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Level 6

Cutting up food helped human evolution

11th March, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Eating habits and food processing skills from around two million years ago helped humans to evolve and develop language. Researchers from Harvard University say that learning to cut meat up and using basic stone tools to process food were crucial steps in our evolutionary process. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it meant we needed less time for chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to develop language and communicate. The researchers estimate that cutting up meat and other food saved early humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In contrast, the chimpanzee spends half of its day chewing, which means it has less time to communicate.

The researchers also said the shape of our face changed because we needed to chew less. Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had learnt to cut up food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We went from having snouts and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having smaller teeth, smaller chewing muscles, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and others, allowed for the selection for speech and other shifts in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to test his theory. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, and nothing happens." He added that to some extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the simplest technology of all".

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/science/science-news/12189080/Table-manners-how-learning-to-cut-up-food-was-crucial-to-human-evolution.html>
<http://www.latimes.com/science/sciencenow/la-sci-sn-raw-meat-stone-tools-evolution-20160309-story.html>
<http://www.livescience.com/53994-paleo-diet-helped-humans-evolve-speech.html>

WARM-UPS

1. HUMAN EVOLUTION: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about human evolution. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

eating habits / food processing / tools / crucial / evolutionary process / chimpanzee / jaws / teeth / muscles / selection / bigger brains / theory / slicing meat / technology

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. EVOLUTION: How will we evolve from now? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Changes	Are they good changes?
Height		
Intelligence		
Skin colour		
Hair		
Health		
Eyes		

4. CHEWING: Students A **strongly** believe we should chew our food more; Students B **strongly** believe we shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. BASIC TOOLS: Rank these with your partner. Put the things most important for our evolution at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- fire
- knives
- clothes
- the wheel
- computers
- penicillin
- electricity
- spears

6. DEVELOP: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "develop". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| a. The food processing skills mentioned happened two million years ago. | T / F |
| b. The research is from Cambridge University. | T / F |
| c. Our speaking skills developed because we needed to chew less. | T / F |
| d. Chimpanzees spend about half their days chewing. | T / F |
| e. The shape of our face changed because we needed to chew less. | T / F |
| f. Our teeth got bigger because we needed to chew less. | T / F |
| g. One of the researchers chewed raw chicken to prove his theory. | T / F |
| h. The researcher said slicing meat was a very advanced technology. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. skills | a. prehistoric |
| 2. develop | b. degree |
| 3. crucial | c. progress |
| 4. estimate | d. alterations |
| 5. early | e. examine |
| 6. shape | f. capabilities |
| 7. changes | g. structure |
| 8. test | h. guess |
| 9. theory | i. key |
| 10. extent | j. notion |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. eating | a. test his theory |
| 2. food | b. tools |
| 3. using basic stone | c. brains |
| 4. crucial steps in our evolutionary | d. its day chewing |
| 5. the chimpanzee spends half of | e. habits |
| 6. chewing | f. nothing happens |
| 7. bigger | g. of all |
| 8. Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to | h. processing |
| 9. you chew and you chew, and | i. muscles |
| 10. the simplest technology | j. process |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Eating habits and food processing (1) _____ from around two million years ago helped humans to (2) _____ and develop language. Researchers from Harvard University say that learning to cut meat up and using (3) _____ stone tools to process food were crucial steps in our evolutionary (4) _____. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it meant we needed less time for chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to (5) _____ language and communicate. The researchers estimate that cutting up meat and other food saved (6) _____ humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In contrast, the chimpanzee spends (7) _____ of its day chewing, which means it has (8) _____ time to communicate.

process
skills
early
less
basic
evolve
half
develop

The researchers also said the (9) _____ of our face changed because we needed to chew less. Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had (10) _____ to cut up food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We went from having (11) _____ and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having smaller teeth, smaller chewing (12) _____, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and others, allowed for the selection for speech and other (13) _____ in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed (14) _____ goat meat to test his theory. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, and (15) _____ happens." He added that to some extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the (16) _____ technology of all".

shifts
learnt
nothing
shape
simplest
muscles
snouts
raw

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

- 1) food processing skills from around two million years ago helped _____
 - a. humans to revolve
 - b. humans to devolve
 - c. humans to evolve
 - d. humans to involve
- 2) learning to cut meat up and using basic stone tools to process food _____
 - a. were crucial step
 - b. were crucial steps
 - c. were crucial steppes
 - d. were crucial strep
- 3) The fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it meant we needed less _____
 - a. time form chewing
 - b. time fore chewing
 - c. time fort chewing
 - d. time for chewing
- 4) This gave our mouths more free time to develop language _____
 - a. and communicates
 - b. and communicate
 - c. and communicated
 - d. and communicator
- 5) cutting up meat and other food saved early humans as many as 2.5 million _____
 - a. chews fir year
 - b. chews nor year
 - c. chews far year
 - d. chews per year
- 6) The researchers also said the shape of our face changed because we _____
 - a. needed to chew less
 - b. needed to chews less
 - c. needed to chewed less
 - d. needed to chewy less
- 7) Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had learnt _____
 - a. to cuts up food
 - b. to cut up food
 - c. to cut upped food
 - d. to cut ups food
- 8) allowed for the selection for speech and other shifts in the head, _____
 - a. like biggest brains
 - b. like biggish brains
 - c. like beginner brains
 - d. like bigger brains
- 9) Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to _____
 - a. test his theory
 - b. test his theories
 - c. test his theorise
 - d. test his theory is
- 10) slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing is the simplest _____
 - a. technology off all
 - b. technology of all
 - c. technology of fall
 - d. technology off fall

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Eating habits and food processing skills (1) _____ million years ago helped humans to (2) _____ language. Researchers from Harvard University say that learning to cut meat up and using basic stone tools to process food were (3) _____ our evolutionary process. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it meant we needed (4) _____ chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to develop language and communicate. The researchers estimate that cutting up meat and (5) _____ early humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In contrast, the chimpanzee spends half of its day chewing, which (6) _____ time to communicate.

The researchers also said (7) _____ face changed because we needed to chew less. Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had (8) _____ food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We went from having snouts and big teeth (9) _____ muscles to having smaller teeth, smaller chewing muscles, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and (10) _____ the selection for speech and other shifts in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat (11) _____. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, (12) _____." He added that to some extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the simplest technology of all".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

1. What did eating habits help to develop two million years ago?

2. Which university conducted the research?

3. What did we need to do less because we cut meat up?

4. How many chews per year did cutting up meat save early humans?

5. How much of the day does a chimpanzee spend chewing?

6. What did the need to chew less change the shape of?

7. What became smaller because of the need to chew less?

8. What part of our bodies became bigger?

9. What kind of meat did a researcher chew to test his theory?

10. What did the researcher say was the simplest technology of all?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

1. What did eating habits help to develop two million years ago?
 - a) table manners
 - b) cutlery
 - c) language
 - d) roasted meat
2. Which university conducted the research?
 - a) Harvard
 - b) Sorbonne
 - c) Oxford
 - d) Tokyo
3. What did we need to do less because we cut meat up?
 - a) hunt
 - b) cook
 - c) speak
 - d) chew
4. How many chews per year did cutting up meat save early humans?
 - a) 25,000,000
 - b) 2,500,000
 - c) 250,000
 - d) 250,000,000
5. How much of the day does a chimpanzee spend chewing?
 - a) a fifth
 - b) two-thirds
 - c) half
 - d) three-quarters
6. What did the need to chew less change the shape of?
 - a) dinner tables
 - b) our face
 - c) shops
 - d) knives
7. What became smaller because of the need to chew less?
 - a) our tongue
 - b) knives
 - c) saucepans
 - d) our teeth
8. What part of our bodies became bigger?
 - a) our hands
 - b) our brain
 - c) our jaw
 - d) our tongue
9. What kind of meat did a researcher chew to test his theory?
 - a) goat
 - b) camel
 - c) chicken
 - d) horse
10. What did the researcher say was the simplest technology of all?
 - a) chewing
 - b) cooking food
 - c) talking
 - d) slicing meat

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Role A – Fire

You think fire was the most important thing for human evolution. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things weren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): clothes, the wheel or spears.

