2001

Hallados **indicios de fuego de unos 150.000 años** en la zona superior de la Sima del Elefante

"Miguelón"  
Cráneo de Homo Antecessor

FUENTES: Fundación Atapuerca

DOCUMENTACIÓN: Jessica López

INFOGRAFÍA: ESTUDIO SICILIA



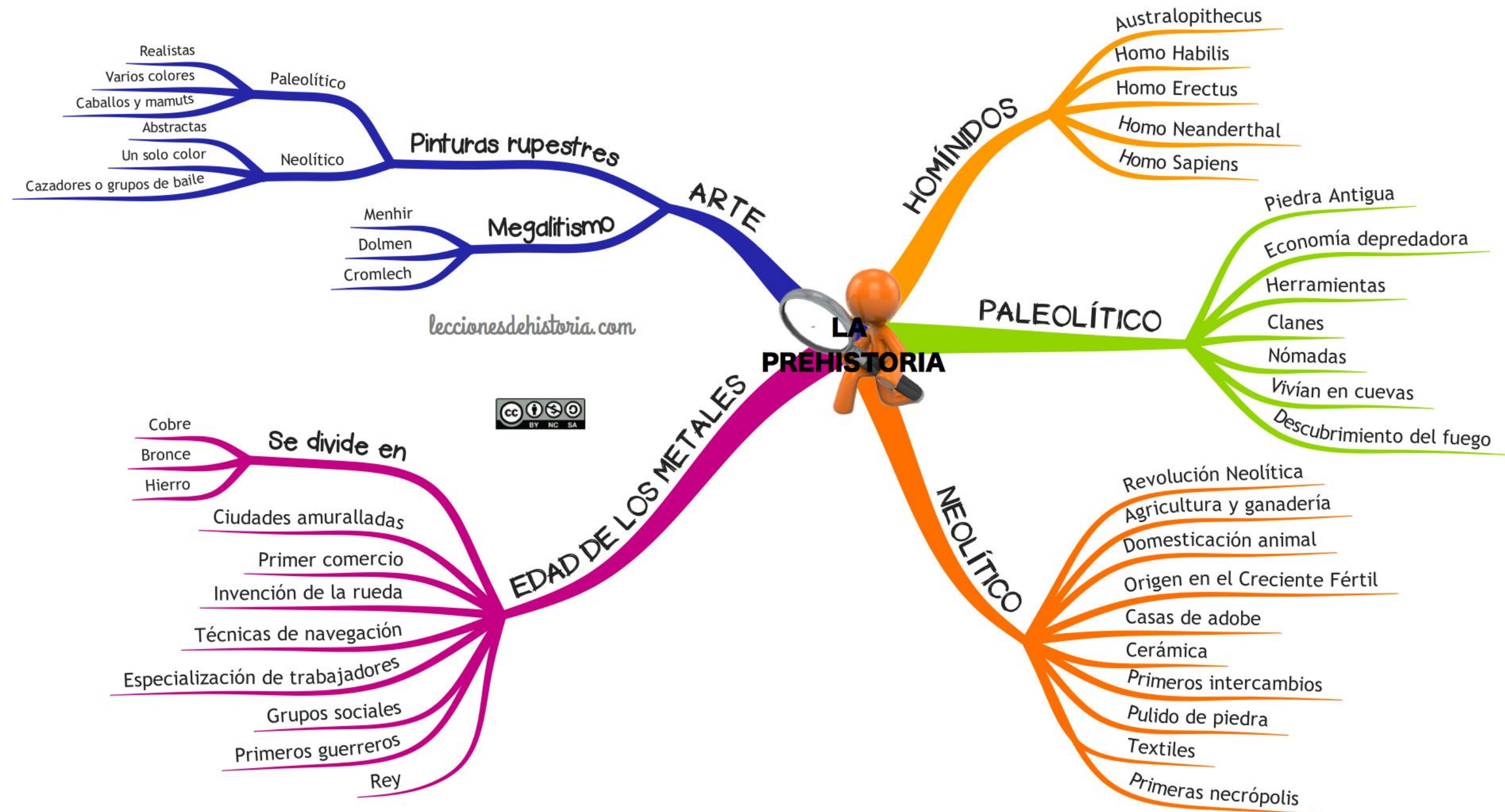
leccionesdehistoria.com







# MAPA CONCEPTUAL DE LA UNIDAD



leccionesdehistoria.com



leccionesdehistoria.com

# REMEMBER:

You have more information about this unit  
in this link:

<https://leccionesdehistoria.com/1ESO/historia/u-d-7-la-vida-en-la-prehistoria/>





# Ejercicios en la libreta:

Para el próximo día tienes que tener los apuntes de esta parte en tu libreta.

# Ejercicio en el blog:

Para la fecha que indique la profesora, hay que realizar el siguiente ejercicio en el blog:

- Investiga en internet y publica una entrada hablando sobre la desaparición del Homo de Neanderthal (Máximo 10 líneas)
- Puedes hacer una entrada extra para subir nota hablando sobre el yacimiento de Atapuerca

**Recuerda:** Adjunta imágenes para que quede el blog completo y elegante.



# Glossary

<http://www.students.linguaframe.com/gh1-audio-glossary>

hominid, Palaeolithic Age, Neolithic Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, gathering, tribe, band, tools, pottery, weave, jewellery, cave, spirit, ritual, ancestor, crops, weapons, cave painting, megalith, menhir, dolmen, stone circle

EL TEXTO DE LOS SIGUIENTES APUNTES HAN SIDO REALIZADOS CON UN TOTAL FIN EDUCATIVO Y NO LUCRATIVO. LAS IMÁGENES EXTRAÍDAS PARA SU ELABORACIÓN HAN SIDO RECOPIADAS DE WEBS DE INTERNET MENCIONADAS, Y EN SU MAYORÍA DE WIKIPEDIA. EN EL CASO QUE RECONOCIERA ALGUNA IMAGEN COMO SUYA Y TUVIERA COPYRIGHT, POR FAVOR, HÁGALO SABER A [LECCIONESDEHISTORIA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LECCIONESDEHISTORIA@GMAIL.COM) Y ÉSTA SERÁ RETIRADA LO MÁS BREVE POSIBLE.



leccionesdehistoria.com