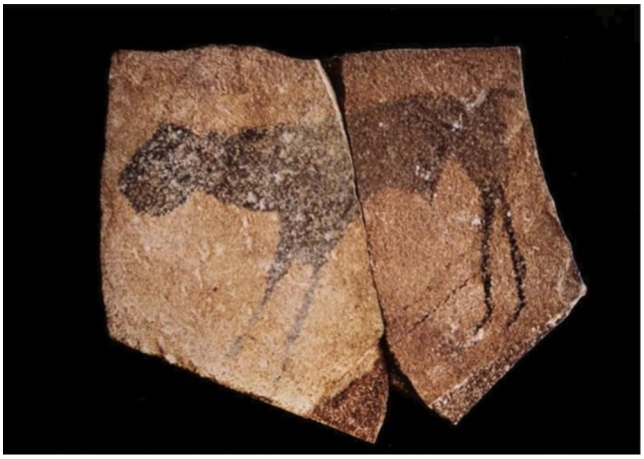
Apollo 11 stones. Namibia. c. 25,500–25,300 B.C.E. Charcoal on stone.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - AFRICA

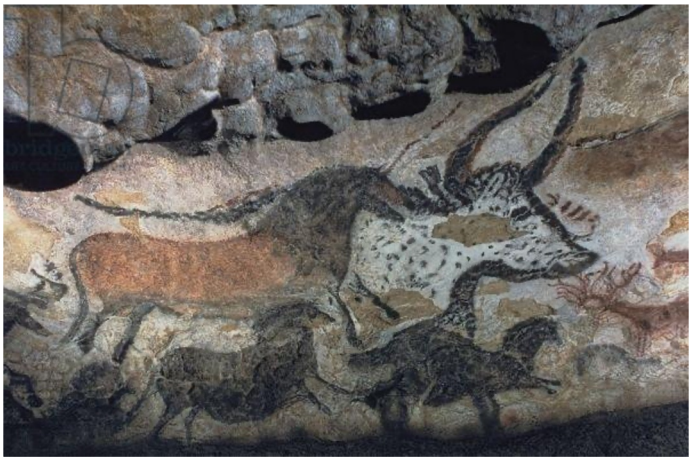


© Human Origins Program, Smithsonian Institute

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?	
CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?	
FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?	
FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.	
THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas	**Connections & Comparisons to other works:**

Great Hall of the Bulls. Lascaux, France. Paleolithic Europe. 15,000–13,000 B.C.E. Rock painting.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY – WESTERN EUROPE



© The Bridgeman Art Library

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?	
CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?	
FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?	
FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.	
THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas	**Connections & Comparisons to other works:**

Camelid sacrum in the shape of a canine. Tequixquiac, central Mexico. 14,000– 7000 B.C.E. Bone.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - MEXICO

©Jorge Perez de Lara

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?	
CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?	
FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?	
FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.	
THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas	**Connections & Comparisons to other works:**

Running horned woman. Tassili n'Ajjer, Algeria. 6000–4000 B.C.E. Pigment on rock.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - AFRICA

©The Granger Collection, New York

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?

CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?

FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?

FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.

THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas

Connections & Comparisons to other works:

Beaker with ibex motifs. Susa, Iran. 4200–3500 B.C.E. Painted terra cotta.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - IRAN

©RMN-Grand Palais/Art Resource, NY

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?

CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?

FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?

FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.

THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas

Connections & Comparisons to other works:

Anthropomorphic stele. Arabian Peninsula. Fourth millennium B.C.E. Sandstone.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY – MIDDLE EAST

©Album/ArtResource, NY

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?

CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?

FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?

FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.

THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas

Connections & Comparisons to other works:

Jade cong. Liangzhu, China. 3300–2200 B.C.E. Carved jade.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - CHINA

©Asian Art & Archaeology, Inc./Corbis

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?	
CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?	
FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?	
FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.	
THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas	**Connections & Comparisons to other works:**

Stonehenge. Wiltshire, UK. Neolithic Europe. c. 2500–1600 B.C.E. Sandstone.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - ENGLAND

©Luca da Ros/SOPA/Corbis

©Last Refuge/Robert Harding World Imagery/Corbis

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?	
CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?	
FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?	
FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.	
THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas	**Connections & Comparisons to other works:**

The Ambum Stone. Ambum Valley, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea. c. 1500 B.C.E. Greywacke.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY – PACIFIC ISLANDS

©National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?

CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?

FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?

FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.

THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas

Connections & Comparisons to other works:

Tlatilco female figurine. Central Mexico, site of Tlatilco. 1200–900 B.C.E. Ceramic.

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY - MEXICO

©Princeton University Art Museum/ Art Resource, NY

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?

CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?

FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?

FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.

THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas

Connections & Comparisons to other works:

Terra cotta fragment. Lapita. Solomon Islands, Reef Islands. 1000 B.C.E. Terra cotta (incised).

Era: GLOBAL PREHISTORY – PACIFIC ISLANDS

Courtesy of the Anthropology Photographic Archive,
Department of Anthropology, The University of Auckland

CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER - What do you see? What is depicted? What is the story? What symbols are present?

CONTEXT - What was happening at the time? What is the historical/cultural background? Where was it found? Who is the artist/patron?

FUNCTION - What was its purpose? What was it used for?

FORM/VISUAL CHARACTERISTICS - What does it look like? How was it made? Describe how the elements/principles are used.

THEMES - Big, interconnected ideas

Connections & Comparisons to other works: