



needles

1. Read the text and choose one option.

- 1 Our earliest human ancestors were from Africa / Asia.
- 2 Humans were first in Europe 45,000 / 45 million years ago.
- 3 There were / weren't humans in the last Ice Age.
- 4 Humans could / couldn't find ways to keep warm in the Ice Age.

Out of Africa

Today, humans are the most powerful species on Earth, but that wasn't always true. About 70,000 years ago, the species *Homo sapiens* was in trouble. There wasn't much rain in Africa and it became difficult to find food. A lot of people **died** and at one point there were only 2,000 humans on the planet in small groups or 'tribes' in different parts of Africa. After 130,000 years in Africa, we almost **disappeared** forever, like the dinosaurs.

But *Homo sapiens* **continued**. The survivors were brilliant hunters, they had good language skills and made useful tools. They were the toughest and most intelligent of the species.

About 65,000 years ago, one tribe left Africa. One woman in that tribe is the ancestor of 85% of the people on the planet today. Slowly, humans grew in number and **travelled** to Arabia, then India and Australia. Other humans went north and west. They came to Europe about 45,000 years ago.

Another change in climate **tested** humans again: the Ice Age. 20,000 years ago, ice **covered** the north of Europe and Asia and it **seemed** impossible to live in the terrible cold. But someone had a great idea: the needle. With a bone needle, we could make warm clothes from animal skins, and humans survived.

After this, we **tried** a lot of different ideas to make our lives more comfortable and later our technology **started** to change the world. Can our species survive for another 200,000 years?

Past simple affirmative: regular verbs

2 Match the two halves of the rules for the past simple. Then study the highlighted verbs in the text. Match each verb to a rule (a-d).

- ☐ a *listen* → *listened* After most verbs,
- ☐ b *love* → *loved* After verbs ending in -e,
- ☐ c *study* → *studied* After verbs ending in a consonant and -y,
- ☐ d *stop* → *stopped* After some verbs ending in a vowel and a consonant,
- e The past simple form is the same in all persons.

- 1 we add -ed.
- 2 we change -y to -ied.
- 3 we double the consonant and add -ed.
- 4 we add -d.