

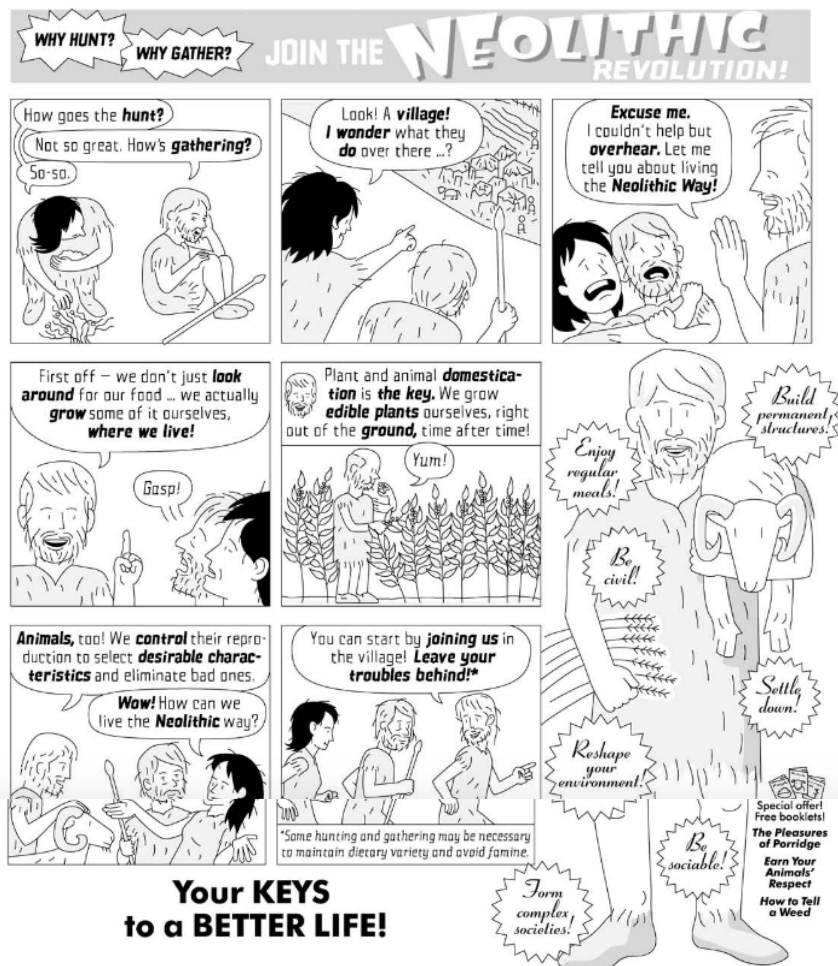
Paleolithic Vs. Neolithic DBQ

Directions: Actively read the following articles and then use this information to fill out the accompanying chart.

Advances of the Paleolithic

During the Paleolithic time period, humans develop specific skills to help them adapt to their environment and to survive. Below are some of those advances they made:

- **Communication:** developed from gestures and grunts to a spoken language that helped with organization and collaboration of group
- **Tools:** Axes with wooden handles, stone-tipped spears, bow and arrows, fish hooks, clothing, homes for camps
- **Fire:** Fire proved warmth and protection against animals. Fire could be used in hunting (to smoke out prey) and in cooking.
- **Abstract Thinking:**
 - **Religion:** Found bones with arms crossed across chest indicating preparation for burial and possible thought of what happens to humans after they die.
 - **Art:** paintings were of many types of animals. Humans were painted as stick figures. The painting were probably for religious or decorative purposes.



Source: Mysteries of Çatalhöyük!, Science Museum of Minnesota, www.smm.org/catal (adapted)
Based on this comic, state two effects of the Neolithic Revolution.

From Food Gathering To Food Producing

... Paleolithic men could not control their food supply. So long as they relied on foraging, hunting, fishing, and trapping, they were dependent on the natural food supply in a given area to keep from starving. But while Paleolithic men continued their food-gathering pattern of existence in Europe, Africa, and Australia, groups of people in the Near East began to cultivate edible plants and to breed animals. Often described as the “first economic revolution” in the history of man, this momentous change from a food-gathering to a food-producing economy initiated the Neolithic Age. Paleolithic man was a hunter; Neolithic man became a farmer and herdsman. . . .

Source: T. Walter Wallbank, et al., *Civilization: Past and Present*, Scott, Foresman and Company

The first successful efforts to control the flow of water were made in Mesopotamia and Egypt, where the remains of the prehistoric irrigation works still exist. In ancient Egypt, the construction of canals was a major endeavor of the pharaohs and their servants, beginning in Scorpio's time. One of the first duties of provincial governors was the digging and repair of canals, which were used to flood large tracts of land while the Nile was flowing high. The land was checkerboarded with small basins, defined by a system of dikes. Problems regarding the uncertainty of the flow of the Nile were recognized. During very high flows, the dikes were washed away and villages flooded, drowning thousands. During low flows, the land did not receive water, and no crops could grow. In many places where fields were too high to receive water from the canals, water was drawn from the canals or the Nile directly by a swape or a shaduf. These consisted of a bucket on the end of a cord that hung from the long end of a pivoted boom, counterweighted at the short end. The building of canals continued in Egypt throughout the centuries....

Source: Larry W. Mays, “Irrigation Systems, Ancient,” *Water Encyclopedia* online (adapted)

... A separate consequence of a settled existence is that it permits one to store food surpluses, since storage would be pointless if one didn't remain nearby to guard the stored food. While some nomadic hunter-gatherers may occasionally bag more food than they can consume in a few days, such a bonanza is of little use to them because they cannot protect it. But stored food is essential for feeding non-food-producing specialists, and certainly for supporting whole towns of them. Hence nomadic hunter-gatherer societies have few or no such full-time specialists, who instead first appear in sedentary [settled] societies. . . .

— Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*

For starters, the origin of agriculture was also the origin of the fun concept of “wealth inequality,” as elites began to emerge who had more stuff than everybody else and started bossing everybody else around. It may also have been the origin of war as we know it, because once you have a village, you also have the danger of raids on it by the next village. Agriculture brings new diseases into contact with humans, while living together in ever larger settlements creates the conditions for epidemics. There's also evidence that suggests people in nonagricultural societies ate more, worked less and many well have been healthier.

Source: Tom Phillips, “Humans” (2019)