



Name: _____

Black History II

Mr. Cook

Response Questions to lesson on RACE and SCIENCE.

Use a separate sheet of paper to answer each question, or type onto the sheet directly as a Word Document.

1. What is the difference between Race/Racism, and prejudice/bias/bigotry/stereotyping? Why is it significant to know the difference?
2. How can you explain why humans look so different if there is no real biological basis for separating ourselves into different races?
3. Where in the world were the earliest humans discovered?
4. According to our lesson, what would be the physical characteristics of the original humans? Explain the biological purpose of each characteristic.
5. What are the adaptations that occurred as human beings moved North? North East? Can you explain the function of these adaptations?
6. What does it mean to say that “Race is a social construct, not a science.”?
7. Respond to the following quotes from the “Race, the Power of an Illusion” Video (explain to the best of your ability what they mean):

“The idea of race assumes that simple external differences, rooted in biology, are linked to other, more complex internal differences. Like athletic ability. Musical aptitude. Intelligence. This belief is based on the idea that race is biologically real.” PILAR OSSORIO, Legal Scholar / Microbiologist

“To understand why the idea of race is a biological myth requires a major paradigm shift, an absolute paradigm shift, a shift in perspective. And for me, it's like seeing, you know, what it must have been like to understand that the world isn't flat. And perhaps I can invite you to a mountain top and you can look out the window and at the horizon and see, "oh what I thought was flat I can see a curve in now," that the world is much more complicated. In fact, that race is not based on biology but race is rather an idea that we ascribe to biology.” ALAN GOODMAN, Biological Anthropologist:

8.. If human beings have created/made up the race construct, what is the ultimate purpose of it?

9. Does this information/knowledge change your perspective on race? How?

10. Why do you think false beliefs about groups of people persist even when the economic system that they were designed to support no longer exists? (ie: white supremacy, black inferiority)