

Artifact Information Questions Answer Key

Answers will vary. Possible answers are listed below in italics.

Dart points

1. What device do we use today to perform the same job that a dart point did then?
Bullets—the ammunition for a gun used for hunting.
2. Which do you think is more effective, a dart point or the modern device?
For long range hunting, a high-powered rifle with bullets is more effective. Darts, tipped with dart points, and propelled on an atlatl also have a long range as well..

Manos

1. What modern invention has taken the place of a mano?
An electric blender or food processor
2. Which one do you think works better: a mano or the modern invention? Explain your answer.
The electric appliances grind food much faster, but the mano can be used without electricity.

Micro-cores

1. What types of tools have taken the place of tools made from micro-cores?
*A cutting tool, such as a sickle or scythe, used for cutting grass.
Prehistoric peoples knocked small flakes or blades from microcores. These small flakes likely were inserted in a long row in a heavy stick or cane. This cutting tool may have been used for harvesting grasses with seeds and other plants.*
2. Which tools do you think lasted longer? Tools made from micro-cores or the modern inventions? Why?
The modern tools would last longer if they were made of stainless steel, which doesn't rust and holds an edge much longer than chert (flint).

Obsidian

1. What types of things have taken the place of obsidian in our lives today?
Scalpels, sharp steel knives
3. If the Indians who lived at the Graham-Applegate site had used money, would obsidian have been expensive? Why or why not?
It would have been a valuable item because it wasn't available naturally in Texas and had to be traded. It's extreme sharpness added to its value.

Burned Rock Middens

1. What do people use today instead of earth ovens powered by hot rocks?
Gas or electric ovens, microwaves, convection ovens
2. Which one do you think is more effective, an earth oven with hot rocks or the modern invention? Why?
The modern inventions cook food much more quickly and require much less labor than the earth ovens.