

*The Madness Gene*

Where is the Neander Valley, and what is the Neanderthal Museum?

When did Neanderthals live in Europe? What traits and accomplishments characterize them? How does Paabo, father of paleogenetics, learn about them?

Who were Denisovans, where did they live, and what did they accomplish?

How specifically do Neanderthals, Denisovans, and modern human beings differ from one another?

According to current theories, why do all non-Africans carry Neanderthal DNA? And why do Africans not do so?

Based on problem-solving tests, what distinguishes us from the great apes?

What is especially significant about findings of Neanderthal bones in the Dordogne? Of the paintings at Lascaux?

What do you think of Kolbert's statement on page 258: "There is every reason to believe that if humans [sic] had not arrived on the scene, the Neanderthals would be there still, along with the wild horses and the woolly rhinos."

*The Thing with Feathers*

What and where is the Frozen Zoo?

What do Rachel Carson, Alfred Newton, John Muir have in common? What are the results of attempts to save the California condor, the whooping crane, the Hawaiian crow?

What is the cause of the sixth extinction? When the weak disappear, what happens simultaneously to the strong?

What can we say to Kolbert's statement on page 266: "If you want to think about why humans are so dangerous to other species, you can picture a poacher in Africa carrying an AK-47 or a logger in the Amazon ripping an ax, or, better still, you can picture yourself, holding a book on your lap"?

