

Anthro 101 Spring 2009
Exam 1 possible Essay Questions

1. Discuss how anthropologists understand two major developments in hominid evolution: bi-pedalism and brain growth. Use concrete examples in discussing each development, and include details about specific species and their inter-relationships to one another. What factors, or changes in biology, ecology, and/or behavior may have led to these developments? Be sure to specify what is known and what is speculation. I want you to discuss each development separately, but also discuss how they relate to one another.
2. What are the four mechanisms of evolution? Explain how each mechanism operates and give applied examples. Be sure to discuss each mechanism fully.
3. Discuss the importance of understanding intra-species variation to understanding hominid evolution. Give examples of how variation may have effected hominid variation approximately 3.5 million years ago, approximately 2 million years ago, and more recently. Discuss how intra-species variation effects the process of evolution in multiple ways.