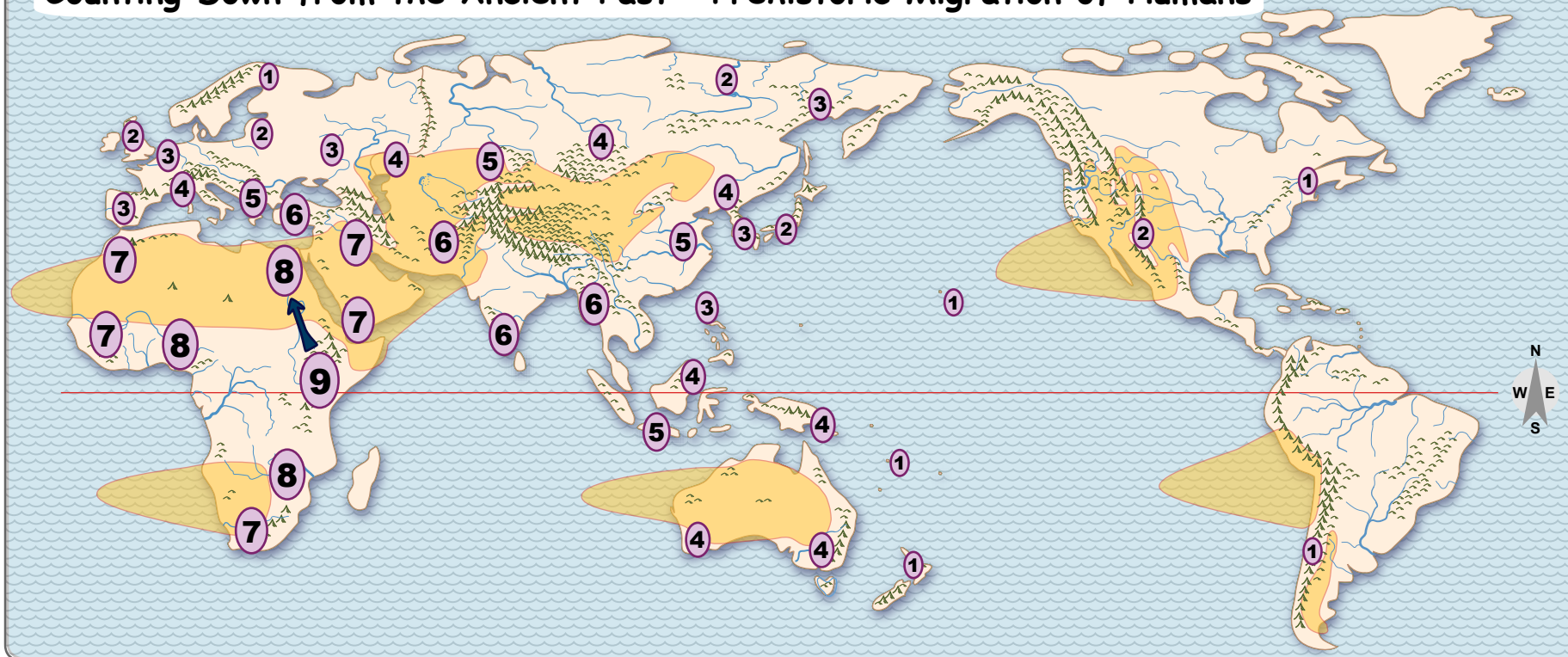


Counting Down from the Ancient Past - Prehistoric Migration of Humans



Scientists think the first humans lived in the highlands of East Africa at least 90,000 years ago.

After many thousands of years, the climate changed. People started moving to other parts of the world.

We do not know exactly where they traveled. We know only where and when they left bones and tools for us to find.

You can use these dates to make a map that shows how they might have traveled:

1. Draw arrows FROM each large number (old date) TO at least one smaller number nearby (newer date).
For example, we already drew an arrow north from the 9 in east Africa to the 8 in Egypt.
2. Make the arrows for early movements thick and dark. Arrows for more recent dates should get thinner or lighter.
This makes it easier for the map reader to see the sequence of movements from old to more recent.
3. Follow some logical "rules" that can help you draw arrows. For example,
 - a. People probably stayed on land until they invented good boats. (That happened at about 2 on this time scale.)
 - b. People probably did not go over high mountains or dry deserts if they could go around them.
 - c. People sometimes split into groups that went different directions, and they moved at different speeds.
For example, from the 7 at the east end of the Mediterranean Sea, one group went slowly northwest toward Europe while another went east, much faster, through three 6s to the 5 in north China.