

PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY WITH DR LISA MAHER AND DR DANIELLE MACDONALD

TALKING POINTS

KNOWLEDGE & COMPREHENSION

1. Why did Kharaneh IV become a location people settled in?
2. What artefacts did Lisa and Danielle collect which informed them of how people lived in the past?
3. What is archaeology and why do people study it?
4. What features led Lisa and Danielle to think that structures were intentionally burned?

APPLICATION

5. Can you think of any clues not mentioned in the article which may tell us how humans lived and interacted in the past?
6. What artefacts would be left by us today which could be excavated in 20,000 years? What would they tell future generations about how we lived?

ANALYSIS

7. What problems might Lisa and Danielle encounter when analysing artefacts? How might they overcome these issues?
8. How will Lisa and Danielle's findings help us understand the way human societies exist today?

SYNTHESIS

9. What might Lisa and Danielle look for when analysing changes in climate over time? Think about how tools and settlements may change in different climates.

EVALUATION

10. Why is it important to form wide-ranging interactions between different communities? Why might this have been important for hunter-gatherers?

CREATIVITY

11. How would you analyse and test these interactions in prehistoric hunter-gatherer communities? What tools or artefacts would be an indication of connectivity between communities?

ACTIVITY

Complete this table, thinking about archaeological artefacts that might be found at Kharaneh IV. Start with those listed, but try to add more rows to the table.

Archaeological artefact	What could this artefact be used for?	Who might use this artefact in the community?	What does this tell us about the people who used it?	What would be similar artefacts/tools/methods used by communities today?
Lithic (stone tool)				
Animal bones				
Human remains				
Burnt hut structures				
Marine shells				
Symbolic objects				

MORE RESOURCES

- The YouTube channel of Lisa's department, the Archaeological Research Facility, includes two talks by Lisa on their Ask an Archaeologist podcast series, as well as other lectures: www.youtube.com/channel/UCjI19-fDpFHuK3hLmegSs_Q/featured
- Lisa's graduate student, AJ White, has a YouTube channel containing a great range of archaeology videos: www.youtube.com/c/PoopyArchaeology
- Visit Lisa and Danielle's project homepage for everything you need to know about their research, including a fascinating blog page: www.kharaneh.com
- The Leaky Foundation has a series of YouTube videos about evolution and anthropology: www.youtube.com/user/TheLeakeyFoundation
- Lisa says The Smithsonian's Human Origins website is awesome! It has great resources for all ages: www.humanorigins.si.edu
- The Wenner-Glen Foundation's has a free online magazine, Sapiens, which focuses on current anthropological research for a public audience: www.sapiens.org