Role B – Clothes

You think clothes were the most important things for human evolution. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things weren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): fire, the wheel or spears.

Role C – The wheel

You think the wheel was the most important thing for human evolution. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things weren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): clothes, fire or spears.

Role D – Spears

You think spears were the most important things for human evolution. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things weren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): clothes, the wheel or fire.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'human' and 'evolution'.

human	evolution
--------------	------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• habits• basic• fact• free• 2.5• half	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• shape• because• faces• bigger• nothing• all
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

HUMAN EVOLUTION SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Write five GOOD questions about human evolution in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HUMAN EVOLUTION DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'chew'?
- 3) What do you think about what you read?
- 4) What do you know about human evolution?
- 5) Would eating raw food mean you speak less?
- 6) How important is chewing?
- 7) What did your parents tell you about chewing?
- 8) How much of the day do you spend chewing?
- 9) Is chewing gum important?
- 10) Does food taste better the more we chew it?

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HUMAN EVOLUTION DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) Is it good that the shape of our face changed?
- 13) What things do you most like chewing?
- 14) If we only have soup and never chew, would we talk more?
- 15) What do you think of chewing raw meat?
- 16) Is there anything you don't like chewing?
- 17) How else does food affect communication?
- 18) Is this the simplest form of technology?
- 19) How will we evolve in the next million years?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Eating habits and food processing (1) _____ from around two million years ago helped humans to (2) _____ and develop language. Researchers from Harvard University say that learning to cut meat up and using basic (3) _____ tools to process food were crucial steps in our evolutionary process. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it (4) _____ we needed less time for chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to develop language and communicate. The researchers estimate that cutting up meat and other food (5) _____ early humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In (6) _____, the chimpanzee spends half of its day chewing, which means it has less time to communicate.

The researchers also said the (7) _____ of our face changed because we needed to chew less. Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had learnt to cut up food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We went from (8) _____ snouts and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having smaller teeth, smaller chewing muscles, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and others, (9) _____ for the selection for speech and other shifts in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to test his (10) _____. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, and (11) _____ happens." He added that to some extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the simplest technology of (12) _____".

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) skillful | (b) skill | (c) skilled | (d) skills |
| 2. | (a) devolve | (b) revolve | (c) involve | (d) evolve |
| 3. | (a) stoned | (b) stone | (c) stones | (d) stony |
| 4. | (a) means | (b) meaning | (c) meant | (d) meanie |
| 5. | (a) rescued | (b) liberated | (c) saved | (d) safeguarded |
| 6. | (a) contrast | (b) contest | (c) contents | (d) conditions |
| 7. | (a) outline | (b) shape | (c) dense | (d) borders |
| 8. | (a) having | (b) making | (c) creating | (d) owning |
| 9. | (a) let | (b) allowed | (c) permitted | (d) authorised |
| 10. | (a) testing | (b) examine | (c) theory | (d) notional |
| 11. | (a) it | (b) all | (c) nothing | (d) none |
| 12. | (a) whole | (b) every | (c) entire | (d) all |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Paragraph 1

1. food esocpnrgis
2. oevlve and develop
3. crucial steps in our evolutionary spcseor
4. we cut food up or dednoup and crushed it
5. The researchers meisetat
6. In troscnta, the chimpanzee spends...

