



UNIVERSIDAD DE MURCIA



REGIÓN DE MURCIA
CONSEJERÍA DE EDUCACIÓN Y CULTURA



UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE
CARTAGENA

PRUEBAS DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD PARA ALUMNOS DE BACHILLERATO LOGSE (PLAN 2002)

Junio 2005

INGLÉS. CÓDIGO 54

Tiny new species of human unearthed

The remains of a tiny and unknown species of human that lived as recently as 13,000 years ago have been discovered on an Indonesian island. The discovery is the most important palaeoanthropological find for 50 years and has radically altered (1) the accepted picture of human evolution. Among other fragments, one complete skeleton, known by the nickname 'Ebu', has been assigned to the new species *Homo floresiensis*. Examination of the remains shows members of the species stood just one metre tall and had a brain no bigger than a grapefruit.

Instead of following a simple evolutionary path (2) culminating in modern humans — *Homo sapiens* — the discovery suggests early humans branched into many more forms than previously thought. The find also shows that small-brained humans could evolve (3) without losing much of their intelligence.

Accelerator mass spectrometry dating suggests that most of the remains are 18,000 years old. But some bone fragments could be as young as 13,000 years old. The oldest remains from the site (4) are 78,000 and 94,000 years old, respectively. This means that *Homo floresiensis* survived well beyond the last Neanderthals, which are thought to have disappeared from Europe and western Asia about 28,000 years ago.

"The most remarkable (5) thing is that there was a time, not so long ago, when two different human species walked the planet", says Peter Brown from the University of New England, Australia, who led the team that made the discovery.

PREGUNTAS (NO RESPONDER EN ESTA HOJA)

READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. BE CAREFUL TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH QUESTION

- 1. How has the picture of human evolution changed after the discovery of *Homo floresiensis*?** (25-50 words) You are expected to use information from the text, but please use your own words (2 marks)
- 2. From the information in the text, the profession of palaeoanthropologist looks exciting. Which profession do you find exciting? Why?** (25-50 words) Express your own ideas by using your own words (2 marks)

3. **Choose the best option.** Please copy the complete correct option on your answer sheet **(1 mark)**

- The discovery of *Homo floresiensis* has led palaeoanthropologists to propose different origins for European and Asian people.
- The finding of *Homo floresiensis* has resulted into a more complex view on the origin and development of human beings.
- Spectrometric analysis has allowed palaeoanthropologists to conclude that Neanderthals were direct ancestors of *Homo floresiensis*.
- Palaeoanthropologists have suggested that *Homo floresiensis* disappeared because their brains were too small.

4. **Complete the following sentences, using information from the text.** It is important that you do not reproduce phrases literally from the text unless this is unavoidable **(2 marks)**

- a) The maximum height ...
- b) A new picture ...
- c) Peter Brown ...
- d) Although the majority ...

5. **Complete with one or more adequate words.** It is NOT necessary that the complete text is copied on your answer sheet, only the letter (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) followed by the word or words that you find suitable for the gaps **(1 mark)**

At first the members of the Indonesian excavation team (a)..... by the small skull they had discovered. "At the beginning, we thought the skull was from a child", (b)..... excavation director Thomas Sutikna of the Indonesian Centre for Archaeology, (c)..... was there when the discovery was made in September 2003. "But after a week, we checked the molar teeth and (d)..... that they had already appeared, so we concluded that the skull was (e)..... 14 years old"

6. **Relate each of the words in column A (as marked with numbers in the text) with one word in column B.** Please copy the correct pair of related words on your answer sheet, e.g. 'alter and...'**(1 mark)**.

A	B
alter (1)	extraordinary
path (2)	location
evolve (3)	change
site (4)	develop
remarkable (5)	(here) direction

7. **Fill in the blanks with one or more adequate words.** It is NOT necessary that the complete text is copied on your answer sheet, only the letter (a), (b), (c), (d) followed by the word or words that you find suitable for the gaps **(1 mark)**.

- a) It is amazing that human beings with such small brains..... existed.
- b) Several theories have been proposed on how human beings..... existence.
- c) The disappearance of Neanderthals is still a..... solution.
- d) What really surprises me is that they..... as early as 13,000 years ago.