

## No 12 Gap Fill

Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

studies

expert

subsequent

ability

likely

eastern

evolution

doubt

Researchers say they have found the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ time in history when human beings first began to speak. Dr Steven Mithen, an archaeologist and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in prehistory, suggested that basic language was formed around 1.6 million years ago. This is eight times earlier than many scientists thought. Experts in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ previously believed that spoken human language began around 200,000 years ago. Mithen said his (4) \_\_\_\_\_ show that the first human language developed either in (5) \_\_\_\_\_ or southern Africa. He said the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to speak helped evolution. He said speech was, "without (7) \_\_\_\_\_, the key which made much of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ human physical and cultural evolution possible".

Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

structure

produce

long

plan

part

story

quickly

around

Dr Mithen explains how he believes human speech developed so (9) \_\_\_\_\_ ago in his new book called, "The Language Puzzle". He says our brain (10) \_\_\_\_\_ increased in size just over 1.5 million years ago. This increase changed the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of our brain. An area called the frontal lobe developed. This is the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of the brain that produces language. Another important change was the development of our vocal tract. This is where we (13) \_\_\_\_\_ sound, and therefore speech. Mithen said speech allowed humans to spread (14) \_\_\_\_\_ the world. It meant humans could do three important things. They could think of and (15) \_\_\_\_\_ future actions, and they could pass on knowledge. Mithen said language "changed the human (16) \_\_\_\_\_ profoundly".