Paragraph 2

7. Our wjas and teeth became smaller
8. large chewing lsem SCU
9. the otlneiesc for speech
10. test his hreety
11. to some ntexte
12. the simplest gyothelcno of all

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	stone tools to process food were crucial steps in our evolutionary process. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and
()	crushed it meant we needed less time for chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to develop language
(1)	Eating habits and food processing skills from around two million years ago helped humans to
()	humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In contrast, the chimpanzee spends half
()	in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to test his
()	The researchers also said the shape of our face changed because we needed to chew less. Our jaws and
()	of its day chewing, which means it has less time to communicate.
()	from having snouts and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having smaller teeth, smaller chewing
()	and communicate. The researchers estimate that cutting up meat and other food saved early
()	extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the simplest technology of all".
()	evolve and develop language. Researchers from Harvard University say that learning to cut meat up and using basic
()	theory. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, and nothing happens." He added that to some
()	teeth became smaller because we had learnt to cut up food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We went
()	muscles, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and others, allowed for the selection for speech and other shifts

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

1. skills years two Food ago from processing million around .

2. stone tools Learning to cut meat up and using basic .

3. time to develop language This gave our mouths more free .

4. humans per 2.5 early chews as Saved million many as year .

5. , contrast In chewing day its of half spends chimpanzee the .

6. to changed needed less face we chew Our because .

7. selection and in The speech shifts head for other the .

8. test his theory Dr chewed raw goat Lieberman meat to .

9. chew happens , and and and you you You nothing chew chew .

10. meat Slicing chewing before pieces smaller into .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

Eating *habits / habit* and food processing skills from around two million years ago helped humans to *dissolve / evolve* and develop language. Researchers from Harvard University say that *learning / learns* to cut meat up and using basic stone *tool / tools* to process food were *crucially / crucial* steps in our evolutionary process. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and *crashed / crushed* it meant we needed less *time / timing* for chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to *developed / develop* language and communicate. The researchers *estimates / estimate* that cutting up meat and other food saved early humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In contrast, the chimpanzee spends *half / halve* of its day chewing, which means it has less time to communicate.

The researchers also said the *shape / shapely* of our face changed because we needed to *chew / chewy* less. Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had *learning / learnt* to cut up food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We *left / went* from having snouts and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having smaller teeth, smaller *chewed / chewing* muscles, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and others, *allowed / allowance* for the selection for speech and other *shifts / shafts* in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to test his *theoretic / theory*. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, and nothing *happens / happening*." He added that to some extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the simplest technology of *whole / all*".

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

__t__ng h__b__ts __nd f__d pr__c__ss__ng sk__lls fr__m __r__nd
tw__m__ll__n y__rs __g__h__lp__d h__m__ns t__v__lv__nd
d__v__l__p__l__ng__g__. R__s__rch__rs fr__m H__rv__rd
__n__v__rs__ty s__y th__t l__rn__ng t__c__t__m__t__p__nd__s__ng
b__s__c__st__n__t__ls t__pr__c__ss__f__d w__r__cr__c__l__st__ps
__n__r__v__l__t__n__ry pr__c__ss. Th__f__ct th__t w__c__t__f__d
__p__r__p__nd__d__nd cr__sh__d__t__m__nt w__n__d__d__l__ss
t__m__f__r__ch__w__ng. Th__s__g__v____r__m__ths__m__r__fr__
t__m__t__d__v__l__p__l__ng__g__nd c__mm__n__c__t__. Th__
r__s__rch__rs__st__m__t__th__t c__tt__ng__p__m__t__nd__th__r
f__d s__v__d__rly h__m__ns__s__m__ny__s 2.5 m__ll__n ch__ws
p__r__y__r. __n c__ntr__st, th__ch__mp__nz__sp__nds h__lf__f
__ts d__y ch__w__ng, wh__ch__m__ns__t__h__s__l__ss__t__m__t__
c__mm__n__c__t__.

