**Chapter 1: Section #1**

***Understanding the Past:***

* People investigate the past to understand how it affects both the past and present. To learn about the past, historians use primary and secondary sources.
* ***Primary Sources****:* documents and artifacts created by a person who directly witnessed the historical event. Ex. Military records, marriage certificates, diaries, and letters
* ***Secondary Sources***: evidence produced by someone who wasn’t actually there. Ex. Newspapers, books, and paintings
* History changes because different historians use different pieces of evidence or they can have different interpretation. That interpretation can change when new evidence is discovered.

***Early Humans:***

* They depended on the natural environment to gather food, hunt, and make shelter. They lived in small bands
* They were nomads who moved to a new location when the food supply ran out.
* Some groups were thought to have migrated across a land bridge connecting Siberia and Alaska

***Developing Tools and Culture:***

* 2 million years ago people made stone tools for cutting, hunting, and constructing shelters.
* Around 500,000 years ago, humans learned to make and control fire. Fire was used for warmth, cooking, and protection.
* Early humans developed language because of a need to communicate while hunting or food gathering.
* Early culture was found in cave paintings that may have been created to honor the spirits of hunted animals

***The Beginnings of Agriculture:***

* Humans learned to modify the environment by **domesticating** *plants* and *animals*. Domesticated animals were reliable sources of food, clothing, and shelter materials. They were also forms of transportation.
* ***The Agricultural Revolution*** is the shift from **food gathering** to **food production.** Agriculture provided more food which spurred an increase in population and settle communities.