

READING ACTIVITY: Early Humans

Name:

Course:

Date:

Pre-Reading Activities:

1. Write the synonyms of the following words. Use the word bank.

DIGESTION	OVERWINTER	CAVERN	OVERFEED	FOSSILS
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- a) Hibernate
- b) Stock up on food
- c) Cave
- d) Metabolism
- e) Ancient bones

2. Order the words to make up complete sentences.

- a) hibernated - animals winter. Many for
- b) too. Early hibernated humans
- c) examined Scientists humans. bones animals of and
- d) health humans' suffered problems. Early bones
- e) not were always Hibernations healthy.

While-Reading Activities:

1. Read briefly the passage. Then listen to the recording and complete the blanks on the reading.

EARLY HUMANS



Many animals hibernate for the _____. They stock up on food and hide away in a hole or cave to escape the snow and cold. Scientists now believe early human beings may have _____ too. The scientists looked at the _____ of bones from our early ancestors who lived around 430,000 years ago. The bones were found in a site in the _____ of

Spain. The scientists are experts in studying fossils and _____ bones. They say that the cuts and other signs of damage on the bones they examined are similar to those on bones of animals who hibernate, like _____. They also say that early humans may have hibernated to escape the extreme cold. Winters were much colder hundreds of _____ of years ago.

The scientists looked at the bones of several dozen humans. Scientist Antonis Bartsiokas said there is _____ that early humans slowed down their _____ so they could survive longer in winter without food. However, humans could not slow their metabolism like a bear. Bears can wake up after months of hibernation and their body will be the same as when they went into hibernation. The bones of the **early** humans showed people suffered health problems because of hibernation. Many of the problems were caused by a lack of _____ D, which we get from sunlight. This can make our bones weaker. The researchers said: "We have to emphasize that hibernations are not always healthy."

2. **Read again and complete the missing words with the correct form of Simple Past. Choose the best option a, b or c.**

Many animals hibernate for the winter. They stock up on food and hide away in a hole or cave to escape the snow and cold. Scientists now believe early human beings may have (1)_____ too. The scientists looked at the fossils of bones from our early ancestors who (2) _____around 430,000 years ago. The bones were (3)_____ in a site in the north of Spain. The scientists are experts in studying fossils and ancient bones. They say that the cuts and other signs of damage on the bones they (4)_____are similar to those on bones of animals who hibernate, like bears. They also say that early humans may have hibernated to escape the extreme cold. Winters (5)_____ much colder hundreds of thousands of years ago.

The scientists (6)_____ at the bones of several dozen humans. Scientist Antonis Bartsiokas said there is evidence that early humans slowed down their metabolism so they (7)_____survive longer in winter without food. However, humans could not slow their metabolism like a bear. Bears can wake up after months of hibernation and their body will be the same as when they went into hibernation. The bones of the early humans showed people suffered health problems because of hibernation. Many of the problems were caused by a lack of vitamin D, which we get from sunlight. This can make our bones weaker. The researchers (8)_____: "We have to emphasize that hibernations are not always healthy."

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| 1. a) hibernate | b) hibernated | c) hibernating |
| 2. a) lived | b) life | c) lifed |
| 3. a) finded | b) find | c) found |
| 4. a) examined | b) examined | c) examination |
| 5. a) was | b) were | c) weren't |
| 6. a) looked | b) looking | c) look |
| 7. a) can't | b) could | c) can |
| 8. a) saying | b) sayed | c) said |