

Chapter 2 Questions

1. Cranial morphology is considered by most experts to be highly plastic. What changes to head shapes have bioarchaeologists observed in different populations, and what is/are their probable cause/s? Provide two examples.
2. Why have bioarchaeologists moved away from studying cranial form by typologies to a population-based approach? (Hint: Consider the history of craniometrics and craniomorphology.)
3. The transition from a hard to a soft diet is associated with changes to the cranial and dental form. What changes are observed in the cranial and dental form?
4. The craniofacial complex has been noted by experts to expand with age. Design a bioarchaeology research project that would test a hypothesis about the cause for the expansion.
5. Why does malocclusion occur? (Hint: Consider the disuse hypothesis and diet.)
6. Are there dietary differences that produce tooth wear? Explain how macro- and microwear are produced on teeth.