

CURRENT EVENT FORMAT EXAMPLE

INTRODUCTION

NAME: Student Name Here PERIOD: 1 DATE: 1/29/14

TITLE OF ARTICLE: **How much Neanderthal DNA do you have? Lots**

SOURCE: Fox News @ <http://www.foxnews.com/science/2014/01/29/your-inner-neanderthal-fossil-bits-neanderthal-dna/?intcmp=features>

BODY (Who, What, When, Where, Why of Article)

“Next time you call someone a Neanderthal, better look in a mirror.” Many of the genes that help determine most people's skin and hair are more Neanderthal than not, according to two new studies that look at the DNA fossils hidden in the modern human genome. About 50,000 years ago, modern day humans migrated out of Africa north to Europe and East Asia and met up with furrow-browed Neanderthals that had been in the colder climates for more than 100,000 years. Some of the two species mated. And then the Neanderthals died off as a species — except for what's left inside of us. Scientists isolated the parts of the non-African modern human genetic blueprint that still contain Neanderthal remnants. Overall, it's barely more than 1 percent, said two studies released Wednesday in the journals Nature and Science. However, in some places, such as the DNA related to the skin, the genetic instructions are as much as 70 percent Neanderthal and in other places there's virtually nothing from the species that's often portrayed as brutish cavemen. The difference between where Neanderthal DNA is plentiful and where it's absent may help scientists understand what in our genome "makes humans human," said University of Washington genome scientist Joshua Akey, lead author of the paper in Science. Harvard researcher Sriram Sankararaman, the lead author of the Nature study, said the place where Neanderthal DNA seemed to have the most influence in the modern human genome has to do with skin and hair. Sarah Tishkoff, a professor of genetics and biology at the University of Pennsylvania who was not part of either study, theorized that the Neanderthal DNA probably helped the darker humans out of Africa cope with the cooler less bright north. Another area where we have more Neanderthal DNA is parts of genetic codes that have to do with certain immune system functions, Sankararaman said. Tishkoff and Akey said one of the most interesting parts in comparing human and Neanderthal genomes is where we don't see any caveman influence. That, Tishkoff said, is "what makes us uniquely human" and those regions of genetic code "you just can't mess with." One of those areas has been heavily connected to genes that determine speech and communication and there's nothing Neanderthal there, Akey said. This fits with theories that lack of communication skills hurt Neanderthal and speech ability was a distinctly human advantage, he said. The Nature paper found that people of more East Asian descent had slightly more Neanderthal than Europeans, indicating that there may have been a second wave of interbreeding in Asia, researchers said.

CONCLUSION (Impact/Opinion)

The impact is that the the new research gives all humans insight to where we have been as a species and what makes us who we are, some more than others. I believe there are many people with Neanderthal genes among us.