54

Well, if there are no more questions, I would like to continue our discussion of human evolution by looking at Homo erectus, the earliest of our ancestors who stood upright.

好，如果没有更多问题的话，我想继续我们人类进化的讨论，通过看看直立人，最早的，我们直立的祖先。

Homo erectus lived about one and a half million years ago and was given that name because, at the time the first fossil was discovered, it represented the first primate to stand upright.

直立人生活在150万年前，之所以得名是因为，在那时第一个化石被发现， 它代表了第一个直立的灵长类动物。

There is evidence now that Homo erectus had sharper mental skills than their predecessors.

现在，有证据（表明）直立人比他们的前辈有着更聪明的心智技能。

They constructed the first standardized tool for hunting and butchering.

他们为狩猎和屠宰制造了第一个标准的工具。

They created an extraordinary stone implement, a large teardrop-shaped hand ax whose design and symmetry reveal a keen sense of aesthetics.

他们创造了一种非同凡响的石器，一个大的泪珠形状的手斧，它的设计和对称性显示了一个敏锐的审美感觉。

This detailing, along with the ax's utilitarian value, strongly suggests that Homo erectus had the ability to conceive of and execute a design to specification.

这个细节设计，同斧子的实用价值一起，强烈暗示了直立人有能力去设想并执行一个设计规范。

In addition, Homo erectus was the first hominid to use fire.

另外，直立人是第一种使用火的原始人类。

This discovery enticed them to cook meat, which they could flavor and keep from spilling by flame, and which paleontologists now believe may have given them a new disease.

这种发现诱使他们去烹肉，这样他们能加味于（肉）并且阻止火焰的散落，而且古生物学者现在相信那（煮肉）带给他们（直立人）一种新的疾病。

Some fossil bones of Homo erectus are grossly deformed, and paleontologists have noted that this condition is similar to that found in people today who have been exposed to chronic overdoses of vitamin A.

一些直立人的骨头化石是非常畸形的，古生物学者已经注意到这种情况同今天发现的长期过量接触维生素A的人是相似的。

Apparently Homo erectus first got this disease by eating large amounts of animal liver.

很显然，直立人最先得这种病是通过食用大量动物肝脏（造成的）