AICE Biology: Documentary Reflection—*From Ape to Man*

While watching the film, consider the following. Then, write a 2-page reflection on the film linking it to what we have studied in class.

1. Why do you think anthropologists became focused on finding a “missing link” in order to explain human origins?
2. What was significant of the Taung fossil that Raymond Dart received and studied? Why were his findings disregarded in the anthropological world? Why do you think this was a significant event in the history of science?
3. What was the significance of Louis and Mary Leakey’s findings in the search for the “missing link”? Why do you think they are regarded as pioneering scientists?
4. According to scientists highlighted in this documentary, walking upright is the main feature that put Lucy on the road to humanity. Why was this theory so important? What kind of cascading effects did the ability to walk have for humans according to the scientists in this program?
5. According to this documentary, how was it possible for Neanderthal Man and Homo Sapiens to evolve as separate species? Why is this distinction important?
6. Do you think that in the 21st century we have a satisfactory answer to where human beings came from, and when? Discuss.