Human Biological Sciences 3A/3B

Extended Response

Human Evolution

(30 marks)

Around 1 to 2 million years ago human ancestors began to evolve a set of characteristics which are distinctly different to modern apes and their ancient common ancestors. Some of these are physical characteristics and some are cultural. These new characteristics must have had a selective advantage in order to be beneficial to the animals in their habitats and allow them to survive and reproduce.

For each of the following features,

1. Describe the evolutionary change from the ape-like ancestors to modern humans
2. Outline the possible reasons for the evolutionary change including the selective advantage provided.
3. Brain size (8)
4. Teeth (8)
5. Feet (8)
6. Agriculture (6)