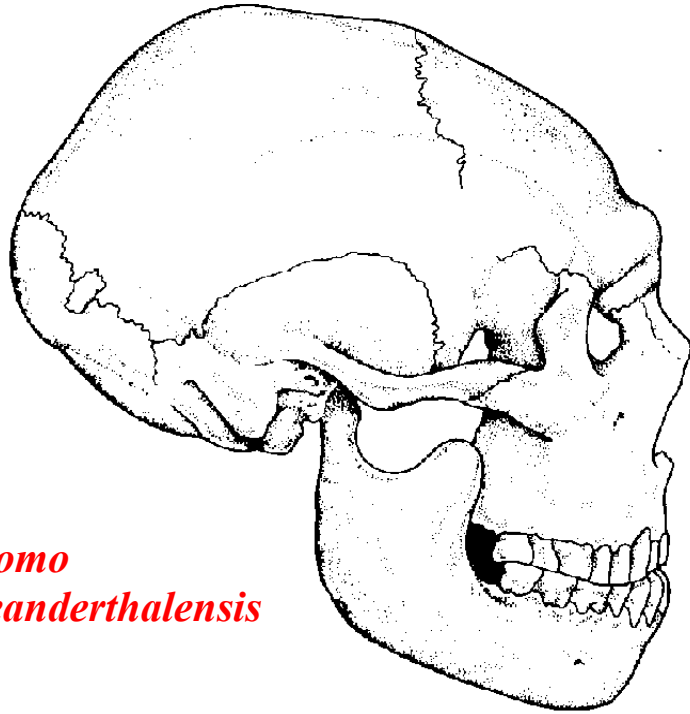
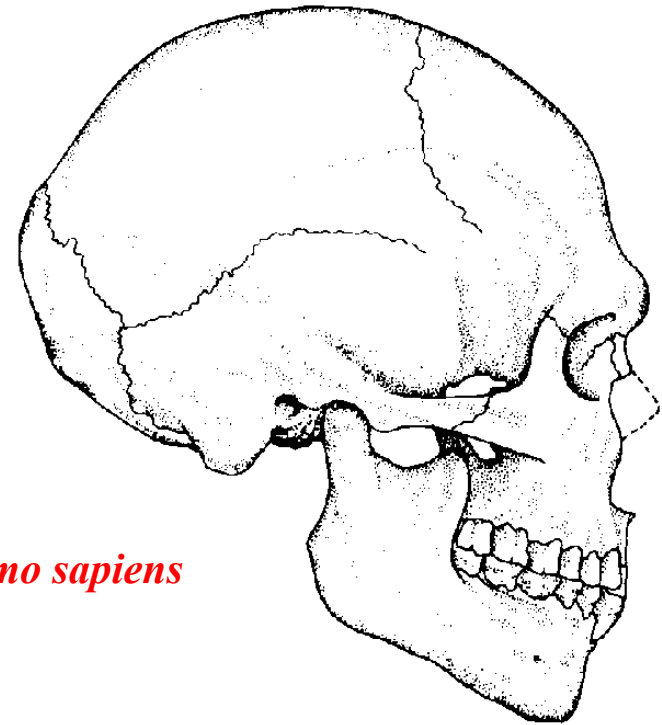


Neanderthal Man and Modern Man



*Homo
neanderthalensis*



Homo sapiens

Neanderthal Characteristics

1. Occipital bun (Rear of skull pointed)
2. Ocular tori (Brow ridges)
3. Larger brain/skull case (20%)
4. Skull flatter, wider, and longer
5. Post cranial bones rugged/robust

Many Scientist believe that the classic Neanderthal characteristics are caused by evolutionary factors. Since Neanderthal is further back in the evolutionary scale he will have more simian like features. Can these cranial features be attributed to other factors? The answer is yes! Evolution is not needed in order to explain the differences between Neanderthal man and modern man.

- Neanderthals were long lived. This would cause their skull to change shape with time. Modern human skulls elongate with age. It is not noticeable since we live for a relatively short life span.
- Neanderthals had extremely powerful facial musculature. This brow ridges would form in a response to greater chewing stress over longer periods of time.
- The greater muscularity and ruggedness was caused by better diet, genetics, and endocrine system differences.