Th__r__s__rch__rs__ls__s__d th__sh__p__f__r__f__c__
ch__ng__d b__c__s__w__n__d__d__t__ch__w__l__ss. __r j__ws__nd
t__th__b__c__m__sm__ll__r__b__c__s__w__h__d__l__rnt__t__c__t__p
f__d. Pr__f__ss__r D__n__l__L__b__rm__n__s__d: "W__w__nt
fr__m h__v__ng sn__ts__nd b__g__t__th__nd l__rg__ch__w__ng
m__scl__s__t__h__v__ng sm__ll__r__t__th, sm__ll__r__ch__w__ng
m__scl__s, __nd sn__tl__ss__f__c__s. Th__s__ch__ng__s, __nd
__th__rs, __ll__w__d__f__r__th__s__l__ct__n__f__r__sp__ch__nd__th__r
sh__fts__n__th__h__d, l__k__b__gg__r__br__ns." Dr L__b__rm__n
ch__w__d__r__w__g__t__m__t__t__t__st__h__s__th__ry. H__s__d:
"Y__ch__w__nd y__ch__w__nd y__ch__w__nd y__ch__w,
__nd n__th__ng h__pp__ns." H__dd__d th__t t__s__m__xt__nt,
sl__c__ng__m__t__nt__sm__ll__r__p__c__s__b__f__r__ch__w__ng, "__s
th__s__mpl__st__t__chn__l__gy__f__ll".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160311-human-evolution.html>

eating habits and food processing skills from around two million years ago helped humans to evolve and develop language researchers from harvard university say that learning to cut meat up and using basic stone tools to process food were crucial steps in our evolutionary process the fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it meant we needed less time for chewing this gave our mouths more free time to develop language and communicate the researchers estimate that cutting up meat and other food saved early humans as many as 25 million chews per year in contrast the chimpanzee spends half of its day chewing which means it has less time to communicate

the researchers also said the shape of our face changed because we needed to chew less our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had learnt to cut up food professor daniel lieberman said "we went from having snouts and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having smaller teeth smaller chewing muscles and snoutless faces those changes and others allowed for the selection for speech and other shifts in the head like bigger brains" dr lieberman chewed raw goat meat to test his theory he said "you chew and you chew and you chew and you chew and nothing happens" he added that to some extent slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing "is the simplest technology of all"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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Eating habits and food processing skills from around two million years ago helped humans to evolve and develop language. Researchers from Harvard University say that learning to cut meat up and using basic stone tools to process food were crucial steps in our evolutionary process. The fact that we cut food up or pounded and crushed it meant we needed less time for chewing. This gave our mouths more free time to develop language and communicate. The researchers estimate that cutting up meat and other foods saved early humans as many as 2.5 million chews per year. In contrast, the chimpanzee spends half of its day chewing, which means it has less time to communicate. The researchers also said the shape of our face changed because we needed to chew less. Our jaws and teeth became smaller because we had learnt to cut up food. Professor Daniel Lieberman said: "We went from having snouts and big teeth and large chewing muscles to having small teeth, smaller chewing muscles, and snoutless faces. Those changes, and others, allowed for the selection for speech and other shifts in the head, like bigger brains." Dr Lieberman chewed raw goat meat to test his theory. He said: "You chew and you chew and you chew and you chew, and nothing happens." He added that to some extent, slicing meat into smaller pieces before chewing, "is the simplest technology of all".

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about chewing. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. HUMAN EVOLUTION: Make a poster about human evolution. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. RAW: Write a magazine article about the benefits of eating raw food. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on human evolution. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three opinions on how we will evolve in the future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. skills | a. capabilities |
| 2. develop | b. progress |
| 3. crucial | c. key |
| 4. estimate | d. guess |
| 5. early | e. prehistoric |
| 6. shape | f. structure |
| 7. changes | g. alterations |
| 8. test | h. examine |
| 9. theory | i. notion |
| 10. extent | j. degree |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Language
2. Harvard University
3. Chew
4. 2.5 million
5. Half the day
6. Our face
7. Our jaws and teeth
8. Our brain
9. Goat
10. Slicing meat into smaller pieces

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. c 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. a 10. d

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)